



**NEW SOUTH WALES  
REGIONAL ARTS  
DEVELOPMENT  
ORGANISATIONS**

**CASE STUDIES  
SHOWCASING AND  
CELEBRATING THE  
SUCCESS OF THE  
NETWORK**

ARTS MID NORTH COAST ARTS NORTH  
WEST ARTS NORTHERN RIVERS ARTS  
OUTWEST ARTS UPPER HUNTER  
EASTERN RIVERINA ARTS MURRAY ARTS  
ORANA ARTS OUTBACK ARTS SOUTH  
EAST ARTS SOUTH WEST ARTS SOUTHERN  
TABLELANDS ARTS WEST DARLING ARTS  
WESTERN RIVERINA ARTS ARTS MID NORTH  
COASTARTS NORTH WEST ARTS NORTHERN  
RIVERS ARTS OUTWEST ARTS UPPER  
HUNTER EASTERN RIVERINA ARTS MURRAY  
ARTS ORANA ARTS OUTBACK ARTS SOUTH  
EAST ARTS SOUTH WEST ARTS SOUTHERN  
TABLELANDS ARTS WEST DARLING ARTS  
WESTERN RIVERINA ARTS ARTS MID NORTH  
COASTARTS NORTH WESTARTS NORTHERN  
RIVERS ARTS OUTWEST ARTS UPPER  
HUNTER EASTERN RIVERINA ARTS MURRAY  
ARTS ARTS MID NORTH COASTARTS  
NORTH WESTARTS NORTHERN RIVERS  
ARTS OUTWEST ARTS UPPER HUNTER  
EASTERN RIVERINA ARTS MURRAY ARTS  
ORANA ARTS OUTBACK ARTS SOUTH  
EAST ARTS SOUTH WEST ARTS  
SOUTHERN TABLELANDS ARTS WEST  
DARLING ARTS WESTERN RIVERINA ARTS  
ORANA ARTS OUTBACK ARTS SOUTH  
EAST ARTS SOUTH WEST ARTS  
SOUTHERN TABLELANDS ARTS WEST

# INTRODUCTION

## THE REGIONAL ARTS DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATION NETWORK

There are fourteen Regional Arts Development Organisations in NSW, each providing strategic direction for sustainable arts and cultural development in their region, and supported by the umbrella organisation, Regional Arts NSW.

Our Boards include representatives from local government, tourism, education, arts councils and other community arts organisations and community members. Each employs an Executive Director and other staff who coordinate a cultural development program across the contributing local government areas in their region.

We work across the state offering region-wide perspectives of the needs and opportunities for arts and cultural development and its benefits.

### OUR SHARED VALUES

In regional NSW we stand by:

- Recognition and support of First Nations arts and cultural practice.
- The professionalism of arts and cultural practice.
- The right of people living in regional NSW to participate in and contribute to arts and culture.
- Genuine connection to place as expressed through the works of artists and creative communities.
- The role of the regions in providing pathways and mechanisms for sustained creative practice and experiences.
- The strength of collaborative partnerships within and across sectors to deliver arts and cultural development.

### WHAT WE DO

#### SERVICES

We provide valuable services for:

- Artists - helping them to become viable by achieving artistic and business goals.
- Communities - building capacity for communities to develop their own projects to create social connectedness and wellbeing.
- Local Councils - working across a variety of council responsibilities to support and augment their work in areas including:
  - Tourism
  - Economic Development
  - Community, Cultural and Strategic Planning
  - Cultural Infrastructure.

#### CONNECTION

We connect and support our creative communities using our knowledge and expertise developed over more than twenty years.

#### REACH

We reach and connect with regional and remote NSW – where no one else goes.

#### FLEXIBILITY

We are flexible, nimble and savvy and able to respond effectively to change, new ideas and opportunities.

#### AMPLIFICATION

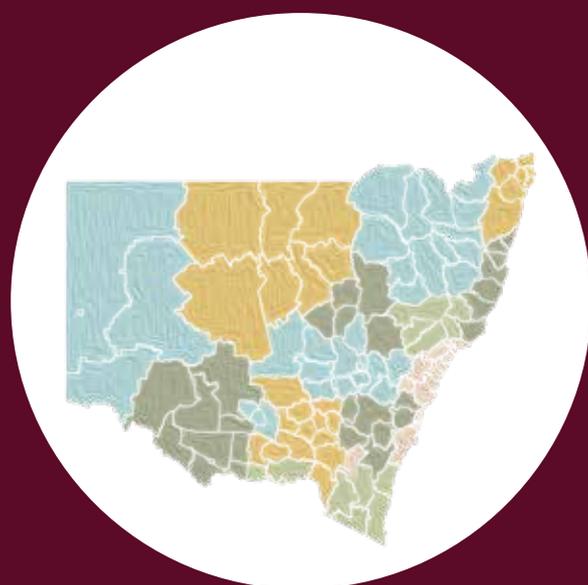
We amplify regional voices through a variety of communication platforms and projects.

#### EMPLOYMENT

We provide employment opportunities for the creative sector.

