

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **Regional Arts Network will grow to cover more than 50% of regional WA's population**

*Regional Arts WA is thrilled to announce a key strategic investment from the Australian Government's Regional Arts Fund. This investment will provide more cultural workers to the Regional Arts Network to help cover more than half of regional Western Australia's population from its connections in the Kimberley down to the Great Southern region.*

In just two years, the Regional Arts Network has built its membership to nine members including Goolarri Media (Broome), The Junction Co. (Port Hedland), Gascoyne in May (Carnarvon), North Midlands Project (Carnamah), Gardiner Street Collective (Moora), Southern Forest Arts (Northcliffe), Creative Corner (Margaret River), Denmark Arts (Denmark), as well as Regional Arts WA.

Minister for Communications, Urban Infrastructure, Cities and the Arts, the Hon Paul Fletcher MP, said the \$170,000 for Regional Arts WA will assist with creating a Regional Arts Hub for their community.

"The arts and cultural sector is a key contributor to the prosperity of Australia's regional economy and will play a strong role in bringing tourists back to Western Australia," Minister Fletcher said.

Regional Arts WA CEO Paul MacPhail is excited to see the Regional Arts Network's growth.

"We are pleased to see the Regional Arts Network reach a major milestone of nine members with coverage of half of regional WA's population. To respond to the range of geographies, demographics and needs of Western Australia, we know we need a supportive ecosystem that is both local and statewide, and the Regional Arts Network is that structure. Our sector and their regional communities are stronger – more connected, creative, and capable – when knowledge is shared, and people have the opportunity to work together.

"This milestone is made possible with the support from the Australian Government's Regional Arts Fund which has directly invested into local regional economies and created jobs in regional and remote WA."

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

For more information on Regional Arts Network initiative, please head to  
[www.regionalartswa.org.au/programs/regional-arts-network](http://www.regionalartswa.org.au/programs/regional-arts-network)

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