

ASSESSMENT FUNDING PROGRAM MEETING REPORT



Arts
NSW

Assessment Meeting Report

Arts & Cultural
Development
Program

ANNUAL PROGRAM FUNDING (INCLUDING SERVICE ORGANISATIONS)

Closing Date: 2 June 2016

Panel Meetings: 6-7 July 2016 (Performing Arts)
8 July 2016 (Multi Artform)
12-14 July (Visual Arts, Literature, Museums)

59 applications were assessed by three panels involving 13 assessors. This included four assessors living and/or working in Western Sydney and four from regional NSW.

57 applications totalling \$4,086,780, with an overall success rate of 97 per cent have been recommended. In summary:

- 50 organisations were recommended for Annual Program funding totalling \$3,522,780,
- seven applications were recommended under the Service Organisations category totalling \$564,000
- recommended successful applicants are spread across NSW
- funding is distributed across the state with 39.2 per cent in regional NSW, 22.5 per cent in Western Sydney and 37.3 per cent in Sydney.

Total recommended funding demonstrates a distribution across artforms; geographical spread, and support for the small-to-medium arts sector at varying levels and stages of arts development.

In addition to 2017 Annual funding, an additional \$13.01 million is committed to 79 Multiyear Program and Service Organisations in NSW.

FUNDING STATISTICS

GRANT CATEGORY	Annual Program Funding
APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	59
SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS	57
SUCCESS RATE	97%
AMOUNT REQUESTED	\$5,482,562
AMOUNT FUNDED	\$4,086,780 (73.5%)

KEY RESULTS

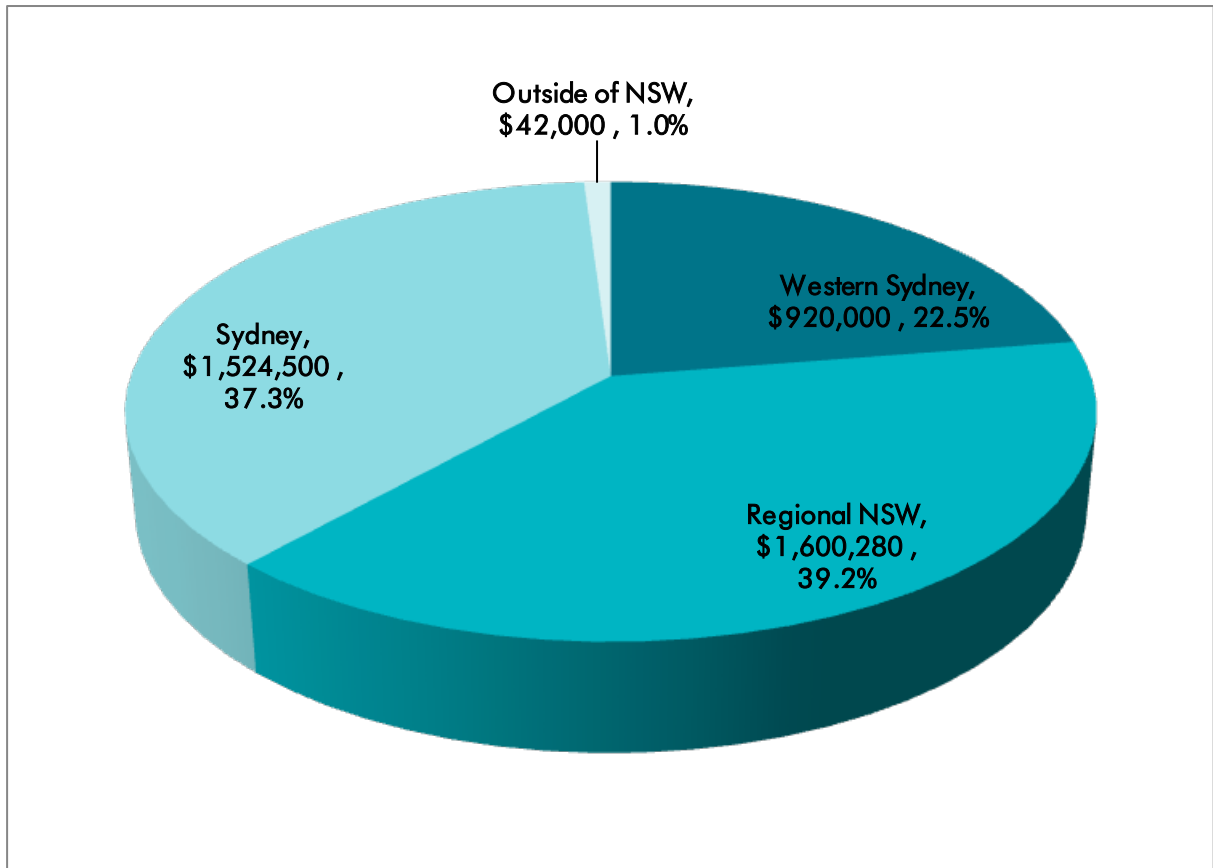
2017 Annual and Service Organisation funding – breakdown of applications and recommendations by region