#### PARTNERSHIPS

We develop strategic partnerships within the regional arts network, across industry and community sectors and across government portfolios.



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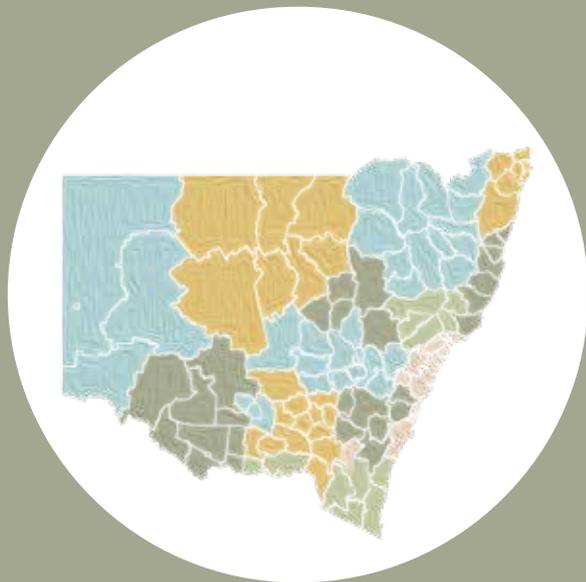


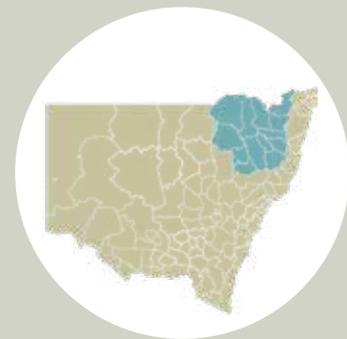
# CREATIVE

# ARTS



# PRACTICE





# ARTS NORTH WEST

## ART WORD PLACE

Tamworth • New England North West  
2019 - 2020

*Art Word Place* focused on the interplay between text and image. Writers from the Arts North West region were commissioned to create a short poem based on their home landscape. Selected artists have then drawn on this composition as the basis and inspiration of a new work capturing the identity and sense of place of the New England North West. There are recurring themes – of rivers, plains and sky, of drought, of adversity but also of optimism.

## PARTICIPANTS

18 writers and 18 artists from Armidale, Curlewis, Ebor, Deepwater, Glen Innes, Gunnedah, Inverell, Invergowrie, Manilla, Moree, Narrabri, Pine Ridge, Rocky River, Tamworth, Tenterfield, Uralla, Walcha, Warialda. Curated by Caroline Downer, Arts North West Executive Director.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- The exhibition was a first of its kind for the New England North West region.
- Majority of participants already maintain successful creative arts practices. This exhibition celebrated and highlighted that you can work and live in the regions.
- Unique cross collaboration across artforms with the pairing of literature and art.
- The exhibition created a new network of creatives for the New England North West.
- *Art Word Place* opened at Artstate Tamworth 2019, and was shown at the Regional Australia Institute in Canberra and other regional venues.

## PARTNERS, SPONSORS AND FUNDING BODIES

- Tamworth Regional Art Gallery •  
Regional Arts NSW

## FURTHER INFORMATION

<http://www.artsnw.com.au/art-word-place>



***“Art Word Place was extraordinary in so many ways: it produced amazing, beautiful creative collaborations between writers and artists, it showcased the New England natural landscape... I was not only delighted but honoured to be part of what I consider to be a truly groundbreaking artistic concept and event.”***

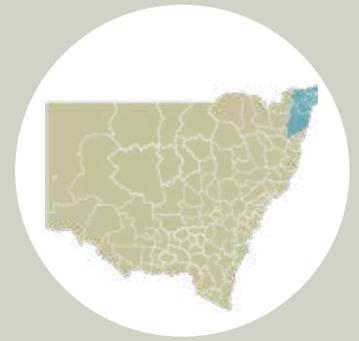
Sophie Masson

Writer

**Arts  
north  
west**

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Executive Director: Caroline Downer





# ARTS NORTHERN RIVERS

## ART ON BUNDJALUNG MARKET

The Quad, Lismore  
June 2019

In June 2019, Arts Northern Rivers celebrated the conclusion of a region-wide Indigenous arts project, Art on Bundjalung Country, with an Aboriginal art market honouring the creative and cultural heritage of the Bundjalung region. Art on Bundjalung Market was a free family event presenting a unique opportunity to purchase authentic Indigenous artwork and to meet the makers. Over 3000 visitors engaged with a combination of established and emerging artists and collectives employing traditional and contemporary materials.

### PARTICIPANTS

The market featured 28 stalls including both solo artists and art collectives. As well as the market stalls, the event featured a cultural program of multiple music and dance performances, including arts workshops, a traditional Welcome to Country and smoking ceremony.

