



REGIONAL ARTS NSW – REGIONAL ARTS FUND - QUICK RESPONSE GRANTS

2017-2018 Financial Year GUIDELINES

WHAT IS THE REGIONAL ARTS FUND?

The Regional Arts Fund is an Australian Government program that supports sustainable cultural development in regional and remote communities in Australia. The program is managed by Regional Arts Australia and Regional Arts NSW.

The Regional Arts Fund is designed to benefit regional and remote arts practitioners, arts workers, audiences and communities.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Fund are to support and promote participation in, and access to, Australia's arts and culture in regional and remote Australia by:

- Encouraging and supporting sustainable economic, social and cultural development in regional communities;
- Developing partnerships and networks which leverage financial and/or in-kind support for specific projects and encourage ongoing collaboration;
- Developing audiences and broadening community engagement with the arts;
- Increasing employment and professional development opportunities for, and raise the profile of, regional and remote artists.

WHAT IT WILL FUND

The Regional Arts Fund will only fund arts or cultural projects that are directed at achieving the objectives of the program as specified above.

The arts or cultural focus of the project can include:

- Circus
- Crafts and textiles
- Cross art form
- Dance
- Digital Media
- Film
- Literature
- Music
- Photography
- Puppetry
- Theatre
- Visual arts

REGIONAL ARTS FUND (RAF) QUICK RESPONSE GRANTS

The Quick Response Grants program is a small grants program for regional artists, arts organisations and communities to take up professional or skills development or small project opportunities that present themselves at very short notice.

Grants of up to \$1500 are available to support:

- Professional development opportunities for artists and artworkers involved in community programs that will increase their knowledge, skills and experience;



- Skills and or arts development for individuals and groups in regional communities through the employment of arts and cultural workers to conduct workshops, seminars and forums;
- Under exceptional circumstances, artists and/ or local community groups may apply to this program to assist in the costs of creative recovery projects for communities suffering from the impact of a natural disaster.

Funding is primarily available for artist fees and associated costs

There is no deadline or closing date however there is a limited number of grants of up to \$1,500 available annually. The funds are allocated quarterly and once each quarter's allocation is expended, funds will not be available until the following quarter.

All applications must be submitted in SmartyGrants on the RANSW Quick Response Grant Application Form and successful applicants cannot re-apply within 12 months of a successful grant. A maximum of \$2500 can be allocated per applicant during any four year period.

All applicants need to speak to Regional Arts NSW prior to submitting their application.

ELIGIBILITY – WHO CAN APPLY?

- A not-for-profit, incorporated community group or local government authority with an ABN, based in regional NSW
- A regionally-based individual artist or arts worker with an ABN, based in regional NSW, with demonstrated experience delivering community programs / projects
- A regionally-based individual artist or arts worker with a nominated auspicing body that meets the above requirements

Who is not eligible to apply?

- Applicants with outstanding acquittals from previous grants from the Regional Arts Fund, Quick Response Grant or any other funding programs administered by Regional Arts NSW
- Applicants who have already received a Quick Response Grant in the last 12 months

WHAT WON'T THE GRANT PROGRAM SUPPORT?

- Funds to overcome lack of planning or to supplement project income
- Attendance at events, conferences or residencies that occur on a regular basis (e.g. annual, biennial, biannual etc.) for which you could have planned or for which there are other funding programs available
- Any projects that applicants may initiate (e.g. application to speak at a conference, residency that you are responsible for organising, or initiating a project out of informal discussions at short notice)
- Anything that does not have to happen now or an opportunity that will still exist if not taken now
- Projects which do not align with the objectives of the Regional Arts Fund
- An activity principally benefitting a major city or metropolitan location¹
- Projects that will commence or be completed before funding is approved

¹ A major city or metropolitan location is defined by the Department which currently uses the Modified Monash Model to determine the classification of the location. Under the Modified Monash Model, Regional Arts Fund funding cannot principally benefit a location classified as MMM Classification 1. This model is currently available at http://www.doctorconnect.gov.au/internet/otd/publishing.nsf/Content/MMM_locator



- Activities that are also funded by other programs administered by the Australian Government or other state and local government agencies
- Marketing/promotion of artwork or exhibition expenses
- Ongoing core administration or infrastructure costs of the applicant organisation
- Heritage activities such as conservation of or signage at heritage buildings or sites
- Collecting institutions except for creative arts projects that meet the program objectives
- Touring projects from major urban centres to regional communities
- Performance or public entertainment
- Competitions, prizes, awards or fundraising events

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Proposals must demonstrate:

- Evidence of increased professional and / or skills development
- Identified benefits and outcomes for the community
- Evidence of consultation and support from the community
- Evidence of the applicant's ability to manage the project
- Evidence that the project is urgent or a unique arts opportunity that has arisen at short notice.

PROCESS

Applicants should contact Regional Arts NSW (RANSW) to discuss their proposed request for funding. This will save time and trouble filling in an application if the project is not eligible under the Quick Response Program or if this quarter's funds have been expended. Once contact has been made with the RANSW office a link to fill in your application form online through SmartyGrants will be provided.

Applications are managed through Regional Arts Australia's secure online grants system – SmartyGrants. Applicants who are new to SmartyGrants will be required to create a SmartyGrants account before they can proceed with their application. Applicants who have submitted applications using SmartyGrants before can use their existing log in. Applications should be saved on a regular basis. Applications will be assessed by RANSW staff.

Allow up to 10 working days for applications to be processed.

Applicants will be informed of the outcome of their application by email.

Successful applicants will be required to sign a contract and submit an invoice online through SmartyGrants

CHECK LIST

The following support material must accompany the application:

- Relevant CVs of artist/s involved in the project
- Letter of invitation, if invited to a symposium/conference or similar
- Relevant letters of support from artists involved in the project
- Evidence of support where other groups or organisations are involved.

What is an auspicating body?

Groups that are not incorporated, or individuals without an ABN can still apply for a grant if they have an auspicating body. An auspicating body is a legally constituted organisation that will take legal and financial responsibility for a grant if awarded. A signed letter from the auspicating body will be required. If a grant is awarded, the auspicating body must also sign the Conditions for Payment of Grant form and is responsible for reporting on the grant within three months of the project's completion. All correspondence and monies will be directed to



the auspicing body. It is recommended that grant applicants enter into a written agreement with their nominated auspicing body highlighting respective rights and responsibilities.

PRIVACY

Regional Arts Australia and RANSW must deal with personal information in accordance with the *Privacy Act 1988*. Regional Arts Australia is also required to ensure that necessary permissions are obtained to allow funding to be announced publicly by the Australian Government (including the Minister and the Department), Members of Parliament, Regional Arts Australia and RANSW, including by way of publication on the internet by any of those persons. This will include, but may not be limited to, the applicant's name/organisation name, funded project description, funded amount, state/territory, location and electorate. This information may also be used for reporting purposes.