Region	No. of Applications	No. Recommended (Success rate %)	Amount Requested	Funding Recommended (Success rate %)	% of total Program Funding
Western Sydney	9	9 (100%)	\$1,213,000	\$920,000 (76%)	22.5%
Regional NSW	27	26 (96%)	\$2,300,583	\$1,600,280 (70%)	39.2%
Sydney	21	20 (95%)	\$1,926,979	\$1,524,500 (79%)	37.3%
Outside NSW	2	2 (100%)	\$42,000	\$42,000 (100%)	1.0%
TOTAL	59	57 (100%)	\$5,482,562	\$4,086,780 (75%)	100%

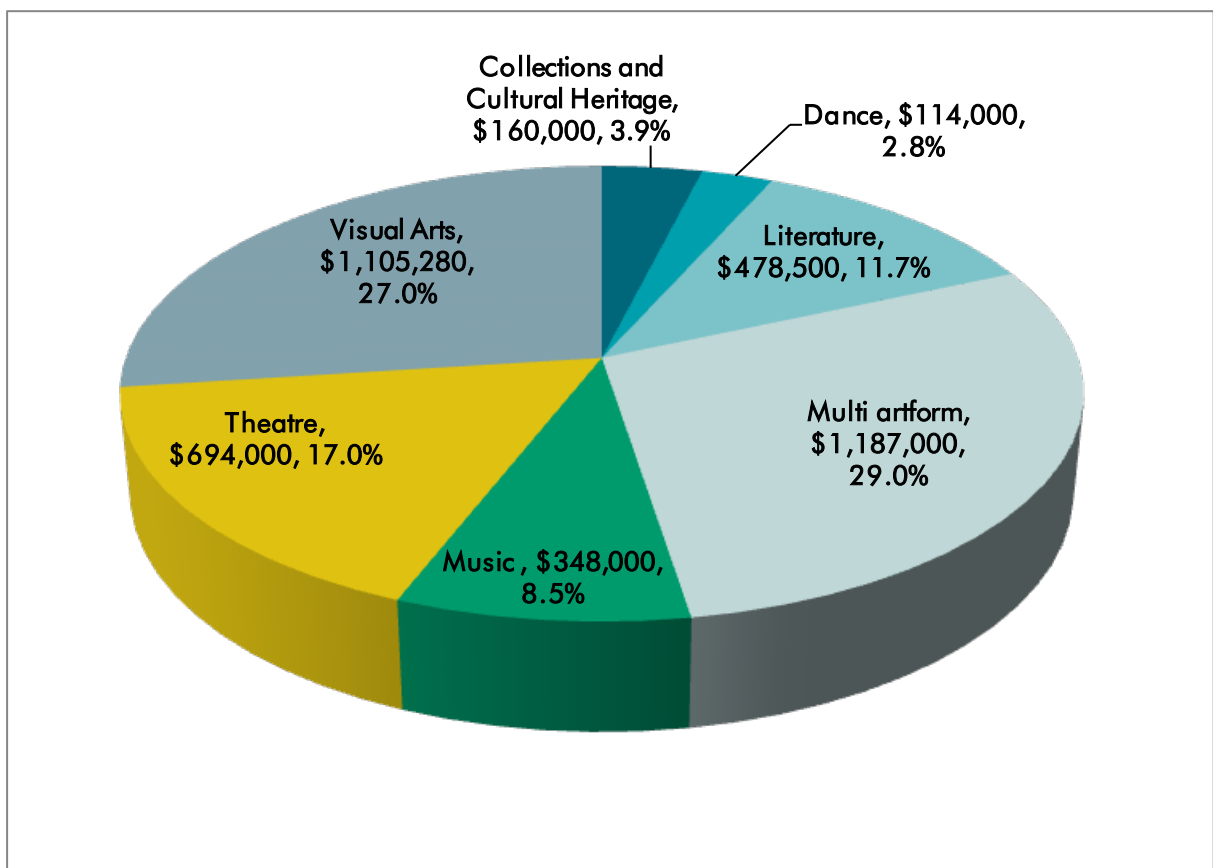
Multiyear and Annual Program Funding distribution (including Service Organisations)