## PARTNERS, SPONSORS AND FUNDING BODIES

The Market was the outcome of a region-wide Indigenous arts project 'Art on Bundjalung Country', a project which Arts Northern Rivers successfully secured funding for from the North Coast Primary Health Network and the Department for Communications and the Arts' Indigenous Languages and Arts Program. The project was also delivered in partnership with Lismore Regional Gallery.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- \$28,000 in sales with 100% retained by artists
- Successful delivery of an extensive cultural program to support the market including dance, fashion and music.
- Successfully connected artists with further opportunities including exhibition and commissions.
- Interest from other Local Government Authorities in the region to support a similar market in their regions.

### FURTHER INFORMATION

<https://artsnorthernrivers.com.au/project/art-on-bundjalung-market/>



*“A rare opportunity to showcase the amazing work of Aboriginal artists in our region. It’s been an incredible experience to be a part of one of the largest gatherings of Aboriginal artists on Bundjalung Country. We are all amazed by the amount of support received in a celebration of the work of first nations people. I congratulate Arts Northern Rivers for establishing the inaugural Art on Bundjalung Market and hope to see many more in the future!”*

Kylie Caldwell

Bundjalung artist



# ARTS NORTHERN RIVERS

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Website [artsnorthernrivers.com.au](https://artsnorthernrivers.com.au)  
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Executive Director: Peter Wood



# ORANA ARTS

## STAGING STORIES: 'A LITTLE PIECE OF HEAVEN'

Narromine • Dubbo • Nyngan • Melbourne  
2015 - 2019

Staging Stories developed and provided support for Aboriginal playwrights and performers across the whole of regional NSW. In 2015 six workshops in Dubbo brought together Indigenous Australians with an interest in theatre; be it storytelling, performing, writing, acting, or fun. Aboriginal Australian Contemporary theatre is exceedingly rare in regional NSW with limited opportunities available for traditional custodians to be creators, participants or audience members.

Through workshops Aunty Ruth and Uncle Dick Carney (Narromine Wiradjuri Elders) recounted their trials and tribulations as Aboriginal Australians, while mesmerising the audience with their incredible love story.

Following two sold out performances in Narromine and Dubbo, it showed at the Melbourne 'Yirramboi' Festival 2019 at The Footscray Community Arts Centre (four sold out shows, as well as Q&A sessions). Further radio interviews and important meet and greets were a part of the promotion of the production. The final performance was held in the community of Nyngan NSW.

### PARTICIPANTS

- Producer: Michelle Hall • Director: John Harvey
- Original Devising Team (writer): Aunty Ruth & Sam Paine (regional writer) • Storytellers & performers: Uncle Dick and Aunty Ruth Carney
- Audio & Visual Designer: Annie McKinnon • Set Designer: Alison Ross • Original Devising (Assistant Producer and Performer): Paris Norton
- Emerging Producer & Performer: Danielle Andrews • Stage manager: Caleb Thaiday • Lighting: Lee Hilter

### PARTNERS, SPONSORS AND FUNDING BODIES

- Create NSW • Footscray Community Arts Centre



## HIGHLIGHTS

- The Elders have found this process of contemporary storytelling a healing process.
- Many Aboriginal people in the audience had never seen a cultural production let alone their Elders performing and passing on stories.
- First production from regional Australia to make it to Melbourne and have sold out shows.
- Provided employment opportunities to Aboriginal artists and emerging creatives in the Orana Region and Interstate.
- Non-Aboriginal audiences saw a new perspective on discrimination in Australia.
- Paved a way for traditional storytelling to be practised through contemporary mediums.
- Brought regional communities together to connect to and to experience stories from their area.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

<https://www.oranaarts.com/main-st>

***“Lead by example. What an example they have set despite the barriers. Congratulations Dick and Ruth”***

Bill Phillips



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Wellington NSW 2820  
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Executive Director: Alicia Leggett





# WESTERN RIVERINA ARTS

## EACH FOR EQUAL

Griffith

February 2020

*Each for Equal* is the 2020 International Women's Day (IWD) theme. While 51 per cent of visual artists today are women, when it comes to exhibitions and gallery representation, 78 per cent of galleries represent more men than women, and in the major galleries less than 30% of artists represented, are women. And beyond the statistics, women artists and curators face unique challenges, from the subjects they bring to light to the work they choose to present. In the spirit of *Each for Equal*, Griffith Regional Art Gallery is curating an exhibition celebrating leading female artists from across the region.

## PARTICIPANTS

Sophie Chauncy • Veronica Collins •  
Linzie Ellis • Pam Kent • Sarah McEwan  
Janine Murphy • Anthea da Silva • Lisa Taliano •  
Diane Tarr • Kerri Weymouth

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Sales of various artworks to local buyers.
- Significant attendance of exhibition.
- High quality of artwork.
- Exhibition lifted profile of all the women artists.
- Solid media attention for artists.
- Audience engagement with a weekly walk and talk by Gallery staff - well attended.
- Anthea da Silva won the inaugural Darling Art Prize at the National Portrait Gallery in Canberra during the time of the exhibition, this created more interest in the exhibition and in the other artists.

