

Assessment Meeting Report

23 – 24 March 2017

2016/17 NSW
Young Regional
Artist Scholarship
(Round 2)

Arts & Cultural
Development
Program



Arts
NSW

2016/17 NSW YOUNG REGIONAL ARTIST SCHOLARSHIP ROUND 2

Closing Date: Monday, 20 February 2017

Panel Meeting Date: 23 – 24 March 2017

The NSW Young Regional Artist Scholarship is offered by the State Government to support innovative young artists and arts and cultural workers from regional NSW to undertake a self-directed professional development program in their chosen field.

In 2016/17, 25 Young Regional Artist Scholarships will be awarded \$10,000.

The scholarships are open to artists and performers from all art forms, including dance, design, digital arts, history, Aboriginal arts, literature, music, theatre, screen, curatorial and the visual arts.

The objectives of the program are to:

- support professional skills development and career pathways for young regional artists and arts and cultural workers
- contribute to the development and diversity of professional arts practice in regional areas and build sustainable careers
- provide opportunities for regional audiences to access art and culture.

Activities may include:

- mentorships or internships with recognised arts organisations and/or screen production businesses
- residencies at institutions/organisations
- short-term courses, workshops or other training that does not result in formal tertiary qualification such as a degree
- the creation of new work
- periods of research and experimentation
- skills development.

As per feedback from previous rounds, scholarship applicants were offered additional support from Arts NSW staff throughout their application process to assist in complex application form fields such as timeline and budget.

Assessment Criteria

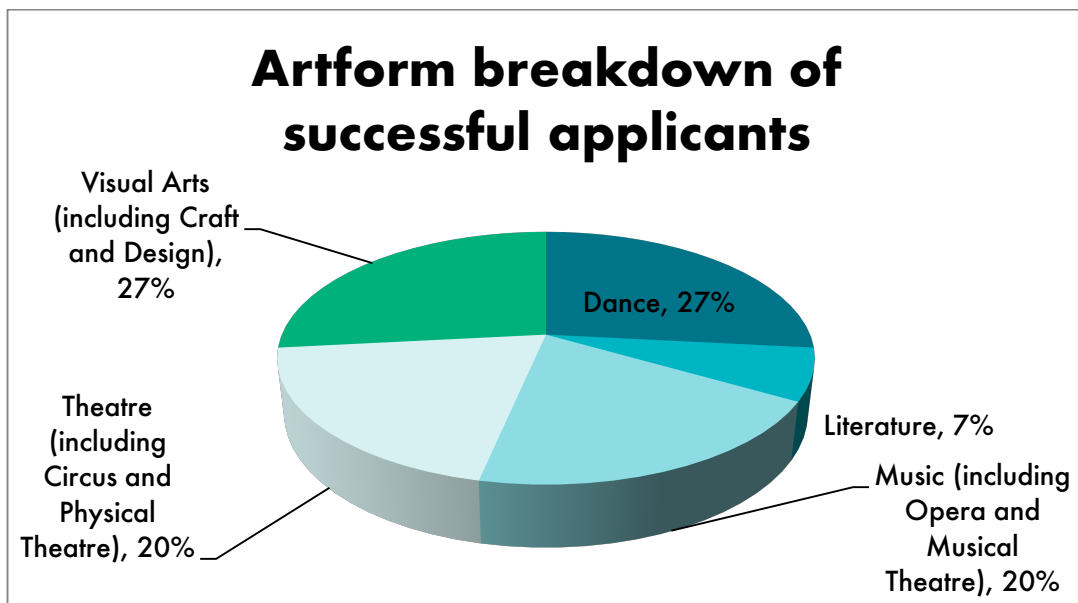
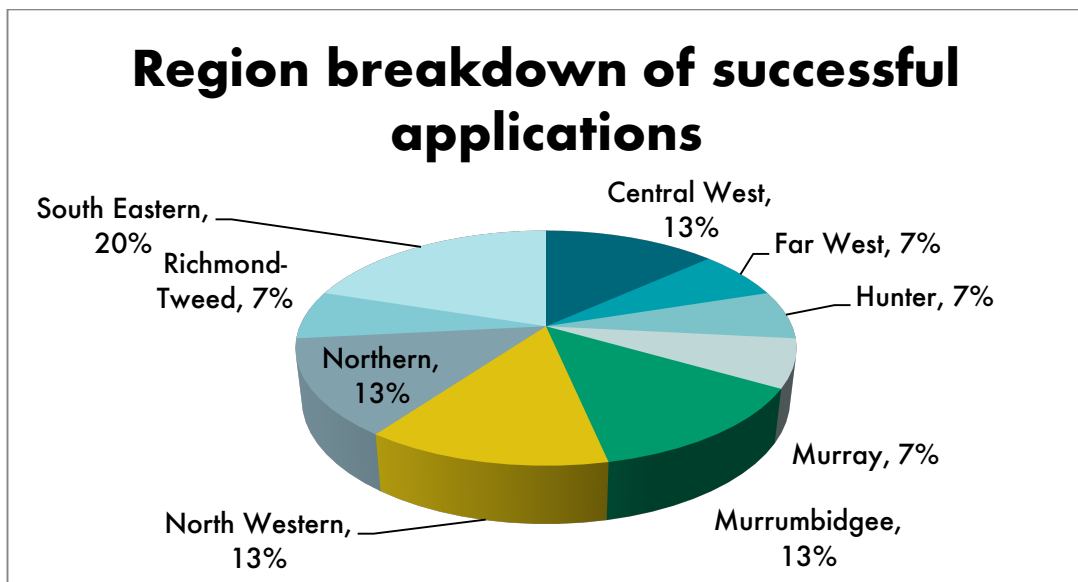
Applications to Round 2 of the 2016/17 NSW Young Regional Artist Scholarship program were assessed by a panel of peers against the following criteria:

