

## MEDIA RELEASE

7 October 2021

### New Creative Leadership Program dates announced

*Regional Arts WA, through the Regional Arts Network initiative, is excited to bring the Creative Leadership Program to five new communities across the Kimberley, South West, Great Southern and Wheatbelt regions.*

The Regional Arts Network is a Regional Arts WA initiative, proudly supported by Minderoo Foundation and The Ian Potter Foundation and with funding from the Australian Government's Regional Arts Fund.

In collaboration with registered psychologist Dr Shona Erskine, the Creative Leadership Program aims to identify and develop local leaders, build collaboration, and encourage community-driven activities within regional WA. Since last year, 98 people have completed the Creative Leadership Program and the announcement of five new dates will give up to 125 new individuals the opportunity to participate.

Regional Arts WA CEO Paul MacPhail is excited to see the Creative Leadership Program roll-out further across the State.

"Regional Arts WA is proud to offer the Creative Leadership Program as a practical tool to strengthen leadership skills and unlock potential partnerships within our regions.

We encourage professionals of all backgrounds to get involved, whether you are an artist or arts worker or a community-minded individual who want to create an impact in your town, this is your opportunity to connect with your local Hub organisation and participate in the Creative Leadership Program.

We have received extremely positive feedback from past participants and look forward to furthering the program's reach across the State."

Upcoming Creative Leader Program dates:

- **11-12 October 2021 - Derby (Kimberley)**, hosted by Goolarri Media and Shire of Derby/West Kimberley (Sold Out)
- **14-15 October 2021 - Broome (Kimberley)**, hosted by Goolarri Media
- **30 November to 1 December 2021 - Manjimup (South West)**, hosted by Southern Forest Arts
- **15-16 February 2022 - Denmark (Great Southern)**, hosted by Denmark Arts
- **29-30 March 2022 - Moora (Wheatbelt)**, hosted by Gardiner Street Arts Collective

For more information and booking details please visit [regionalartswa.org.au/programs/creative-leadership-program](http://regionalartswa.org.au/programs/creative-leadership-program)

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**Australian Government**  
**Regional Arts Fund**



## **SUPPORT MATERIAL**

### **HUBS**

#### **Goolarri Media**

Goolarri Media's artistic vision is to establish a sustainable and vibrant arts industry in the North West of Western Australia by creating and developing networks and opportunities for established, emerging and new artists as well as arts practitioners. This artistic vision is supported by Goolarri's integrated service model and is embedded in the organisations ethos of celebrating and sharing cultural values by empowering the community through communication and the arts.

#### **Southern Forest Arts**

Based in Northcliffe, Southern Forest Arts makes life more 'wonder-full' for visitors and residents of the Southern Forests and Valleys region (and increasingly beyond) through unique arts and cultural experiences that connect, inspire and uplift, leading to increased wellbeing and collective flourishing.

#### **Denmark Arts**

Denmark Arts is the peak body for arts within the Shire of Denmark and offers services throughout the Great Southern region and beyond. Denmark Arts runs two major festivals, Brave New Works community arts festival and the Denmark Festival of Voice, as well as the very popular Denmark Arts Markets. Throughout the year Denmark Arts run a wide range of arts programs and projects as well as offering support to artists and community. They also provide art consultation within the region.

#### **Gardiner Street Arts Collective**

Gardiner Street Arts Collective is an arts collective enabling intergenerational and cultural understanding through the creation of a shared arts space, adding to regional education, business and enhancing the attractiveness of Moora as a place to live and work. They embrace creative groups and provide a home for all. Be that a venue for local arts and craft groups, ballet lessons, dance workshops, artists in residence, music lessons, gardening sessions, art workshops, texture workshops, and mental health and wellbeing sessions. They are the umbrella under which all of these creative pursuits can gather and thrive.

### **PARTNERS**

#### **About Regional Arts WA**

Regional Arts WA is the state's only service organisation delivering a multi-arts program to strengthen and celebrate our powerful regional arts sector. We are a regionally governed, not-for-profit organisation looking after the regional arts sector, meaning every artist, arts worker, arts and cultural organisation, and group with regional programs. [www.regionalartswa.org.au](http://www.regionalartswa.org.au)

#### **About Regional Arts Network**

The Creative Leadership program is part of the Regional Arts Network - proudly supported by the Minderoo Foundation and The Ian Potter Foundation, and with funding from the Australian Government's Regional Arts Fund.

Looking to change the way the regional arts sector talk to each other, Regional Arts WA has partnered with strategically aligned local organisations to grow a Network of Hubs across the State. The Hubs themselves engage and respond directly to their local communities by providing on-ground support for their needs. Their role is to increase local decision making, strengthening

relationships with local governments and stakeholders, whilst seeking development opportunities for artists and arts workers within their communities.

<https://regionalartswa.org.au/programs/regional-arts-network>

### **About Dr Shona Erskine**

Dr Shona Erskine is a registered psychologist in private practice. She is a graduate of the Victorian College of the Arts and retrained as a psychologist through Deakin University and The University of Melbourne following an extensive career as a contemporary dancer.

Shona has expertise in delivering psychology for performing artists through professional companies, universities, and in private practice. Dr Erskine has developed curriculum in areas of mental wellbeing and creativity with interest in disseminating best practice models to performing artists, teachers, and directors.

Shona has dedicated her work as an organisational psychologist to understanding creativity and innovation. She leads workshops on the neuropsychology of creative practice and runs facilitation processes that attend to complexity and perspective. In particular, she coaches artists and directors in thinking processes for their artistic endeavours.

<https://shonaerskine.com>

### **About Regional Arts Fund**

The Australian Government's Regional Arts Fund supports sustainable cultural development in regional and remote communities. This program is managed by Regional Arts Australia and, in Western Australia, by Regional Arts WA. The program provides funding for grants, including quick response and community grants for arts projects, professional development for artists and arts workers, and community capacity building projects.

[www.arts.gov.au/funding-and-support/regional-arts-fund](http://www.arts.gov.au/funding-and-support/regional-arts-fund)

### **About Minderoo Foundation**

The Minderoo Foundation is a modern philanthropic organisation that takes on tough, persistent issues with the potential to drive massive change. Minderoo is independent, forward thinking and seeks effective, scalable solutions. The Foundation is proudly Australian, and one of Asia's largest philanthropies, with AUD \$2 billion committed to a range of global initiatives.

[www.minderoo.com.au](http://www.minderoo.com.au)

### **About The Ian Potter Foundation**

The Ian Potter Foundation is one of Australia's major philanthropic foundations. The Foundation makes grants nationally to support charitable organisations working to benefit the community across a wide range of sectors including the arts, environment, science, medical research, health, education and community wellbeing. The Ian Potter Foundation aims to support and promote a vibrant, healthy, fair and sustainable Australia.

[www.ianpotter.org.au](http://www.ianpotter.org.au)