## PARTNERS, SPONSORS AND FUNDING BODIES

- Griffith Regional Art Gallery

## FURTHER INFORMATION

[https://www.griffith.nsw.gov.au/cp\\_themes/gallery/page.asp?p=DOC-HKT-31-25-86](https://www.griffith.nsw.gov.au/cp_themes/gallery/page.asp?p=DOC-HKT-31-25-86)



***“We must recognise that great women artists have been with us always. Each for Equal is an exhibition that is so utterly important because we need to see ourselves reflected in society in meaningful ways. Not only women, but large sectors of our community have missed out on this day to day reflection until relatively recently. This exhibition is a celebratory act where Griffith’s very own gallery acclaims its women artists.”***

Aanya Whitehead  
Executive Director, WRA

western  
riverina **ARTS**

CONNECTING CREATIVE COMMUNITIES

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Executive Director: Aanya Whitehead

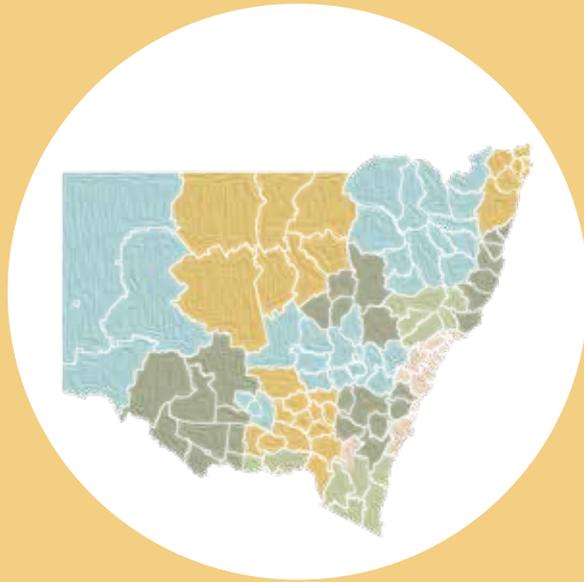


# CONNECTION



PHOTO

# COMMUNITY





# ARTS UPPER HUNTER

## PLAY IN A DAY

Dungog High • Gloucester High • Merriwa Central  
• Mt Pleasant Public • Sandy Hollow Public •  
Scone High • St James Primary • Vacy Public •  
Denman Public • Murrurundi Public • Aberdeen  
Public • St. Catherine's College

2016 continuing

Since 2016, Arts Upper Hunter has funded twelve whole day workshops called Play In A Day in Upper Hunter schools. Arts Upper Hunter engages Tantrum Youth Arts to run the drama workshops.

Typically, the day begins with warm up drama games and moves onto ideas for short plays, usually based around a theme picked by the school. Students break into groups and start devising their plays. Groups show works in progress to each other and continue to polish their plays. After a quick technical rehearsal, other students, teachers and, sometimes, parents arrive to watch a performance.

Play In A Day is a great opportunity for students and teachers, many of whom have little experience of drama, to spend a whole day working with a professional artist.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- End of the day performances are a hit with other students, staff and parents who come to watch – often they have no idea of the acting skills in their midst.
- Some schools go on to use the plays at other school events like presentation nights.
- Great opportunity for Newcastle artists to work in rural setting.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

<https://artsupperhunter.com/play-in-a-day/>

*“Play In A Day is a great opportunity for students and teachers, many of whom have little experience of drama, to spend a whole day working with a professional artist”*

Mark Reedman  
Executive Director  
Arts Upper Hunter

arts **UPPER HUNTER**

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Executive Director: Mark Reedman





# OUTBACK ARTS

## RIVER STORIES

Walgett

May 2019

River Stories was focused on increasing social and emotional wellbeing of Aboriginal women in Walgett through delivery of creative workshops and activities that allowed the participants to see and use the beauty in the landscape and the community. Delivered by Outback Arts in partnership with 2 Rivers Pty Ltd, the project was funded by the University of Newcastle's Gomerai Gaaynggal Centre. With a focus on leaving a legacy through skills development the project encouraged the women to share their new skills with other members of the community through the local services and regular group activities.

## PARTICIPANTS

Aboriginal Women in Outback Arts region.

## PARTNERS, SPONSORS AND FUNDING BODIES

• 2 Rivers Pty Ltd • University of Newcastle Gomerai Gaaynggal Centre • Signal Creative Emma & Caroline • Aleshia Lonsdale • Lexie Reeves

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Through this workshop the participants learnt a variety of creative techniques and how this connects to culture. The creative skills shared included basket weaving, fishtrap weaving, zine making, photography and making creative creatures.
- This workshop encouraged conversation, skill sharing, creative development and programming especially for the local children's play group.
- Participants identified that they all felt happy at the beginning of the workshops with the women feeling happy, confident and excited at the completion of the day.
- The women identified that they felt connected to the landscape by working on the riverbank and this gave them a sense of belonging as they shared stories of parents and grandparents being born under the birthing tree just down the river from where we were based. They felt at ease and happy that they had spent time together learning and sharing.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

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

OUTBACK ARTS  
building creative communities

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Executive Director: Jamie-Lea Trindall

