

Aboriginal Arts Fellowship

3 September 2015

Assessment Meeting Report



Arts
NSW

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ABORIGINAL ARTS FELLOWSHIP 2015

Closing Date: Tuesday 11 August 2015

Panel Meeting Date: Thursday 3 September 2015

The Aboriginal Arts Fellowship is offered by the State Government to enable a professional Aboriginal artist to undertake a self-directed program of professional development, and is open to Aboriginal arts practitioners working in all arts forms including:

- Collections and cultural heritage
- Community arts and cultural development
- Dance
- Literature
- Multi art form
- Music (including opera and musical theatre)
- Theatre (including craft and design)
- The Fellowship is open to professional Aboriginal artists living in metropolitan or regional NSW, at any stage of their career.

Funding Range

Available funds: Up to \$30,000

PANEL ASSESSMENT FEEDBACK

Members of the panel noted that:

- there was strong representation from practitioners in all art forms and at all stages of career
- the artistic merit criteria was met to a high standard in those applicants who rated at the top of the rankings
- applicants wrote passionately and genuinely about their practice and proposals
- Aboriginal arts leadership and cultural representation was apparent, and applicants were working and sharing their knowledge beyond their own arts practice.

The panel recommended that:

- applicants should provide better evidence of how their proposed program would link with their current practice
- applicants should more clearly distinguish between what constitutes a project and what is personal professional development
- applicants should seek advice from Arts NSW staff and appropriate support from the industry/arts sector before submitting their applications
- funding to the Fellowship should be increased in line with that of the Western Sydney and Regional Arts Fellowships.

FUNDING STATISTICS

GRANT CATEGORY	2015 Aboriginal Arts Fellowship
APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	15
SUCCESSFUL APPLICATIONS	1
SUCCESS RATE	0.06%
AMOUNT REQUESTED	\$450,000
AMOUNT FUNDING	\$30,000

SUCCESSFUL APPLICANT

Andrea James

Ms Andrea James, a Yorta Yorta and Kurnai woman is a theatremaker, curator and producer of Aboriginal arts.

Ms James is a leading Aboriginal Arts producer, perhaps best known for her plays such as *Yanagai! Yanagai!*, which has toured internationally, who relocated to Sydney from Victoria in 2010. She was the NSW Accelerate recipient in 2013 and, until recently, worked as the Artistic Associate at Carriageworks, Sydney's premiere venue for the development and presentation of interdisciplinary arts.

Ms James will undertake a twelve month placement at Bangarra Dance Theatre, to research and develop a one woman physical theatre work Goolagong: Tall Trees Still Water (working title) about the legendary tennis player Evonne Goolagong. Andrea will work with Evonne, her family and community.