



Australian Government
Regional Arts Fund



Media Release

Creative Tasmanians to Benefit from Government Investment

Tasmania's arts and cultural communities are set to benefit from the release of funds for 15 projects totalling \$84,059 through the Australian Government's Regional Arts Fund.

Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts, the Hon Peter Garrett welcomed the announcement for projects from Devonport in the North through to Bruny Island in the south.

"The Regional Arts Fund not only provides Australians living in regional areas with better access to the arts, it also supports the activities of regionally-based artists, helps to promote cultural development and links regional communities and arts organisations," Minister Garrett said.

Lee Cole, State President, Tasmanian Regional Arts added "The Regional Arts Fund in Tasmania plays a significant role in supporting the work of regional artists and arts workers. These projects demonstrate the extent to which Tasmanian creativity emerges from regional communities through our arts and cultural events".

Community arts initiatives supported in the new round of funding include:

- **Deviot Community Association Inc.** in the Tamar Valley is celebrating the centenary of the Deviot Hall and plans to stage a major outdoor sculpture exhibition featuring regional artists and arts workers. Sculpture on the Riverbank will be staged in two private gardens which will be open as part of Australia's Open Garden Scheme.
- **enSight** is a public visual arts program, designed to showcase young and emerging graphic designers, visual artists and photographers to the Launceston community through the installation of a series of solar-lit lightboxes. These lightboxes will be installed onto walls of public places, later looking at freestanding models and other possible innovative designs.
- **Mature Artists Dance Experience Inc.** will create a contemporary dance theatre work inspired by the book 'Dancing on the edge of the Empire' by Tasmanian author Victoria Rigney (1950-2008) choreographed and directed by Glen Murray with set and costume design by Nicole Robson.

The Australian Government has committed over \$770,000 in funding for Tasmanians for the 2009 to 2012 period as part of a nationwide funding to the Regional Arts Fund program. The Fund assists community-based cultural development in regional, remote and isolated areas in Australia. It aims to achieve sustainable cultural development by facilitating partnerships and networks, assisting the professional development and employment of regional artists and funding community projects.

Tasmanian Regional Arts manages the Fund in Tasmania on behalf of the Australian Government. Assistance is available across all art forms for projects that encourage community participation in regional arts development. A full list of funded project is attached. More information about the Regional Arts Fund is available online at www.dcita.gov.au

Contact Details:

Eunice Horne Grants Manager, Tasmanian Regional Arts P: (03) 6426 2344
E: eunice@tasregionalarts.org.au W: www.tasregionalarts.org.au

ATTACHMENT ONE – Regional Arts Fund Announcements

Small Grants

Fabulous Fathers Photography \$4,968

The Fabulous Fathers Photography project creatively celebrates the relationship that a group of disadvantaged and at risk dads have with their children aged 0 - 5. The fathers participate in the workshop to develop photographic skills to photograph their child, then the child photographs them. The resulting photographs will be presented in an exhibition titled 'Snaps & Snags'.

The Salvation Army HOBART

Sculpture on the Riverbank 2010 \$1,500

Deviot Community Association Inc. in the Tamar Valley is celebrating the centenary of the Deviot Hall from 23 Jan to 26 Jan 2010 with an event called Deviot Undressed 2010. As part of this event, DCA plans to stage a major outdoor sculpture exhibition featuring regional artists and arts workers. Sculpture on the Riverbank will be staged in two private gardens which will be open as part of Australia's Open Garden Scheme.

Deviot Community Association Inc. (DCA) DEVIOT

enSight: Launceston Lightbox \$5,000

enSight is a public visual arts program, designed to showcase young and emerging graphic designers, visual artists and photographers to the Launceston community through the installation of a series of solar-lit lightboxes. These lightboxes will be installed onto walls of public places, later looking at freestanding models and other possible innovative designs. The light boxes will play host to solo, group, community & artists-in-residence exhibitions. These exhibitions will run throughout 2009/10 and with continued community support, become a permanent and growing feature of Launceston's Arts & Tourism Culture.

Painting 'how to get started' \$2,680

To run fortnightly workshops over a 6 month period to increase the skills of both community artists and special needs people from Giant Steps in the painting medium. Following the workshop series an exhibition will be held displaying the progress and final works of the participants. Workshops to be tutored by Evelyn Antonysen in Deloraine hosted by Meander Valley Art Society.