*“The week was a big success, with a large number of participants (many with repeat attendance) and a lot of positive feedback from organisations and community members. It was great to have extended time in the Walgett community to catch up with people in advance as well as attending community events (football/netball) on the weekend and the regular community group exercise (PCYC boxing and WAMS bootcamp) to spend time with community members and keep talking about the activities and benefits of the program.”*

Signal Creative





# SOUTH EAST ARTS

## GIIYONG FESTIVAL

Jigamy • Eden

September 2018 continuing

Giiyong Festival was the first Aboriginal arts and cultural festival in the south-east region of NSW and a hugely successful event. The festival featured over 100 Aboriginal musicians, dancers, singers, writers and presenters, ranging from professional acts to community groups. Headline acts including Baker Boy, Jessie Lloyd and No Fixed Address were joined by many of the region's local creative talent. This free, family-friendly, alcohol free event welcomed 6000 people and provided an important platform for our Aboriginal community locally and nationally to showcase their culture and have their voices heard and respected.

### PARTICIPANTS

Giiyong features leading First Nations performers and presenters from across the country, as well as local emerging musicians, dancers and creative producers from the Yuin Nation. Broader community participation is achieved through long-term arts and cultural engagement projects within south east regional schools, local Aboriginal communities and supporting organisations.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Giiyong brought together thousands of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal patrons.
- The local Aboriginal community felt ownership, were key presenters and reported widespread pride in the event and gratitude that their culture was respectfully presented and celebrated.
- The festival program was developed over an 18 month period through community engagement projects such as workshops, creative developments and residencies, and included significant events in the lead up to the festival, including an Aboriginal writers forum and a music concert.

### PARTNERS, SPONSORS AND FUNDING BODIES

*Key Partner:* Twofold Aboriginal Corporation

*Sponsors and funding bodies* • Create NSW

- Federal Government through Indigenous Languages and the Arts • Festivals Australia • Local Land Services NSW • Destination NSW • NSW Aboriginal Affairs • NSW Dept of Industry • Bega Valley Shire Council • Snowy Hydro • Waterways

## FURTHER INFORMATION

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

*"I can't express how blown away I was on Saturday, you all did such an incredible job putting it together. Down to the tiniest detail it was so obvious that you understood the community, the audience, the performers and how to bring everyone together. What a coup to pull off this event, and what a gift to our region."*

Vanessa Milton

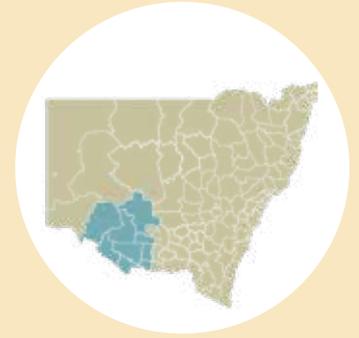
ABC

SouthEastArts



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Executive Director: Andrew Gray





# SOUTH WEST ARTS

## ART RELIEF

Balranald Shire Council • Berrigan Shire Council  
Carrathool Shire Council • Edward River Council  
Hay Shire Council • Murray River Council

2018 - 2019

Art Relief was founded and coordinated in 2018 by local Moulamein artist Narelle Whitham, in partnership with South West Arts.

Art Relief delivered 18 workshops in Moulamain and Deniliquin from August to December 2018, supported by the local community with donated materials, venues and artist time. Funding support from Murrumbidgee Primary Health Network enabled the program to be expanded across the whole region.

These workshops provided fun, creative and social activities to promote a sense of togetherness during times of hardship. They aimed to support the mental health and wellbeing of families and friends struggling with the impact of drought in their local community.

## PARTICIPANTS

Over 150 workshops have been provided across the South West Region of NSW in rural and remote locations with over 800 people participating and 15 artists volunteering their time and skills.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- The workshops were offered to both adults and children at no charge to ensure the program did not have any financial impacts on day to day living.
- The health benefits of art tuition and creative programs is well documented. However, the co-ordinators and volunteers got to see first-hand how the project helped reduce stresses and anxiety in participants; created a support network for each other; and provided some relief from the everyday.
- Some of the participants in the program created high calibre works that will be on Exhibition at the Peppin Heritage Centre in Deniliquin.
- Artist Narelle Whitlam won the 2019 Murray River Council Australia Day Arts and Culture Award for the Art Relief project.



*“I love seeing the surprise in the eyes of participants when they create an artwork that they didn’t think they could do. Everyone always says they can only draw stick figures, they now know this is not true.”*

#### PARTNERS, SPONSORS AND FUNDING BODIES

- Murrumbidgee Primary Health Network • Murray River Council • In-kind value of donated materials • Donated venues • In-kind value of artist time

#### FURTHER INFORMATION

<https://www.2qn.com.au/articles/art-relief-in-deni/>



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Website [southwestarts.com.au](http://southwestarts.com.au)  
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Executive Director: Kerry-Anne Jones



# WEST DARLING ARTS

## MAKING, SHAPING AND BRINGING BACK THE BAAKA

Far West NSW  
2019

“Making, Shaping and Bringing Back the Baaka” comprised a series of projects that worked with the Aboriginal communities that rely on the Darling/Baaka, a river that had been all but destroyed by drought, climate change and water mismanagement. It was designed and delivered to give a voice to some of those who were most affected by this catastrophe.

