

Project Grants - National Recipients List

Round 1, 2023

NORTHERN TERRITORY

NT Dance Company, Karama NT

The Other Side of Me

\$30,000.00

Gary Lang NT Dance Company presents *The Other Side of Me*, a new cross-cultural contemporary male dance duet. An Australian-UK collaboration, *The Other Side of Me* responds to the true-life story of a young Aboriginal man born in 1966 in Kalkarindji, NT, and adopted by a white English family and raised in a remote hamlet in Cornwall, UK. The project draws on a collection of approximately 30 personal letters and poems written between 1990 and 1994. It offers insights into the mindset of a man in his mid-to-late twenties re-evaluating his life and trying to come to terms with his First Nations Australian origins.

Sarah Reuben, Parap NT

Above: Theatre for Babies - Creative Development

\$13,721.34

Above: Theatre for Babies is visually spectacular yet a gentle meditation, inviting its tiny audience to engage in a playful experience. The work is a diverse sensory experience interlacing movement, music, visual art, costume, narrative and lighting design. This second stage creative development will bring together some of the best theatre makers from across the Northern Territory and Australia, to make a work that will change the perception of how the Australian arts sector sees work for very young audiences.

Artback NT Incorporated, Darwin City NT

CUSP, NT Tour

\$29,994.00

Artback NT will tour *CUSP*, a Young Adult play by Mary Anne Butler, to Nhulunbuy, Katherine and Darwin. *CUSP*, written by Mary Anne Butler and directed by Fraser Corfield, is a Young Adult play that touches the hearts and minds of adults, as well as high school students. Co-produced by Australian Theatre for Young People (ATYP) and Brown's Mart Theatre, and starring Darwin's Lakesha Grant and Stevie Kyriacou, *CUSP* speaks to the dreams, hopes and fears of First Nations and culturally diverse young people living in remote regions, on the cusp of adulthood and self-realisation.

Northern Centre for Contemporary Art, Parap NT

Blak Power: 50 years of First Nations superheroes in Australian art

\$24,500.00

Blak Power: 50 years of First Nations superheroes in Australian art is a survey exhibition that celebrates First Nations superheroes in contemporary Indigenous art in Australia. This show will explore the iconographical development and diversity of practices among artists from remote and regional centres in the Northern Territory and across Australia. The project will examine notions of identity and supernatural forces in popular Blak culture through the exhibition of a broad range of

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mediums and cultural materials including comics, illustration, graffiti, painting, printmaking, sculpture, film and photography.

Papunya Tjupi Arts, Papunya NT

Wangkya Walytja - Stories and Storytellers

\$30,000.00

Wangka Walytja celebrates the art and literature of the Papunya Literature Production Centre with an exhibition created by and for Pintupi-Luritja people, staged on country. Between 1978-1990, Pintupi-Luritja illustrators, authors and elders produced c.350 intricately illustrated books. They told stories in their own language and images to their children and community to keep language, knowledge and culture strong. The project and exhibition will re-present, reinterpret and respond to this collection. Local artists will be invited to create new works, reinterpreting and responding to the illustrations and stories.

Betty Sweetlove, Mparntwe (Alice Springs) NT

Establishing an experimental theatre collective in Mparntwe (Alice Springs)

\$8,600.00

A brand-new, inclusive and experimental theatre collective for people living in Mparntwe (Alice Springs) with a passion for theatre and performance. An exceptional team of local facilitators will offer a series of monthly workshops focussing on radical experimentation, meaningful skills development, generating and rehearsing new ideas.

QUEENSLAND

Empire Theatres Pty Ltd, Toowoomba QLD

String Symphony 2023

\$30,000.00

Empire Theatres will partner with Spare Parts Puppet Theatre across 16 months and 2 festivals to present and existing work *String Symphony* in the 2023 and 2024. The project will connect artists from opposite coasts of Australia, increase the sustainability and development of regional creative careers and connect community through exemplary creative practice and evocative contemporary storytelling.