Region	2016 Program funding			2017 Program allocation		
	No. of Orgs	Total \$	% of Total	No. of Orgs	Total \$	% of Total
Western Sydney	19	\$3.41M	20.96%	20	\$3.64M	21.26%
Regional NSW	50	\$4.36M	26.79%	55	\$4.70M	27.50%
Sydney	58	\$8.65M	52.00%	59	\$8.72M	50.99%
Outside of NSW	2	\$0.04M	0.26%	2	\$0.04M	0.25%
TOTAL	129	\$16.28M	100.00%	136	\$17.10M	100.00%

2017 ANNUAL PROGRAM AND SERVICE ORGANISATION FUNDING BY REGION



2017 ANNUAL PROGRAM AND SERVICE ORGANISATION FUNDING BY ARTFORM



2017 SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS

ANNUAL ORGANISATIONS PROGRAM FUNDING

Armidale & Region Aboriginal Cultural Centre and Keeping Place Inc: \$60,000

The Armidale Aboriginal Cultural Centre and Keeping Place (ACCKP) will deliver a community focused program that covers exhibitions, workshops, public and educational programs. ACCKP's 2017 program will build activities based on its cultural heritage collections and artworks as well as showcasing contemporary local Aboriginal artists.

Australian Book Review Inc: \$30,000

The Australian Book Review (ABR), based in Melbourne, is an independent national publication that supports the creation of new literary work including creative writing, reviews, essays, poetry and arts commentary. Arts NSW funding will be directed to support the commissioning of NSW writers, who make up a significant proportion of contributors to the magazine. ABR addresses the priority areas of Aboriginal people, young people and Western Sydney through programming, commissioning and dedicated publications.

Australian Centre for Photography: \$120,000

Australian Centre for Photography (ACP), based in Sydney, will present a photographic and photomedia focused exhibition program complemented by an education and public program. ACP will develop and tour exhibitions of early career to established artists throughout regional NSW, as well as nationally and internationally. ACP will engage new audiences through innovative approaches to digital media and interactive digital platforms. Through this activity they will engage with Aboriginal, regional and Western Sydney communities and artists.

Bankstown Arts Centre (Canterbury-Bankstown Council): \$100,000

Bankstown Arts Centre is the purpose built multidisciplinary cultural facility based in Bankstown CBD. It presents an artistic program including Artists in Residence focusing on inter-cultural exchange, ecology and engagement. The work of the centre specifically engages with people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, with a focus on local engagement, participation and skills exchange, creative industry seminars, Aboriginal cultural development, contemporary art events/exhibitions and public programs.

Bankstown Youth Development Service Inc: \$150,000

Bankstown Youth Development Service (BYDS), based in Bankstown, is a community based cultural development organisation. BYDS will deliver a comprehensive arts program focusing on local young people employing various forms of practice across Western Sydney, including spoken word, hip hop performance, inter-generational/intercultural oral history, theatre and Aboriginal arts. Working with skilled artists, BYDS will generate arts-led projects focused on creating positive change, social cohesion and development of arts practice.

Bega Regional Gallery (Bega Valley Shire Council): \$45,000

Bega Valley Regional Gallery, based in South East NSW, will deliver a diverse program in 2017, including new exhibitions from national and local artists, touring exhibitions and collections and related educational activities. The gallery will cater to the local community through ongoing relationships with disability service providers in the region; off-site programming to engage young people as creators and audience; and work with the local Aboriginal community.

Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-operative Ltd: \$100,000

The Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-operative, based in Sydney, is an Aboriginal-led artists' cooperative that runs the only Aboriginal contemporary Art space in Sydney. In 2017, it will celebrate its 30th anniversary with a program that comprises major exhibitions and workshops that contribute to the professional development of its artists and showcase members both past and present. The program also includes the development of a major catalogue of essays by key Aboriginal artists and writers.

Branch Nebula Incorporated: \$80,000

Branch Nebula, based in Sydney's St George area, will deliver a program of high calibre contemporary performance works. It will develop new projects in Western Sydney in partnership with Powerhouse Youth Theatre and Blacktown Arts Centre, it will partner with Milk Crate Theatre, tour regional Australia, and deliver international projects. Branch Nebula specifically engages with young people and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

The Cad Factory: \$70,000

The Cad Factory, based outside of Narrandera in the western Riverina, delivers multi arts outcomes involving music, performance and visual arts. Its annual program includes education, advocacy and skills development. Its work is built on cross-sector partnerships with a regional focus and on

presenting regionally inspired work on a local, national and international stage.

Cementa Inc: \$100,000

Cementa Inc, based in Kandos in the Central West, will deliver a biennial regional arts festival alongside a program of residencies, workshops, internships, forums and special projects. The festival will exhibit forty artists who will develop works engaging within the context of regional NSW. The overall program of activities will contribute towards the development of contemporary art culture in the region and engage new audiences. Cementa will continue its engagement with regional and Western Sydney based artists and communities, particularly young people, people with disability and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

Circus Monoxide (Precarious Inc): \$50,000

Circus Monoxide, based in Fairy Meadow, will deliver professional training opportunities, including master classes for local circus performers, trainer development and artistic circus workshops for young people, including socially and emotionally disadvantaged communities. It will also run a program of performances by local and visiting professional circus artists and a performance program with its young performers' troupe.

Cowra Regional Gallery (Cowra Shire Council): \$23,000

Cowra Regional Art Gallery, based in the Central West region of NSW, will present a diverse 2017 program. It will include touring art exhibitions and curated and outreach projects, such as the nationally significant Calleen Art Award and UpstART (the annual regional Student/Youth Art Exhibition) Professional development opportunities for artists include workshops in collaboration with arts organisations and an artist-in-residency project with a local heritage group. Public activities in the program include artist talks, special openings with guest speakers and workshops for all age groups. The gallery supports schools from the district with subsidised bus travel.

CuriousWorks Incorporated: \$90,000

CuriousWorks, based in Casula, is a distinctive arts and media company celebrating Australia's cultural diversity and making a positive social, cultural and economic impact in Western Sydney. CuriousWorks will create professional arts projects developed in collaboration with Western Sydney communities. The work will be shown in partnership with leading Australian theatre companies, key national and international art centres and public spaces in city centres around the world.

Dirty Feet: \$54,000

DirtyFeet, based in Marrickville, will provide a program of contemporary dance opportunities for early career artists. The program will be delivered in partnership with stakeholders, and offers a blend of professional development, performance and mentoring opportunities for young artists to cultivate their creative practice. A key strand of the program will be dedicated workshops with professional artists for people with disability.

dLux Media Arts Inc: \$100,000

dLux Media Arts Inc, is based in Sydney and has a state-wide reach, will produce curatorial projects with screen-based, interactive and locative media art to new audiences. Its touring program will engage young people and Aboriginal people in regional communities through professional development, mentoring and schools programs that foster technical skills in new media.

Flipside Dance Inc (for Catapult Dance): \$60,000

Catapult Dance, based in Newcastle, is a regional centre for contemporary dance and choreographic development. It will deliver programs targeting professional and regional artists, young people and community members, including three professional choreographic/interdisciplinary residencies where national choreographers collaborate with Hunter artists to seed new work. The Flipside Project, a youth contemporary dance program for young people and emerging artists, and the Catapult Community project will provide access and participation in dance for the wider community.

Four Winds: \$150,000

Four Winds, based in Bermagui, is creating a home for Australian music and music-making on the far south coast of rural NSW. The company will expand its full-year program of creative projects that includes concerts, events, workshops, professional development, learning and access programs, commissions and artist residencies.

