

## Regional Arts Fund NSW - List of Projects Funded 2021

The Australian Government shows its support for regional artists and arts organisations to develop their artistic practice through the Regional Arts Fund, which has an emphasis on youth, the disadvantaged, remote and Indigenous communities.

Funding targets activities that will have long term cultural, economic and social benefits for individuals and communities. Regional Arts Funding assists communities and individuals through the development of partnerships and cultural networks, by providing artists with professional development and employment opportunities, and by supporting arts and community development projects that provide local communities with opportunities to access exciting arts and cultural activities.

### New Initiatives

**Saltwater Freshwater  
Arts Alliance  
Artist Development and  
Culture Camp 2021**

**Y1: \$30,000.00**

*Region: Mid North Coast*

Saltwater Freshwater Arts Alliance will present a 4-day *Artists Development and Culture Camp* at Yarrowarra Aboriginal Cultural Centre. Emerging and established artists from the Gumbaynggirr, Dunghutti, Biripi and Worimi will come together and share experiences and ideas whilst learning new skills. Professional arts practitioners will meet with emerging artists sharing their skills and knowledge and providing insights into the reality of working in this field in a relaxed and culturally appropriate setting whilst instilling "best practice" philosophies. Participants will have the opportunity to attend several workshops including professional artist's talks from Adam Hill aka Blak Douglas and Karla Dickens. Other workshops will cover canvas care, stretching and framing and a mould and cast making for the casting of metals with professional sculptor John van der Kolk. Gumbaynggirr Elder and local Lore and knowledge holder, Uncle Mark Flanders will facilitate a cultural tour and acclaimed Yidaki pleyer Kristian Benton will be providing a cultural musical experience.

**Outback Theatre for  
Young People  
MONSTERS HAVE  
FEELINGS TOO: a  
creative program for  
regional young people**

**Y1: \$20,000.00**

*Region: South West*

*Monsters Have Feelings Too* is a workshop series where young people of Deniliquin and surrounds are able to navigate discussions around their reactions to current events (such as drought, bushfires and pandemics) alongside professional arts facilitator Edwina Circuit, and local mental health practitioners. Through the lens of art, participants will investigate what their 'monsters' are - things that they fear or avoid, and what they look like. Participants will get to know their monsters and gently unpack their feelings and thoughts around them, while creating imaginative non-traditional sculptures during a fun and cathartic process of making and inventing.

**Jingellic Hub Inc.  
Flamin' Hell**

**Y1: \$25,000.00**

*Region: Murray*

Jingellic Hub Inc. will gather metal relics from the ashes of their bushfire devastated district and have acclaimed sculptor, Andrew Whitehead, create a dynamic found metal sculpture "*Flamin' Hell*" to celebrate the self-sacrifice, grit and determination of volunteer CFA and RFA firefighters. The sculpture will commemorate their heroism and contribution to the defence of Walwa and Jingellic. Other local artists will contribute to the project by creating gates in a similar format of welding found metal objects into panels to be placed at the entrance of the Jingellic Showgrounds.

**The Wired Lab**  
**'DARKswell' and**  
**'Medicament for your**  
**Predicament'-**  
**collaborative remedies**  
**for bushfire impacted**  
**communities**  
*Region: Eastern Riverina*

**Y1: \$30,000.00**

*DARKswell and Medicament for your Predicament (M4YP) – collaborative remedies for bushfire impacted communities – are relational 'live' performative artworks that deeply engage with communities impacted by the catastrophic Dunn's Road bushfires that occurred in the Snowy Valleys region across December 2019 and January 2020. A collaboration between artists The Wired Lab, Julie Vulcan, Cat Jones and rural agrarian artisans, outcomes of these development projects will be presented at the 'Wired Open Day Festival' in 2021.*

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**Tirkandi Inaburra Cultural and Development**  
**Centre Inc.**  
**Cultural Murals**  
*Region: South West*

**Y1: \$12,975.00**  
**Y2: \$12,975.00**

Tirkandi Inaburra participants will have the opportunity to work alongside artist Kerri Weymouth, to design two culturally themed murals to be painted onto Tirkandi buildings. Tirkandi Inaburra participants will work with Kerri to develop ideas for the murals that would carry cultural themes significant to the local land, area and community. The participants will be involved from start to finish, learning how to prepare surfaces for painting, types of paints to use, designs that are suitable for outdoor display and finishing processes. Once completed, these designs will be showcased to the community through an unveiling ceremony and via social media.