Activities ranged from film documentation, through to workshops including lino-cutting, weaving, contemporary jewellery, the publication of poetry and an exhibition catalogue.

A successful exhibition in December 2019 at the Town Hall Façade, Broken Hill, showcased works generated by the project.

## PARTICIPANTS

Participants in the projects were all Aboriginal people living in Far West of New South Wales, the majority are Barkindji.

## PARTNERS, SPONSORS AND FUNDING BODIES

Funded by Federal Government’s Indigenous Languages and Arts grant.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Video documentation of the Barkintji Dance Group participation in the Yaamangunna Baaka Corroboree Festival.
- Weaving workshop on a houseboat on the Murray-Darling Junction.
- Exhibition and catalogue of works by Aboriginal artists of the Far West region
- Four of the participating artists will have solo exhibitions at the Broken Hill Regional Art Gallery.
- Contemporary Jewellery workshop.



***“West Darling Arts is proud to have been able to provide a platform that allowed our regional Aboriginal artists to get together and express their concerns, sorrow and anger about the state of the Darling-Baaka.”***

Catherine Farry  
West Darling Arts  
Executive Director

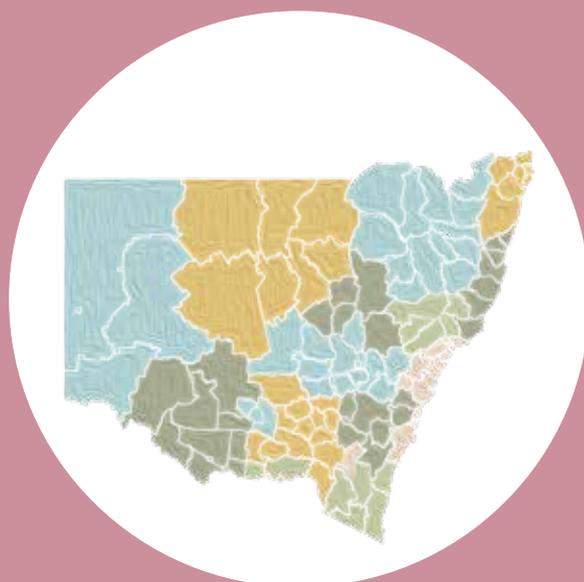


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# COLLABORATIVE



# PARTNERSHIPS





# ARTS MID NORTH COAST

## MID NORTH COAST... THE CREATIVE COAST

Bellingen Shire • Coffs Harbour • Mid-Coast  
Kempsey Shire • Nambucca Shire • Port  
Macquarie-Hastings

2018 continuing

The Creative Coast brand and products of Arts Mid North Coast provides an extensive range of services to all their cultural tourism providers and in so doing enhances the experience of all who seek a cultural experience. It does so by showcasing the region's cultural experiences on behalf of their Creative Partners while at the same time enhancing the capacity and ability of the providers of those experiences so that individually they can further develop their products and their role in the visitor economy.

The Creative Coast provides for 17 Cultural Trails, with over 400 providers and experiences, features 10 smaller Creative Communities and through online What's On and Social media promotes over 700 events. Additional features are Arts Mid North Coast Shine Heritage Festival and the publication of Summer Guides.

## PARTICIPANTS

Over 400 providers listed in Cultural Trails, Creative Communities and event organisers in Mid North Coast.

## HIGHLIGHTS

In 2019:

- Recognised by Tourism Industry Awards for the fourth consecutive year.
- Major new website.
- 32 Page Creative Coast booklet.
- Three new Cultural Trails: Inclusive Arts, Online Trails and Our Creative Waterfall Way.
- Designated two further Creative Communities: South West Rocks and Woolgoolga.
- Annual Summer Guide, More than a Beach, featured 52 creative activities for families across the region.
- Published annual Our Top Ten Holiday Picks highlighting new or interesting cultural experiences for holiday makers.
- Developed and published guide, Marketing your Museum.



## PARTNERS, SPONSORS AND FUNDING BODIES

Arts Mid North Coast has developed strong partnerships with Destination NSW, and with their local cultural tourism providers.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

<https://artsmidnorthcoast.com/creative-coast/>



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Executive Director: Kevin Williams

***“Arts Mid North Coast has proved itself to be a leader in developing innovative projects to support the development of cultural tourism on the Mid North Coast. Its programs and marketing showcase the region’s rich heritage and creativity. Moreover its strategic advice and support to the wider tourism industry and its operators is highly valued.”***

Janette Hyde

Winner Outstanding Contribution  
by an Individual to NSW Tourism



# ARTS OUTWEST

## BIG SKIES COLLABORATION

Parkes • Bathurst • Cowra • Condobolin • Orange  
• Lithgow • Kandos • Hill End • other NSW centres

2017 - 2020 ongoing

Led by Forbes-based writer Dr. Merrill Findlay, this large multi-faceted project themed around the sky included the setting-up of writing groups (Skywriters) and the publishing of an anthology of writing; the creation of art work depicting Wiradjuri constellations and their projection on to a moving night sky dome; the emergence of a Skyfest at the Wiradjuri Study Centre in Condobolin, and weaving work exploring the constellations. Welsh storytellers participated in a cultural exchange, bringing their own sky stories. Two symposia were held in Parkes and included dinner at The Dish.