Overall Arts, Mount Sheridan QLD

Youth Theatre Creative Development of O, Ophelia

\$19,922.00

Overall Arts Youth Theatre Company will conduct a creative development of a new work for young people, *O, Ophelia* by a regional emerging youth playwright, Amber Grossmann, supported by production management mentorship with JUTE Theatre Company. The work will be developed with

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and informed by a cohort of 5 diverse young emerging actors, aged 15-18, alongside the playwright, professional director, designers, professional actors and a dramaturge.

Andrew Toby, Bungalow QLD
Deeyamithadda (Dance Spirit)
\$29,700.00

Deeyamithadda (Dance Spirit) is a new First Nations multi-artform mainstage production from Wakka Wakka/Gangulu choreographer, artist and director, Balla Neba (Andrew Toby). The development of this show will bring together one of the most dynamic and eclectic creative teams to stem out of Queensland, including the artistic professionals Fred Leone, Emily Wurramara, Tristan Barton and Chong Lim AM.

Christina Papadimitriou, Heatley QLD
Wearable Art Wonderland!
\$18,141.00

Wearable Art Wonderland! (WAW!) is an exciting series of workshops and community activations occurring over a two-month period across Townsville. Two professional artists will be engaged to help build cultural capability of regional creatives and to entice new audiences through workshops, artist talks, live demonstrations, and an exhibition of artworks.

Rachel Terry, Trinity Beach QLD
All Fired Up - Together
\$30,000.00

This project is an addition to Rachel Terry's touring production *All Fired Up*. The comedic protagonist Tammy will create digital aerobics classes in each community they've toured, at iconic landmarks in the region with the community dancers they've connected with.

Mackay Chamber Music Festival Inc., West Mackay QLD
2023 Mackay Chamber Music Festival
\$15,040.00

The *2023 Mackay Chamber Music Festival* (MCMF) brings professional chamber music performances and workshops of the highest quality to the Mackay region. The 2023 MCMF features 11 of Australia's finest musicians who are members of, or regularly appear with ensembles such as the Australian Chamber Orchestra, the Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen, the Lyrebird Trio, as well as other major Australian orchestras.

Black Image Band, Normanby Station QLD
Normanby Station Creative Bootcamp
\$28,740.00

The Black Image Band and Normanby Aboriginal Corporation will collaborate with Topology to deliver On-Country *Creative Bootcamps* on Normanby Station for local emerging First Nations musicians to

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mentor them through the process of developing and recording new work, with a focus on increasing their confidence to perform before live audiences.

Better In Blackall Inc., Blackall QLD

It's Better in Blackall!

\$30,000.00

The biennial four-day *Better in Blackall Festival* brings the community together with a common purpose of showcasing the region. *Better in Blackall Festival* provides a platform for the presentation of a diverse program that includes engaging art and culture experiences, local produce features, activities that narrate local hero experiences, and brings world class entertainment to this remote township.

Banana Shire Community Arts Association Inc, Biloela QLD

Biloela's Creative Capers

\$10,000.00

Biloela's Creative Capers is a weekend of more than twenty-five different art and craft workshops hosted in the rural township of Biloela. This inaugural event will offer over 250 opportunities for rural people to engage in a quality art experience. Each 3-to-4-hour workshop will be facilitated by a tutor qualified in their field.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Caitlyn Larsson, Berri SA

Finding Flight After the Flood - A community circus project

\$13,249.00

Riverland Youth Theatre, Our Lady of the River Primary School, Crunchtime Aerial Equipment and HeadSpace Berri combine to offer Riverland youth the opportunity to build healthy physical, mental and social habits through weekly circus training. The program will culminate in a free community presentation highlighting the effects of the floods on the region.

