

# Regional Arts Fund – August Round 2016

## Project Fund and Showcase Fund

### Feedback on applications for RAF grants

Applications for funding through the Regional Arts Fund Project Fund and Showcase Fund closed on Friday, 12 August 2016. Assessment of applications by the Regional Arts Fund Panel took place on Friday, 23 September 2016.

#### Overview Project Fund

- 15 eligible applications were received to the Project Fund, requesting a total of \$312,169
- Applications were received to the Project Fund from six of the nine regions in Western Australia, including 4 each from the Wheatbelt and Kimberley, 3 from the South West, 2 from the Pilbara, and 1 each from the Great Southern and Peel.
- 5 (33%) of the 15 Project Fund applications were first time applicants.
- 86% of Project Fund applications were rated B or above.
- 6 (40%) of the 15 Project Fund applications were approved funding to a total of \$106,636

#### Overview Showcase Fund

- 4 eligible applications were received to the Showcase Fund, requesting a total of \$49,480
- Applications were received to the Showcase Fund from four of the nine regions in Western Australia, including one each from the South West, Gascoyne, Mid-West and Goldfields-Esperance.
- 3 (75%) of the 4 Showcase Fund applications were first time applicants.
- 100% of the Showcase Fund applications were rated B or above.
- 3 (75%) of the Showcase Fund applications were approved funding to a total of \$34,480

Regional Arts Fund – August Round 2016	APPLICATIONS (No.)		APPLICATIONS (\$)	
	Received	Approved	Requested	Approved
Project	15	6	\$312,169	\$106,636
Showcase	4	3	\$49,480	\$34,480

#### Overall Feedback

Across the two funding rounds, the Panel rated 89% of the applications as a B grade or above, reflecting the high quality of projects put forward and resulting in detailed discussion and difficult decisions. Successful applications included clear responses demonstrating strong planning and well-developed project ideas, and addressed all criteria to a very high degree.

The Panel noted that when a round is as competitive as this, the Panel must search for reasons to decline an application, and advised applicants to pay attention to detail in their

applications to avoid raising questions in the Panel's assessments. The Panel noted that small details can make or break an application in such competitive circumstances.

The Panel noted that this round of the Project Fund included an increase to the maximum request amount, and this meant fewer projects could be funded, however at a greater capacity to deliver excellent outcomes and with increased scope.

It was noted that this round showed good utilisation of support material to confirm project partnerships and support and provide relevant information.

The Panel was impressed with the diversity of applications and commented that the applications reflected projects that will embed positive outcomes in the communities and have long-lasting benefits. The Panel noted that most applications in this round addressed the community criteria well, and advised future applicants to keep this criterion in mind when detailing their projects.

The Panel noted that when applicants indicate via the tick box that their project will include the use of Indigenous materials and/or artists, this needs to be confirmed in the application with evidence of support and commitment. The declaration of using Indigenous materials must be carefully considered.

The Panel suggested that applicants consider the primary outcomes of their projects, and whether the primary outcome aligns with the funding round being applied to.

The Panel noted that letters of support need to demonstrate confirmed commitments to the project, as well as more general support for the project idea.

The Panel encouraged applicants to make use of the 'attachments to budget' tab in the budget template, to clarify listed costs and break down the calculations of large costs. The Panel noted a considerable amount of assessment time is spent studying project budgets, and as much clarity as possible in this area is beneficial for applications.

The Panel similarities and trends in project types in this round, and suggested that potential applicants take time to study art project trends in regional Western Australia, to encourage project/resource sharing and collaboration.

**For more information** on the RAF program please contact Tegan Morey, Regional Arts Development Officer at Country Arts WA on 9200 6200 or email [tmorey@countryartswa.asn.au](mailto:tmorey@countryartswa.asn.au)

## SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS

### PROJECT FUND

#### **Ngarluma Yinjibarndi Foundation Ltd |\$26,467**

##### **Pilbara**

##### ***Minurwarnigu Wanya-barrigu Digital Media Project***

The Minurwarnigu (Learning) Wanya-barrigu (Listening) Project aims to engage young people in exploring and producing story, through both dance and media. Through a partnership with BigHart, the project will provide opportunities for young people to create connections across different generations in the Roebourne community and will work towards producing video that captures a fusion of contemporary and traditional music sounds with movement. It will be delivered as series of recording, dance, and film training workshops, focusing on professional development and extending the skills learned during previous projects.