## PARTICIPANTS

• Regional writers from inland NSW • Aboriginal artists • astronomers, • Aboriginal dancers  
• Wiradjuri Condobolin Corporation • Welsh storytellers from UK organisation Adverse Camber

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Many writers received support and have had their work published for the first time in the anthology *Dark Sky Dreaming*.
- Both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal participants have discovered more about astronomy and the culture associated with it.
- A new event led by an Aboriginal organisation has emerged (Skyfest).
- Aboriginal artists Scott Towney and Bev Coe have had their artwork exploring constellations exhibited at several venues including Cementa Festival and Artstate Bathurst in 2018.
- An Inland Astro Trails organisation has been formed to encourage inland tourism, using arts events alongside science, with further development being undertaken by Destination NSW Country and Outback.
- The Welsh storytellers from Adverse Camber did a two week residency with Arts OutWest which included working with university students, professional storytellers, actors and the community.

## PARTNERS, SPONSORS AND FUNDING BODIES

Funding: • Regional Arts Fund • Charles Sturt University • Copyright Agency Ltd • Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre • IVAIS (Department of Communication and the Arts, Australian Government) • Local Land Services • Writers Centres (New England, Dubbo) • Parkes Shire Council • ANU • Tamworth Regional Astronomical Club

## FURTHER INFORMATION

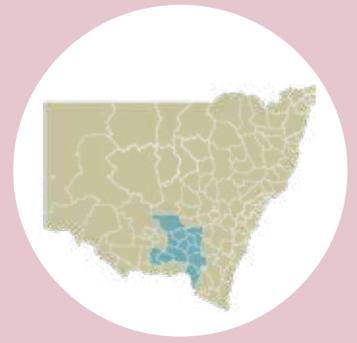
<https://artsoutwest.org.au/category/projects/cultural-tourism/big-skies-collaboration/>

*“This anthology beautifully tells the stories from the perspective of people who live on the land, and their connection to Space in this most important of astronomical areas.”*

Brad Tucker  
Research Fellow, Research School of Astronomy and Astrophysics, Australian National University. Supporter/partner of Big Skies Collaboration



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Executive Director: Tracey Callinan



# EASTERN RIVERINA ARTS

## PLATFORM RIVERINA

Bland • Coolamon • Cootamundra-Gundagai  
Junee • Lockhart • Snowy Valleys • Temora •  
Wagga Wagga

2019 continuing

An Eastern Riverina Arts project, PLATFORM is an inclusive and accessible 'art installation space' adapted from a 40-foot shipping container. Designed to be a flexible art space, the container is transported on a semi-trailer and can be configured as a sensory space, chill-out area, exhibition space or even set up as a small stage. It has the option to be installed on site with a portable accessible bathroom. PLATFORM further provides complimentary consultations and disability awareness training for local councils, event committees, organisers and volunteers, to help build the capacity of communities to better deliver inclusive and accessible events that anyone can attend. ERA is committed to challenging the misrepresentation of artists with disabilities at festivals and providing a space to exhibit the exceptional talent in our community.

## PARTICIPANTS

ERA curators work with local artists to create exhibitions and performances in and around the container space, each time PLATFORM is installed at an event or festival.

## PARTNERS, SPONSORS AND FUNDING BODIES

PLATFORM is an initiative of Eastern Riverina Arts in collaboration with IDEAS, funded by NDIS and supported by Accessible Arts

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Since its launch in March 2019, PLATFORM has been part of many major events across the Riverina at Wyalong, West Wyalong, Tumut, Wagga Wagga, Lockhart, Coolamon and Junee.
- PLATFORM has also delivered workshops on improving accessibility and inclusivity at events to over 100 people across the Riverina.

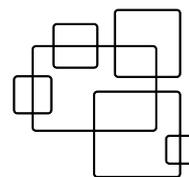
## FURTHER INFORMATION

<https://www.platformriverina.com>



*“Artists with disabilities are making challenging and exciting work in Australia, but continue to be under-represented in our professional and festival environments. We are missing out on the chance to connect with audiences, and audiences are missing out on vibrant contemporary artistic experiences. PLATFORM gives us an opportunity to bridge that access divide, carving out a dedicated space where artists and audience can feel welcome, valued, and engaged, whether they identify as disabled or not.”*

Hanna Cormick  
Co-curator



**EASTERN  
RIVERINA  
ARTS**

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# MURRAY ARTS

## SCHOOL DRAMA™

Classrooms Albury City • Federation • Greater Hume • City of Wodonga • Indigo • Towong

2015 continuing

School Drama is a professional learning program that partners Primary School teachers with professional performing artists for seven weeks, for one school term – inspiring a passion for reading, critical thinking, performance and oral literacy. This partnership between Sydney Theatre Company, Murray Arts and HotHouse Theatre, School Drama has a dual focus. The primary focus is on the individual teacher’s professional learning. With this in mind, a Teaching Artist models how to use process drama-based strategies with quality children’s literature to improve teaching and learning. The secondary focus is on improving student literacy and learning engagement.