Gadigal Information Service Aboriginal Corporation: \$55,000

Gadigal Information Service Aboriginal Corporation, based in Redfern, will deliver professional development outcomes for Aboriginal artists. It will deliver two key activities: Klub Koori, six one-off live music events showcasing the talents of emerging Aboriginal musicians; and the Yabun Festival, an annual one day music festival which celebrates and showcases Aboriginal arts and culture aligning with Australia Day.

Glasshouse Regional Gallery (Port Macquarie-Hastings Council): \$70,000

The Glasshouse Regional Gallery, based in Port Macquarie, will deliver a program of diverse exhibitions, public programs and education activities. The program is designed to encourage participation, creativity, and innovation in the Mid-North Coast region and engage new audiences. The gallery will present targeted programming with, and for, Aboriginal communities, young people and people with disability, while building capacity within the local creative industries sector.

Gosford Regional Gallery (Central Coast Council): \$50,000

Gosford Regional Gallery, which incorporates the Gosford Edogawa Commemorative Garden, is based on the Central Coast of NSW. The 2017 program will include curated exhibitions in the gallery spaces and a large program of exhibitions of local artists, workshops and classes in the gallery's community spaces. The program engages with people living and working in regional NSW, young people, people with disability and Aboriginal people.

Grafton Regional Gallery (Clarence Valley Council): \$70,000

Grafton Regional Gallery, based on the Mid-North Coast of NSW, will present a community focused and diverse exhibition program supported by touring, education strategies and public programming. The gallery will develop partnerships to support Clarence Valley artists and arts workers and engage audiences regionally and beyond. The community focused program will engage people with disability, as well as Aboriginal and culturally and linguistically diverse communities in the region.

Griffith Regional Art Gallery (Griffith City Council): \$20,000

The Griffith Regional Art Gallery, based in the Murrumbidgee region, will deliver a program including the work of local artists and touring and community exhibitions. The program includes a weekly art program for young Aboriginal women, workshops that will provide opportunities for local people to develop their visual arts skills and school holiday programs for students.

**Hawkesbury Regional Gallery and Museum: \$105,000
(Hawkesbury City Council)**

Hawkesbury Regional Gallery and Museum, based in Western Sydney, will work across two sites to deliver a visual arts and social history program of exhibitions and activities. This will include programming that engages Darug artists from the Aboriginal community, exhibitions that support

young and emerging artists and activities at the gallery for people with disability.

Heaps Decent Ltd: \$50,000

Heaps Decent, based in Chippendale, will develop a wide range of partnerships to work with approximately 750 diverse young people across NSW. Many of these young people have limited access to arts activity and face substantial barriers to successful educational engagement and community participation. Heaps Decent will use song writing and electronic music production as the starting point for participants to develop new work that is relevant to their own environments and circumstances. The resulting original works will be shared with audiences through performance, broadcast, and an interactive installation.

Hunter Writers' Centre Inc: \$70,000

The Hunter Writers' Centre, located in Newcastle, has strong community engagement and partnerships, and a focus on outreach within the Hunter region. In 2017, the Centre will deliver a program including professional development and employment opportunities for local writers; events and regular workshops; and development activities for writers of all ages and abilities, including young people and people with disabilities.

**International Performing Writers' Association Inc (for Word Travels):
\$65,000**

Word Travels, based in Sydney, supports and creates performing writers communities in regional, remote and metropolitan NSW, across Australia and internationally. Word Travels will develop and present events, workshops, mentoring and performances, engaging with young and old, from many cultures and speaking many languages, often from marginalised and disadvantaged communities. Word Travels will deliver four key projects: the Multilingual Poetry Slam, Rumble Young Performing Writers' Program in Western Sydney, Australian Poetry Slam and Story Fest - Performing Writers Festival.

The Invisible Inc: \$47,500

The Invisible Inc, based in Sydney, produces Runway Australian Experimental Art, a free open access online journal of experimental contemporary art. It will produce three themed issues comprising specially commissioned new work by emerging and underrepresented Australian artists and writers. The program includes the re-launch of archives of print issues online, support for a critically engaged 'Conversations' platform, and expanded outreach activities through the Runway Circle. Through targeted issue themes, curated content and launches, Runway actively encourages diversity in content and contributions, including artists and

writers who are regional, Indigenous and who identify as having a disability.