Southern Yorke Peninsula Community Hub, Yorketown SA

Lullabies in the North

\$27,900.00

This partnership will see Lullaby Project Australia delivered in Yorke Peninsula/Mid North. Through workshops in Clare, Warooka and Edithburgh, parents, carers and grandparents will compose lullabies for their babies and community, celebrating families, culture and connection, supported by trained Lullaby Artists. Through mentorships with experienced artists, locals will develop their workshop leadership skills. The initiative will lead to recording lullabies, community concerts and an illustrated songbook.

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Yalata Anangu Aboriginal Corporation, Yalata SA

Yalata - Culture through Music and Art

\$20,000.00

Over the space of 18-20 months, Yalata Aboriginal Corporation will host a series workshops engaging local and interstate artists to work with the Yalata community to further develop their skills. Activities will include painting, lino printing, pottery, weaving, song, dance, and wood carving. From these workshops, a stock of art will be developed, which Community members will be able to be sell through the new Art Gallery, which is scheduled to open at the Yalata Roadhouse in 2023. A short film containing footage of the workshops and local artists will be created for display at the Yalata Roadhouse.

Part of Things, Barmera SA

Be Part of Things: We Are the Project

\$15,000.00

Regional creatives Kirste Vandergiesen, Eliza Wuttke and Alysha Herrmann will work in residence in their own communities—Barmera, Port Lincoln & Mount Gambier—exploring their own “town as the project” and “process as practice” to build connection, skills and capacity for themselves and other regional artists. The three artists will work together across distance and discrete individual project outcomes to share practice and amplify best-practice in regional arts engagement & delivery. Discrete outcomes in each community will connect and celebrate emerging writers through workshops, commissions and residency participation, and provide public-facing outcomes to delight the general public (in-person and online).

Yorke Peninsula Council, Maitland SA

GROUNDED: YP Art Festival

\$22,615.00

Following a COVID-19 induced hiatus, the Yorke Peninsula Arts Exhibition has been reimagined as a week-long festival. Featuring the traditional exhibitions plus artist panels, workshops, live music and more, the festival will focus entirely on showcasing Narungga and Yorke Peninsula artists.

Evette Wolf, Normanville SA

Food Connections

\$18,875.00

Under the leadership of Evette Wolf, currently South Australia's active citizen of the year, Yankalilla Youth Theatre will run a community engagement project to explore a diverse range of art forms with a food focus. The project incorporates devising theatre, script writing, theatre lighting, sound, creative writing, graphic design, illustration and cabaret. Outcomes include:

1. Devise, script and perform an original play for the Yankalilla Community Garden Opening.
2. Produce a food themed magazine, exploring professional writing, illustration and graphic design.
3. Host two excursions - led by a YYT youth planning group - Explore native foods and cabaret style performance venues.

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Dave Laslett, Quorn SA

Desert Voices

\$27,000.00

Desert Voices sets out to equip and empower First Nations photographers and visual artists living regionally in the Coober Pedy and Oodnadatta areas to tell their stories, their way. Over four weeks, mentor Dave Laslett, will host a series of responsive workshops spanning smartphones through to DSLRs culminating in practical desert field trips, while increasing the capacity of visual artists in the region alongside meaningful storytelling. Beginning with smartphones, tablets and DSLR cameras, artists will have the opportunity to tell their story, their way.

Jude Aquilina, Milang SA

Solastalgia

\$8,602.00

Solastalgia - loss and return brings together artists and poets from Kangaroo Island, Adelaide and the South Coast, responding to the impact of climate change, such as the 2019 bushfires, and growing concerns for the natural environment. Coral Street Art Space will host this exhibition of film, photography, printmaking, and poetry, during SALA, in August 2023. An ekphrastic poetry workshop and weaving/storytelling circle will further engage the community. We are all part of a living/dying system; one in constant renewal. The exhibit invites audiences to reflect on their own experiences of the theme, in a landscape of kinship and compassion.