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**The Cad Factory**  
**Political Women: Overlaps and Divergences**  
*Regions: Western Riverina*

**Y1: \$18,185.00**

*Political Women: Overlaps and Divergences* brings together 14 artists from diverse cultural, generational, personal and artistic perspectives to illustrate and celebrate the complexity of contemporary feminist discourse and the art made within it. For each artist, their practice is entangled with politics, personal narrative and activism to highlight the consequences of colonial and patriarchal power. The exhibition at Griffith Regional Art Gallery and corresponding public program places regional and urban women standing side by side, working towards reconciliation, accepting differences and creating a more just world through empathy and tolerance.

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**Gabriela Green Olea**  
**The Connection Project**  
*Region: South East*

**Y1: \$15,000.00**

*The Connection Project* will explore connection after a devastating bushfire season and an isolating 2020. A project of healing and connection between inclusive dance artist Gabriela Green Olea and a group of diverse dancers with and without disability from the Bega Valley community. The project takes place shortly after the community experienced the 2019/20 bushfire crisis on the Far South Coast of the Yuin Nation. This traumatic event was shortly followed by the isolation of not dancing together during COVID-19 restrictions. In this project the artists will be exploring a personal and a collective connection to the natural land they live on as a creative process to reconnect with themselves, each other and the community.

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**HotHouse Theatre**  
**This is Your City – Albury Wodonga**  
*Region: Murray*

**Y1: \$29,000.00**

HotHouse Theatre will create *This is Your City – Albury Wodonga*, a multi-reality, locations-based game inspired by a 1980's legacy board game of the same name. Reimagined for our time, regional communities play the game live through twin cities in a 1980s-style car rally. Combining live performance, geocaching and immersive theatre, participant's race

through the cities, exploring spaces, hunting for clues, completing tasks and experiencing performances to complete the game. Developed by regional artists, this work will explore the changing face of our cities and grown the cultural capital of the region, increasing artistic engagement for locals and visitors.

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**Amala Groom**  
**Embodied Performance**

**Y1: \$15,000.00**

*Region: Central West*

*Embodied Performance* is a 12-month self-directed professional development program that seeks to expand Groom's embodied performative practice through online mentorships and critiques with artists/curators/dramaturgs across Australasia throughout 2021 and will act as research and development in the lead up to the presentation of a new solo commission with Liveworks Festival (Performance Space), Sydney in 2022.

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**Got Ya back**  
**Productions**  
**Carnival of the Animals -**  
**Remixed**

**Y1: \$16,500.00**

*Region: Mid North Coast*

Saint-Saens's joyous masterpiece - Carnival of the Animals – will be presented as a multi-artform theatre production for all ages. To be toured throughout Mid North Coast, North Western NSW, New England & Northern River regions. A production to encourage communities, especially young people, back into their regional theatres, post bush fires and COVID-19.

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**Bathurst Regional**  
**Council**  
**Kangaroo**

**Y1: \$19,800.00**

*Region: Central West*

*Kangaroo* is a new work written by Miranda Gott. It tells the story of three people in a small regional community. The work is dark, it explores the themes of solitude, isolation and death, all universal themes, making the work relevant beyond the regions. *Kangaroo* will premiere in Bathurst and then be presented at The Joan in Penrith and at Cowra Civic Theatre.

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**Nicole L Welch**  
**AS ABOVE SO BELOW,**  
**new site-specific work in**  
**the Central West of NSW**  
**whilst in isolation**

**Y1: \$10,800.00**

*Region: Central West*

Artist Nicole Welch will record in photography and moving image her reconnection to the natural world in response to ongoing isolation imposed by COVID 19. She will develop new techniques through the exploration of macro (astrophotography) and micro (miniature) photography to make new installations and performances for her LAND & BODY series of work, across sites at the Macquarie and the Lachlan Rivers. The outcomes of *AS ABOVE, SO BELOW* will be exhibited at the Orange Regional Gallery and MAY SPACE Sydney.