The Lock-Up (Newcastle Historic Reserve Trust): \$144,780

The Lock-Up is a multidisciplinary contemporary arts space based in Newcastle. It will deliver a program of exhibitions, events, public programs and residencies. The program will bring cross platform, experimental and diverse practice from local, national and international artists to audiences in the Hunter Region. The Lock-Up will continue to deliver programs for young people, build new audiences and increase connections with Aboriginal and culturally diverse communities.

Manning Regional Gallery (Mid-Coast Council): \$20,000

The Manning Regional Art Gallery, based in Taree, will present a program of diverse exhibitions and events supporting contemporary artists and artisans. This will create a platform for the community to participate in contemporary visual arts in NSW. The associated public programs, education and events will continue to engage the Mid-coast community, young people, Aboriginal people, culturally and linguistically diverse groups and people with disability.

Monkey Baa Theatre for Young People Ltd: \$150,000

Monkey Baa Theatre for Young People, based in Sydney, will provide theatre experiences to young people across NSW and nationally. It will create nine new works for young audiences in collaboration with over 70 leading creative artists. It will curate a season of theatre for young audiences aged 3-18 in its Lendlease Darling Quarter Theatre, featuring its own and other companies' work. Monkey Baa will implement a drama-based arts education program for students and tour work widely in NSW, Australia and North America.

Moogahlin Performing Arts Incorporated: \$80,000

Moogahlin, based in Redfern, develops and presents theatre works by emerging and established Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander performing arts practitioners. As the only professional Aboriginal theatre company in NSW, it will continue to work with key partners to present two productions and three new works in development – one in Western Sydney and two in regional communities. It will continue to contribute to NSW First Peoples theatre through sector leadership and developing local, national, and international opportunities.

Murray Art Museum Albury (Albury City Council): \$40,000

Murray Art Museum Albury (MAMA), based in Albury, will present a multi-faceted exhibition and education program activating all parts of the newly renovated regional arts centre. Its program will engage and build audiences regionally and beyond through innovative educational approaches and digital technologies. MAMA's program will deliver targeted programming to young people through these technologies and education initiatives.

Newcastle Art Gallery (Newcastle City Council): \$70,000

Newcastle Art Gallery, based in the Hunter region, will present a diverse program of exhibitions and public and education programs. The gallery has a nationally significant collection, and its program will present and document local, national and international art through in-house curated touring exhibitions. The gallery's program will enable engagement with broad audiences regionally and beyond. It will continue to deliver programs for young people with a focus on Aboriginal artists and audiences, alongside specialist programs to support people with disability.

New England Writers' Centre Inc: \$22,000

New England Writers' Centre, based in Armidale, will offer a program of workshops in professional development and genre writing, including young adult fiction and crime. It will also continue its Youth Online outreach program to schools, and present two specialised festivals: 'Sorcery and Spaceships' focusing on speculative fiction and 'Booked In', the only children's literature festival in regional NSW.

Orange Regional Museum (Orange City Council): \$80,000

Orange Regional Museum (ORM), based in the Central West region of NSW, will deliver a program of activities in 2017 centering on its major exhibition and catalogue, 'Paddock to Plate'. Associated programs include the 'Journeys to Orange' program documenting and interpreting migration to the region and food traditions. This will involve working with local young people to film interviews with migrants and the development of an associated education kit. ORM will continue delivery of the Aboriginal Heritage Strategy, including interpreting stories around Aboriginal food. The Sustainable Collections Program will develop satellite displays in community museums about food and produce in each village.

Parramatta Female Factory Precinct Memory Project: \$98,000

The Parramatta Female Factory Precinct Memory Project, based in Western Sydney, will deliver workshops, exhibitions and new artworks through collaborations between professional artists, former residents of the

Parramatta Girls Home and young people in Western Sydney. The program, of historical and social significance, will create unique opportunities for marginalised Western Sydney residents to collaborate and train with established NSW artists. It will continue to create new partnerships and education programs that deliver to culturally and linguistically diverse communities and Aboriginal people in Western Sydney.