## PARTICIPANTS

- Primary School English and Literacy Teachers
- Primary School Students

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Since 2015, 18 schools and 39 teachers in the Murray Arts Footprint have participated in the program.
- While the cost for 1 teacher in Sydney to participate in the program is \$1,500, the subsidised cost for teachers in our region is just \$600 each.
- We use locally based teaching artists to deliver the program directly into the classrooms.
- The program’s strength is that it provides an English and Literacy professional development program for regionally-based primary teachers.
- Demonstrates successful use of drama-based skills to help bring stories to life and really engage students in the ancient art of storytelling.

## PARTNERS, SPONSORS AND FUNDING BODIES

- Sydney Theatre Company • HotHouse Theatre
- The University of Sydney • Local teaching artists
- Any school in the Murray Arts footprint who wish to participate in the program.



***“I have learnt SO MUCH. I will continue to incorporate my new skills in every subject to increase and deepen understanding of new texts and concepts such as connection or perspective, to encourage confidence in one’s new ideas, to build a classroom community.”***

Amanda Laycock

The Scots School Albury

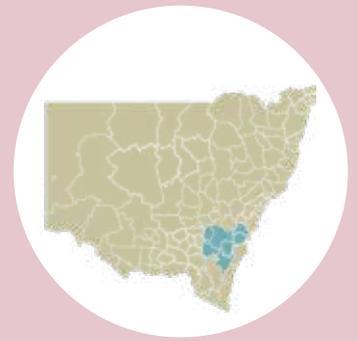
#### FURTHER INFORMATION

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



**MURRAY ARTS**

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# SOUTHERN TABLELANDS ARTS

## HABITAT CORRIDORS

• Harden • Murrumburrah

2019

Habitat Corridors was an arts and environment program designed by Southern Tablelands Arts with funding through Inspiring Australia to highlight local threatened species. Working closely with the Office of Environment and Heritage as well as Landcare groups, participants explored local habitat and threatened species through printmaking.

Artist Julie Ryder facilitated paper dyeing and printmaking workshops delivered over two weeks. These culminated in a group exhibition of works displayed at Harden Mechanics Institute and a forum of science communicators addressing issues of habitat in local threatened species. The forum covered issues around diminishing habitat, local endangered species such as the Superb Parrot and the Pygmy Perch as well as new ways to approach environmental issues through art and community engagement. The Habitat Corridors program combined arts and science to create a meaningful impact within the local community.

## PARTICIPANTS

Attended from 6 local government areas, Goulburn Mulwaree, Queanbeyan Palerang, Upper Lachlan, Hilltops Council, Yass and Wingecarribee and included a range of artists, community members and Landcare staff and volunteers.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Participants reported a greater understanding of local threatened species.
- Strong partnerships were formed which encouraged new projects and programs.
- Local council were engaged in the conversations.

## PARTNERS, SPONSORS AND FUNDING BODIES

• Landcare • Inspiring NSW • Office of Environment and Heritage

## FURTHER INFORMATION

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2r8wKhnULFM>



***“I just think that it’s really nice that programs like this exist in the community that are accessible and free... The combination of arts and science can really help young people understand what’s happening in their local environment.”***

Rebecca, Goulburn



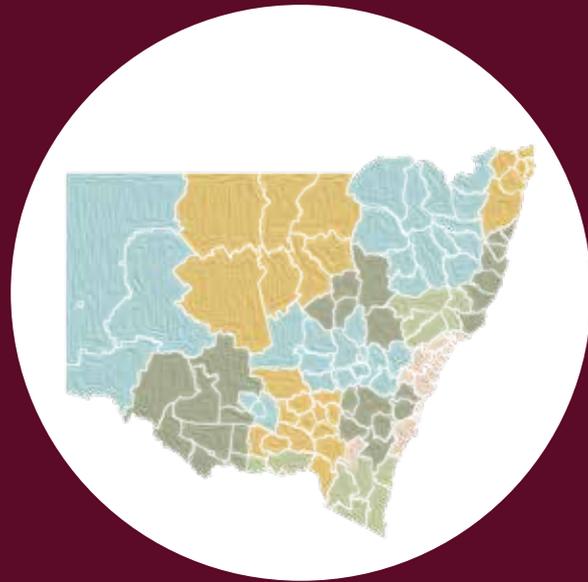
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- pp36-37 Teaching Artist Rachel McNamara delivering School Drama workshop. Photo credits Manifeasto Photography
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RADO NETWORK  
2020