



# Troy Grant MP

Minister for Hospitality, Gaming and Racing  
Minister for the Arts

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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Friday, 8 August 2014

### **\$45,000 FOR THREE CENTRAL COAST ARTS PROJECTS**

Minister for the Arts Troy Grant and Member for Gosford Chris Holstein were today joined by Wyong Council Deputy Mayor Lynne Webster, Gosford Council Mayor Lawrie McKinna and CEO of Regional Development Australia Central Coast, John Mouland to announce that three Central Coast arts projects will share in \$45,000 from the Art Central partnership.

Minister for the Arts Troy Grant said music projects from Innov8Central Music and Sainsbury Music, and multimedia project, Art Whispers, will each receive funding of \$15,000.

Mr Grant said this funding followed the Art Central support announced earlier this year for Treehouse Creative's CENTRAL LINE collaborative online platform.

"With a population of over 320,000, the Central Coast is the third largest residential region in NSW. A population of this size will naturally have a burgeoning creative sector and the NSW Government is working to support its development," Mr Grant said.

"Nearly 138,000 people engaged with the *Digital Futures* and *Imprints* exhibitions that involved 73 artists, resulting from two arts projects funded through Art Central in 2012-13.

Mr Grant said Arts NSW is proud to be working with Art Central partners; Gosford City Council, Wyong Shire Council, and Regional Development Australia Central Coast, to develop the arts across the whole region.

"The NSW Government has committed \$90,000 over three years, with the other partners also contributing \$150,000, to the Art Central program to support creative industry development projects on the Central Coast," Mr Grant said.

Member for Gosford, Chris Holstein said projects funded through Art Central are supporting participation in the arts, including online and through visiting local galleries.

"The Art Central partnership is tapping into the creative potential for the Central Coast region and working to engage and develop local creative professionals," Mr Holstein said.

Wyong Shire Council managed the second round of funding through Art Central for 2014.

Wyong Shire Council Mayor, Doug Eaton said "We have so much great local talent here on the Coast and programs like this really give them a chance to shine. The funded projects celebrate our sense of identity and pride in our region and are putting the arts firmly on centre stage."

Mayor of Gosford City Council, Lawrie McKinna, said “I am delighted to see the response the Art Central funding program has received. The originality of projects and ideas seen through the application process shows the wealth of talent in our region. The funded projects, involving leading artists on the Central Coast, will make important cultural contributions to our community.”

CEO of Regional Development Australia Central Coast, John Moulard, said “This round of applications demonstrates the diversity of the creative industries in the region. It also shows that the Art Central partnership initiative is providing support for the development of the creative industries on the Central Coast.”

**Innov8Central Music** will run an industry development project for the music sector involving workshops in 2014 and 2015 at Ourimbah, Gosford and Wyong. The workshops will introduce up to 45 local musicians to specialised technical and managerial strategies to support their work.

**Sainsbury Music – *Civic Melancholy Brackish Songs*** is a collaborative project between composer, Christopher Sainsbury and photographer, Jamie Holcombe to make new works based on narratives of the Central Coast.

***Art Whispers*** is a multimedia art project, led by Gosford artist, Gabrielle Somers, and documented by Gosford photographer and youth arts worker, Sharon Aldrick. The project involves a message communicated via ‘whispers’ from one end of the Central Coast to the other, involving different families and individuals. *Art Whispers* will also include Central Coast artists who participated in the *Imprints* exhibition funded by Art Central in 2013.

Over the past two years, the NSW Government through Art Central has supported digital and local arts residencies and mentorships for young and emerging artists in the region. For more information, visit [www.artcentralcc.com.au](http://www.artcentralcc.com.au)

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