**Peacock Gallery and Auburn Artists Studios: \$65,000
(Cumberland Council)**

The Peacock Gallery, situated in the Auburn Botanic Gardens in Western Sydney, will draw on the diversity of the region to deliver a program of exhibitions, programs and professional and creative development opportunities for artists, curators, facilitators and for community members. Through residencies, exhibition opportunities, mentorships and workshops, the gallery engages with its diverse community and provides opportunities for local artists and curators, from emerging to established. The 2017 program embraces the new Cumberland Council area and makes the most of the expansion of the existing infrastructure of two galleries to include a community workshop area, additional studio spaces and a stage area.

Penrith Symphony Orchestra: \$30,000

Penrith Symphony Orchestra, in Western Sydney, will present a season of concerts involving collaborations with professional performers, conductors, emerging artists from Sydney Conservatorium of Music and community choirs from Western Sydney. The season includes a subscription series with four symphonic concerts and an opera gala, concerts for young children and performances by Penrith Strings.

Performing Lines Limited: \$100,000

Performing Lines, a national performing arts organisation based in Sydney, will engage with NSW artists, arts companies, programmers and presenters to produce and deliver a range of creative developments; national and international tours and presentations; audience development and community engagement platforms; and sector development initiatives and projects to contribute to a vibrant and sustainable performing arts sector in NSW.

The Red Room Company Ltd: \$85,000

The Red Room, based in Sydney, will support contemporary modes of Australian poetry through projects and learning programs. The Red Room will deliver outreach programs in Western Sydney and regional NSW, mentoring, professional development and new partnerships to support the

diverse voices of young people, people from to culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and regional and Aboriginal communities.

Regional Youth Support Services: \$55,000

Regional Youth Support Services (RYSS), based in Gosford, will deliver an annual creative program through Youth Arts Warehouse (YAW), a multi-arts facility. Projects will target people with disability, young Indigenous people and young artists/performers, with priority for those living remotely or in isolation. A series of professional development opportunities for emerging artists to collaborate with professional artists in residence will produce original works that connect with, and enhance, the local community.

***Southerly*(The English Association Sydney Inc): \$25,000**

Southerly, a national literary journal based in Sydney, will edit, produce and publish three themed literary journal issues. *Southerly* also has a free online component, The Long Paddock, and monthly guest bloggers contribute additional digital content. *Southerly* publishes extensive new material from poets, fiction writers and critics from regional and metropolitan NSW; it will be distributed across libraries and schools.

Spaghetti Circus Inc: \$75,000

Spaghetti Circus, based in Mullumbimby, is one of Australia's leading regional youth and performing arts centres. It will produce the national Mullumbimby Circus Festival, connecting professional artists and new emerging creators. Spaghetti Circus specialises in developing innovative narratives between circus arts, community engagement and creative industries. It will engage over 150,000 people in professional programs including Indigenous outreach projects, residencies and new work. Local and international partnerships contribute to an accessible program driven by artform development and the vision to see young people excel.

Studio ARTES Northside Inc: \$65,000

Studio ARTES Northside Inc, based in Hornsby, Sydney, delivers the Studio A program, which provides professional development to artists with disability. The program will continue to offer sustained tuition, workshops and mentorships for visual artists with disability. Within the Studio A program, participants will be supported to undertake residencies and exhibit artwork through a variety of platforms, including in regional NSW, to support new career paths.

Sturt Craft Centre (Winifred West Schools Ltd): \$25,000

Sturt Craft Centre, based in Mittagong in the Southern Highlands, is a centre for design, technology and the arts. Its 2017 program of exhibitions

will showcase the work of established and emerging craft artists from Australia and overseas. Sturt Craft Centre will also present an extensive workshop program in its studios including an annual summer and winter school, short courses and weekly classes. As well as delivering an annual artist in residence program, with dedicated places for graduating students in NSW, the Craft Centre will produce special events to engage with the local community and young people.

Sydney Chamber Opera Inc: \$63,000

Sydney Chamber Opera, based in Redfern, will produce a program of performances, creative developments and five contemporary chamber operas, including commissioned new Australian works. It will deliver performances, including a co-production with Carriageworks. Sydney Chamber Opera will also expand its work in the area of community engagement.

Theatre 4a Inc (for Performance 4a): \$65,000

Performance 4a, based in Sydney, aims to elevate the profile of contemporary Asian Australian performance. It will present a new series of storytelling works, tour nationally and internationally and undertake creative development. It will also continue professional skills development for Asian Australian artists through the LOTUS playwriting project, Longhouse Networking Program and Asian Australian Performance Directory.