VICTORIA

Ballarat International Foto Biennale, Ballarat VIC

Celebrating 'The Real Thing'

\$20,782.00

Jeff Moorfoot OAM, founding father of the Ballarat International Foto Biennale, returns to curate 'The Real Thing' - a milestone exhibition for the Biennale's tenth anniversary. First held in 2005 as a regional exhibition, the Biennale has become Australia's most engaging and immersive photographic arts event held every two years on Wadawurrung and Dja Dja Wurrung Country. To celebrate the tenth anniversary, 'The Real Thing' invites fifteen respected photographers from regional Victoria to participate for the first time, in an inaugural Core Program event that aims to encourage inclusion, professional development and engagement with new audiences.

Fairfax Youth Initiative, Swan Hill VIC

MARRUK REIGNITED

\$25,762.00

Fairfax Youth Initiative will reignite Marruk, a First Nations-led youth theatre initiative born in the Mallee in 2009. This funding will engage multiple professional First Nations artists to work with Bayden Clayton, an original participant and now a highly regarded community youth leader, to

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maximise the cultural and creative connection through the Fairfax Festival. The funding will be used for mentorship, community workshops and public presentation costs.

Isabella Giovinazzo, Ocean Grove VIC

'FINN' Short Film

\$27,412.00

Based on the true events, Isabella Giovinazzo and Isabelle Pearl Love-Dack will create a short film to unify autistic and non-autistic audiences, by exploring themes of friendship, grief, trauma, PTSD, parenthood and self-authenticity. Set across mountain ranges and coastal regions of Wadawarrung country, 'Finn' will portray un-represented autistic women, autistic non-binary people, and autistic people of colour. Isabella will collaborate with other regional screen professionals, in mentoring next-generation regional filmmakers, on production of this film.

Mark Lang, Point Lonsdale VIC

Mark Lang Out To Sea Filmed Podcast Series

\$24,562.00

Out to Sea is a filmed podcast series created by singer/songwriter and filmmaker Mark Lang. The series will explore creative practice, place, song writing, storytelling, touring and the business of making a sustainable lifelong career in the arts. Set in the Victorian coastal villages of Queenscliff and Point Lonsdale that Mark calls home. The series will feature some of Australia's finest songwriters discussing the ups and downs of making a lifelong career in the arts. Woven throughout each episode will be the landscape, historical buildings and the everyday life and stories of a small Australian coastal village.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Marnin Studio / Marninwarntikura Womens Resource Centre, Fitzroy Crossing WA

Weaving in feelings of flood

\$19,760.00

The initial idea planned by Marnin Studio was a cross-regional project with a goal to link local women who weave with their contemporaries in the Pilbara, however, the flooding across the Fitzroy Valley has reduced the scope and brought the project back closer to home. *Weaving in feelings of flood* aims to bring women together through weaving, to untangle the effect of the floodwaters on homes and families while the weavers learn new skills and develop new works.

Kelsie Miller, Drummond Cove WA

Always Good Nights

\$13,230.24

Good Nights are boutique music events held in regional Western Australia, with a focus on connecting local communities with live music. Each show will take place in a unique setting that

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is not a traditional music venue, such as churches, art galleries and local businesses. These shows are a safe and welcoming space where songwriters can share their music with an audience who are actively listening and engaged, creating an environment that is a celebration of music between the artist and the listener. Good Nights work closely with local businesses, arts workers and musicians in regional centres to create these special events.

Dane Yates, Geraldton WA

Etude; Midwest Art Music Ensemble

\$20,000.00

Etude will be Geraldton's first experimental art music ensemble and the only one of its nature in the Mid-West region dedicated to offering exciting newly commissioned works from regional composers performed by an ensemble of local performers. This initial development will lay the groundwork for the ensemble's musical direction and philosophy, establish strong partnerships throughout the Mid-West and generate movement for programming community engagement opportunities which will benefit the wider community via workshops and lead to collaborative compositions and mentoring with a focus on First Nations youth. This project will culminate in *Etude's* premier performance in the Geraldton Regional Art Gallery.