#### **Shire of Kondinin |\$11,200**

##### **Wheatbelt**

##### ***Community Public Art Metal Sculpture Project***

The project will engage professional sculptor and artist Len Zuks to run a one week sculpture workshop at the Kondinin Men's Shed, with support from two local arts workers. An introductory session will be followed by a drop-in arrangement where participants can work at their own pace over the course of the week. Len will guide and teach participants to create a metal life-size sporting figure to be installed in the grounds of the Kondinin Community Recreation Centre. The finished sculptures will become public art and will be entered in the 2017 Kondinin Art Exhibition.

#### **Cummins Theatre |\$10,700**

##### **Wheatbelt**

##### ***Small Voices***

The Small Voices Project will engage professional community artist Alex Desebrock to allow those in the Merredin community who have the smallest voices—children-- to be heard by a wider audience. Through a series of multi-disciplinary arts workshops with visiting and local artists, participants will explore their thoughts for the future, and how they see their world. The project will culminate in a public exhibition of work which will be accessible to the greater community in a variety of local venues, and aims to start discussions about what it means to be a part of the Merredin community today and into the future.

#### **Annette Carmichael |\$14,419**

##### **Great Southern**

##### ***The Beauty Index***

The Beauty Index is a new dance work facilitated by Denmark (WA) Choreographer/Director Annette Carmichael. The work will see Annette collaborate with her community in the Great Southern and with local artists to develop a site-specific dance performance that will investigate the utility of beauty within a world dominated by unpredictable violence and acts of terrorism. How does the creative power of humanity respond? The project will engage

men in workshop activities and result in a season presented as part of the local festival *Brave New Works*.

## **Warmun Art Centre |\$25,000**

### **Kimberley**

#### ***2017 Wreck Project—Tura New Music Residency Program***

Warmun Art Centre will partner with Tura New Music to deliver a 3-week residency with artist Jon Rose, who will work with local artists and community members in developing a site-specific music installation concept titled WRECK. The project will explore the potent symbolism of the car wreck in the outback landscape and in an Indigenous cultural context. The artist will collaborate with community in locating and stringing up an old car wreck to be played at a performance in the community. Recorded by local photographer/filmmaker, the performance will include stories of wrecks and oral histories of the area.

## **Creative Corner Inc |\$18,850**

### **South West**

#### ***Emergence Creative Festival***

The Emergence Creative Festival is an annual conference and festival held in the Margaret River region in March. The event links the South West creative industries and provides a platform for creative minds to come together to network, develop skills and share ideas. The event showcases the region's best emerging talents from art, design, animation, photography, film and music, and offers professional development and employment opportunities with real business outcomes in the community. The program will include the *Creative Crawl* community event and the artist professional development *Co Lab Workshops*.

## **SHOWCASE FUND**

## **The Comedy Emporium |\$15,000**

### **Mid-West**

#### ***Regional Comedy Gala***

The Comedy Emporium will produce and present a showcase of work at the 2017 State Regional Arts Conference which has been facilitated and created by Julian Canny and his team, from artists located in the Midwest, Peel and Southwest regions of Western Australia. The show will feature a diverse range of people from a wide age range. Additionally, Julian Canny will present at the Conference on the independent producer business model he has developed through The Comedy Emporium and inspire delegates to apply this to their own regional communities.

## **Southern Forest Arts |\$4,480**

### **South West**

#### ***Rising From the Ashes***

Artworkers from Southern Forest Arts will join professional visual artist Kim Perrier in a multi-artform presentation of the multi-faceted approach Southern Forest Arts took to assist the Northcliffe and Windy Harbour communities in using creativity to recover from the trauma of the 2016 Northcliffe Bushfire. The presentation will feature images, poetry, music and sculpture, and will explore the projects involved in the creative recovery—the Community Fire Gathering, the After the Burn and Out of the Ashes exhibitions, the touring exhibition,

the After the Burn publication, and the Rising From the Ashes sculptural commission by Kim Perrier.

**Pare Randall |\$15,000**

**Goldfields-Esperance**

***Silent Volumes***

Silent Volumes was a dance work commissioned by AusdanceWA and performed in 2015 as part of Future Landings. The work is a sensory exploration of existence in a world where cultural borders merge. It tackles the questions of how we transform a new country from the unfamiliar into a place of 'belonging', and how we maintain our heritage while we calling a new place 'home'. The work explores Wangatha and Maori culture to search for a place to connect and share. The original work will be remounted with new and original dancers to be showcased at the State Regional Arts Conference.

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**This program is proudly funded by**



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