Wagga Wagga Writers Writers Inc (Booranga Writers' Centre): \$46,500

Wagga Wagga Writers Writers Inc (Booranga Writers' Centre) will deliver workshops in the region, mentor writers, host writers in residence, provide literary performances and publish their annual journal, *fourW*. During 2017, the centre will also be involved in Write-Around-the-Murray, the Jugiong Writers' Festival and the National Poetry Slam. The program activities engage with young people in schools and universities and writers and audiences in the region.

The Wired Lab Ltd: \$64,000

The Wired Lab, based near Cootamundra in South-West regional NSW, will offer a program that includes the biennial 'Wired Open Day' festival and presentation of new works created via the associated 'agri(culture)' residential project, which is a collaboration with the farming community. It will continue its workshop series, collaborate with young people in the region via a contemporary photography/performance project and present a skills development forum.

Wollongong City Gallery (Wollongong City Council):\$70,000

Wollongong Art Gallery, based in the Illawarra region, will deliver an artistic program that consolidates its close links with the local and regional community. It will develop innovative contemporary art projects, including the development of an International/National Artist in Residence Program. The artistic program will focus on regional artists, communities' stories, Aboriginal people, culturally and linguistically diverse groups, people with disability and youth access and perspectives. The gallery will also present new contemporary art exhibitions.

SERVICE ORGANISATION ANNUAL FUNDING

Australian Script Centre Inc: \$12,000

The Australian Script Centre is a national organisation based in Tasmania. It has a catalogue of production-ready contemporary Australian plays, and collects, promotes and distributes scripts and photocopy licences in Australia and overseas. Approximately 30 per cent of the playwrights represented in the catalogue are based in NSW. It will work in close collaboration with PlayWriting Australia, Currency Press, the Australian Theatre Forum and Women in Theatre & Screen (WITS) to add value, impact and audience reach for Australian Plays.

History Council of New South Wales Inc : \$80,000

The History Council of New South Wales (HCNSW), based in Sydney, will deliver a program designed to build capacity in the history sector and connect people with stories from the past. Along with the annual state-wide History Week festival, HCNSW will provide professional development services including writing workshops and skills-based seminars. Through delivery of its service program, HCNSW will foster new audiences and increase participation in the history sector, including with young people and Western Sydney and regional communities.

Local Government NSW: \$115,000

Local Government NSW (LGNSW), based in Sydney, is the peak industry association that represents the interests of NSW general purpose councils, special purpose councils and the NSW Aboriginal Land Council. LGNSW's Arts and Culture Program provides state-wide strategic services to local government to facilitate the development of arts and cultural services across NSW. The 2017 program includes professional development for councillors and management staff; renewed focus on regional, rural and remote areas and Western Sydney; and an annual Arts and Culture Forum.

Octapod Association: \$50,000

Octapod, based in Newcastle, will offer a program of services to support arts and cultural development in the Lower Hunter region and build the capacity of artists and arts organisations to be innovative, sustainable and inclusive. Octapod will support the sector through the delivery of professional development, artistic and training programs, advocacy and online services that include access initiatives for people with disability and young people.

Sydney Arts Management Advisory Group (SAMAG): \$25,000

Sydney Arts Management Advisory Group (SAMAG), based in Sydney, will present a series of professional development seminars that provide a forum to create awareness, knowledge and skills required of arts professionals and arts organisations. SAMAG's seminars will target arts managers, artists and arts organisations throughout NSW. These events provide educational opportunities for arts managers as well as emerging arts professionals to enhance and extend their knowledge, skills and contacts.

Theatre Network NSW (TNN): \$82,000

Theatre Network NSW, based in Bankstown, is the peak industry body for theatre in NSW. It aims to serve the professional theatre community in NSW, and, in particular, the independent and small-to-medium sector. As well as hosting regular events and forums, it engages in artform and sector development through sector consultation and dialogue to identify needs in the sector.

Westwords Ltd: \$200,000

WestWords, based in Western Sydney, will deliver a writing program that develops and strengthens the literature sector through a focus on residencies, fellowships, skills development and activities for, and by, young people. Through its service program, WestWords will deliver to young people, people from to culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and Aboriginal people in Western Sydney.