Meander Valley Arts Society DELORAINÉ

Tasman Digital Collective \$5,000

To produce a series of digital video stories collated onto DVD and a series of audio interviews with elderly members of the community, published and promoted in the local community via local radio and further afield via the World Wide Web.

Clarence City Council CLARENCE

Princess \$5,000

A contemporary dance theatre work inspired by the book 'Dancing on the edge of the Empire' by Tasmanian author Victoria Rigney (1950-2008) choreographed and directed by Glen Murray with set and costume design by Nicole Robson.

Mature Artists Dance Experience Inc. HOBART

To honour and nurture culture \$2,100

Local artists and Aboriginal youth meet with Aboriginal artists and elders on Aboriginal land to learn and experience traditional Aboriginal culture and art forms such as shell stringing and basket weaving and from their own experiences create an art piece that represents the experience they had, which will then be submitted for exhibition.

Mersey Leven Aboriginal Corporation DEVONPORT

Experience Bruny \$5,000

A Partnership between Bruny Island Arts Inc. and Arts & Bruny Tourism to publicise the "Nine Days artists' trail and taste of Bruny". Outcomes will include details and maps for tours of open studios, program of performances and attractions, series of exhibitions in four local halls, visits to historic sites and attractions.

Bruny Island Arts Inc. BRUNY ISLAND

Vox Tasmanica \$5,000

To gather, select and publish songs from Tasmanian composers under the title 'VOX TASMANICA, the flowering of voices' via an expression of interest process. An accompanying audio CD will be produced of the songs, to be recorded as whole songs and separated into vocal parts, for use by community singing groups as a resource to develop their repertoire.

Tasmanian A'Capella Association (TACA) Inc. HOBART

Homelands Art Camp \$4,600

A 3 day ART camp at Bridport, North East Tasmania, based on a cultural exchange between 20 children from Lilydale District School and 20 aboriginal children from Arnhem Land NT. Activities at the camp will include pottery, ceramics, printmaking, shell-craft, digital media and hip-hop dance. A relationship between the 2 groups of students will be established via letter writing prior to the camp, whilst the camp participants will make artworks to exchange with the Maningrida Aboriginal Community.

Lilydale District School LILYDALE

Random Acts of Music \$5,000

The Chordwainers will create and develop works for performance during the Regional Arts Australia Conference in Launceston 27 - 29 August 2010. Performances on Greenwood leather instruments will be presented as 'Elegant Surprises in unexpected places' around Launceston's CBD.

Lila Meleisea ST HELENS

Major Grants

St.Art Clarence Street Art and Music Festival \$9,541

St. Art is a youth culture festival centred around legitimate aerosol and stencil art activities and music. The Festival is one part of Clarence Council's graffiti reduction strategy which includes workshops, skills development, graffiti removal and community murals.

Clarence City Council CLARENCE

Tasmanian Aboriginal Design Project \$9,160

Funding sought for the Public Forum component of Tasmanian Aboriginal Design Project being held during the Regional Arts National Conference in August 2010. Forum will feature two international indigenous speakers and Tasmanian Aboriginal craft and design practitioners sharing stories and experiences. Prior to the forum all participants will have joined together in a series of residential workshops sharing skills, stories and experiences.

Tasmanian Wood design Collection WEST HOBART

Diversions-Launceston's Living Laneways \$10,000

The Launceston's Living Laneways' Diversion Pilot Program will commission installation of two permanent artworks in two Launceston laneways. The objectives of the pilot and broader annual program are to reclaim the laneways for communal use, such as community events, arts programs and business activity; to familiarise and engage with the public with contemporary art by placing it in public spaces; and to enrich the laneways as physical and historical spaces that attract a wide audience.

Cityprom Inc. LAUNCESTON

Streets Alive 2009 pilot mentorship program \$9,500

To get the 'Streets Alive' program up and running in 2009, undertake a pilot project building on the RAF Seed Funding mentorship program offered to young community arts practitioners from Manic Productions; widening it to include an artist-in-residence program in which mentored groups from other Interweave programs will create digital imagery and multi arts installations and performances aimed at transforming/reinventing 'in-between' spaces, such as 'pocket parks' and cul-de-sacs within Launceston's street scapes. This would then lead on to a full program launch to coincide with Regional Arts Australia conference during August 2010.

Streets Alive Youth Art Festival LAUNCESTON