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**Wiradjuri Condobolin Corporation**  
**Condo SkyFest 2021**

**Y1: \$30,000.00**

*Region: Central West*

*SkyFest 2021* is a celebration of Wiradjuri culture, including astronomy and skylore, in the small inland town of Condobolin where people experienced the full intergenerational impacts of colonisation, dispossession and racist government policies in the 19th and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. *SkyFest 2021* is a way for the Wiradjuri community to recover, reclaim and revitalise their cultural heritage, pass it on to young people, and share it with the broader community in entertaining and engaging ways. *SkyFest 2021* will also introduces new ideas into the community and creates new opportunities for cultural, social and economic development.

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**FLING Physical Theatre Inc.**  
***My Black Dog – Adaptation for Film***  
*Region: South East*

**Y1: \$15,000.00**

FLING Physical Theatre will develop *My Black Dog*, a new film based on FLING's live performance work of the same name, first presented in the Bega Valley in 2019. The project will be delivered across two development weeks with the creative team, followed by one week of filming on location across the Bega Valley. The project will be distributed in partnership with Headspace, to reach target audiences of young people living in regional rural and isolated communities.

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**Sunset Strip Progress Association Inc.**  
***Art on the Boulevard***  
*Region: West Darling*

**Y1: \$22,100.00**

Sunset Strip is an Outback NSW village doing it tough. Adversities are causing great hardship with a drought into its fourth year, dust storms, horrific fish kills and the closure of the seedless grape industry. *Art on the Boulevard* will engage a drought impacted artist-in-residence to work with community members and the Menindee Land Council to develop and create fifteen public art works. The project will contribute to the Sunset Strip Progress Association's Disaster Recovery Strategy to rebuild the population base, sell vacant housing, creating a vibrant place for people to want to live, work and play.

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**Lyllardya Houston**  
***River Crossing: a community highwire event exploring place and identity***  
*Region: Western Riverina*

**Y1: \$26,060.00**

This project will set up a textile design studio space to create a couture fashion range inspired by Lyllardya Houston's cultural heritage and expressed through original designs in printing, painting, jewellery and accessories. The collection will be presented at the Ngarru Miimi Spring Fashion Parade, designed as a streamed digital event that is proposed to be held at Koori Beach, a special Wiradjuri cultural place on the banks of the Marrambidya River in Narrandera. The event will sell, promote and expand the couture fashion business. The collection can also be used to promote and submit to collective events in Australia and overseas.

## Partnerships

**SeedArts Australia**  
***River Crossing: a community highwire event exploring place and identity***  
*Region: Northern Rivers*

**Y1: \$30,000.00**

*River Crossing* will be a site-based performance spectacle to celebrate and bring to life the unbelievable story of Lismore-born Aboriginal circus performer, Con Colleano in a 'death defying' 85-metre long highwire crossing, suspended over Lismore's Wilson River. Featuring four emerging Aboriginal leaders and two professional wire artists, the event will be presented in August 2021, alongside Karla Dickens' large-scale outdoor visual art tribute to Con Colleano featuring local emerging and professional Indigenous artists.

**Fiona Smith**  
***From Bourke With Love***  
*Region: Outback*

**Y1: \$30,000.00**

Inspired by Allan Clarke who left his remote NSW town of Bourke to become an award-winning journalist, local Aboriginal children begin to record stories of their town. Their stories will become a series of multimedia projects, narratives of daily survival as these vulnerable kids come to feel that they have agency to use their voice to create social change in their own, positive way. *From Bourke With Love* builds a structured, staged cultural program to engage disadvantaged children of all ages at a level appropriate to them, to encourage, mentor, teach and train them to interview, film and create their own stories and arts multimedia projects. Their truth-telling will be important for all Australians to hear.

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