Cara Ratajczak, Cowaramup WA

Cowara Bird Project

\$27,864.00

The Cowara Bird Project is a story-telling contemporary dance performance engaging children in the local community to celebrate the Noongar Cowara story. The town of Cowaramup has been known to the local Wardandi people as the place of the Cowara, the purple crowned lorikeet, for thousands of years. This vibrant performance brings light to the story of the Cowara bird in a meaningful and creative way to broaden the community's connection to the essence of Cowaramup and its Wardandi history.

Southern Forest Arts, Northcliffe WA

Cultivating connections & creative leadership through the 2023 Regional Visual Arts Summit

\$30,000.00

An estimated 40 creative leaders from across all 9 regions of WA will participate in a 3-day Summit held in Perth to focus collective energy on increased connection, collaboration and sustainability within WA's regional visual arts sector. Inclusion of emerging-to-established and independent-to-employed artists, arts workers and arts organisation representatives ensures a whole of sector approach to capacity building, with free registration and access to travel bursaries if required. This multi-agency initiative amplifies the impact of the Open Borders survey exhibition and dovetails with the current review of the regional exhibition touring strategy.

Gwendolyn Knox, Cable Beach WA

Scones with Nanna - Tour of Wheatbelt WA

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\$29,000.00

Nanna's story emerges through the fog of dementia. This work is a truth-telling that exposes secrets hidden for generations. Nanna was born rough, raised posh and taught to forget. The setting begins in 1972, tracing back 100 years of history to tell the story of how families dealt with rapid changes and the trauma caused by the *Aborigines Act 1905*, legislation which forced Indigenous mothers to make horrific decisions about what to do with their mixed-race children. This site specific, multi artform work commences production in 2023, ready to tour WA regional towns Moora, Toodyay, Beverley, and finishing at the York Festival.

Sky River, Margaret River WA

The Marri Tree Girl - exploring puppetry and digital media- Creative Development Stage

\$29,124.00

The Marri Tree Girl is an original puppet-based initiative by Sky River, providing professional development opportunities for regional artists to collaborate on a new piece of Western Australian theatre. Weaving worlds of science and storytelling, this fictional work experiments with various art-forms including puppetry, digital media, film, music and contemporary performance to explore ecological themes. The Creative Development Stage funds a team of skilled regional performers to upskill in puppetry, explore the script and integrate digital media at Margaret River HEART. An interactive showing will invite local community groups and industry professionals who have previously engaged in the show's development.

Southern Edge Arts Inc, Centennial Park WA

Living on the Edge Festival

\$20,029.00

Living on the Edge is a festival of youth performing arts. Held in Albany, the festival includes the presentation of four contemporary youth devised performances across each weekend in October. Regional Youth will create and present cabaret, circus, theatre and fire performances that are accessible to audiences in the Great Southern Region.

Denmark Baroque Inc., Denmark WA

Fairy Queen: The Carnival

\$21,800.00

Fairy Queen: The Carnival is a multi-disciplinary semi-opera which creates opportunities for skilled professionals in a range of creative disciplines to mentor emerging creatives and community members across Western Australia's Great Southern region. This large community project explores Denmark Baroque's historically and contemporarily uneasy relationship with the 'wild', physically and psychologically. The performance outcome is Baroque Opera and Shakespeare laced with a vaudeville blend of circus, contemporary poetry and immersive theatre, which will be presented on the banks of the Kwoorabup River (Denmark) on Labour Day weekend 2024.

Abdul-Rahman Abdullah, Mardella WA

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The language of birds

\$21,968.00

Abdul-Rahman will create a new body of work, *The language of birds*, and present at the Melbourne Art Fair representing gallery Moore Contemporary in February 2024. Birds are a repeated motif in Abdul's work, exploring ideas of communication, language, and symbolism.

The language of birds furthers his investigations into modes of communication with the natural world with a suite of sculptures embodying the fragmentation of ideas when turned into objects and language. Expanding on the Sufi (Islamic mysticism) tradition of a 'Divine language' encoded within birdsong, the works question the limits of language in communicating an objective understanding of the natural world.