1. demonstrated artistic or cultural merit
2. potential to significantly benefit the applicant's artistic or cultural practice

3. well planned and achievable program
4. contribution to and impact on arts and culture in regional NSW.

FUNDING STATISTICS

GRANT CATEGORY	Fellowships
APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	33 eligible applications
SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS	15
AMOUNT FUNDED	\$150,000



ASSESSMENT FEEDBACK

The assessment panel agreed that the Young Regional Artist Scholarship program has proven value to young regional artists which is evident in the increasing quality of applications, the innovation and the outcomes achieved so far. The panel particularly commends young regional artists identifying access needs in their applications and budgeting for this. The panel noted the highly competitive nature of this round and the significant improvement in the number of young artists that have a clear understanding of their artistic and career direction. The panel was excited to see innovative experimentation incorporated into the program of activities and an increased number of high quality applications from young Aboriginal artists. These applications will provide an exciting new future for regional arts development.

Regions and artforms

Out of the 33 applications assessed, the largest regions represented were the Murray, South-Eastern and Northern parts of the state. There was an increase in applications remote areas of NSW. Visual arts and music were well represented artforms, followed by theatre. The smallest number of applications received came from screen. The panel was pleased to see an increase in the number and quality of literature applications submitted.

Successful applicants

The panel was delighted to recommend 15 high quality applications for funding in a highly competitive round. The selected young regional artists work across a diversity of artforms, show a level of maturity in their practice and demonstrate integrity, aspiration and drive. Their applications feature skills development in photography, contemporary dance, music, literature. The panel was excited to allocate a scholarship to a comedic artist which is an artform not previously submitted. The project outcomes include mentorships with musicians and artists, regional tours, and international residencies.

The round was extremely competitive and the panel noted that 25 scholarships could have been allocated if funding was available.

Advice for future applicants

The panel highly recommends that future applicants seek support and assistance in preparing their application. Applicants should contact their Regional Arts Development Officer or other key arts organisation in their region for advice. Applicants are also encouraged to contact Arts NSW staff to discuss their application prior to submitting. The panel noted that the definition between professional development programs and projects was not properly understood or articulated by applicants.

Future applicants are also reminded to:

- include letters of support and/or confirmation with their application when involving a mentor or venue in their program.
- be sure they are proposing a program of professional development and not a project.

SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS

ROUND 2 2016/17 YOUNG REGIONAL ARTIST SCHOLARSHIP

Mr Michael Graham: Musician from Collarenebri

A facilitator Internship Mentorship Program with Desert Pea Media to gain the specialist facilitation and leadership skills required to develop, produce and deliver storytelling projects in regional and remote Indigenous communities around Australia.

Miss Siobhan McKenna: Dancer from Towamba

To participate in workshops to enhance an individual technique as a young performer, undertake developments to experiment and to choreograph with Youth Company, fLiNG Physical Theatre in Bega NSW.

Mr Joshua Cameron-Thomas: Photographer from Wagga Wagga

To undertake the Foundry Photojournalism workshop held in Mexico City alongside 100 plus international photographers under the wing of acclaimed photojournalist professionals.

Ms Imogen McKenzie: Writer from Tathra

Taking on a mentor, attending workshops in Sydney and obtaining a membership to the Australian Author's Association to develop a manuscript with sound guidance from experienced and passionate people.

Miss Emily Flannery: Dancer from Forbes

The International Dance Journey program in Israel with Kibbutz Contemporary Dance Company; an opportunity for a pre-professional dancer to experience working with a professional dance company while bettering their skills.

Miss Jayden Muir: Theatre producer from Budgee Budgee

A mentorship with Alan Flower to write, produce and perform a work for Sydney Fringe Festival and a tour of the Mid-Western Region.

Miss Sarah Dugan: Visual artist from Walgett

An international program providing an opportunity to live and work in China, creating a book composed of photography and drawings that explore the psychological and cultural landscape of China.

Miss Jade Cicak: Visual artist from Menindee

To research, observe, and acknowledge collections of Indigenous art off country; informing a series of experiments and studio works on country.

Mr Mathew Letton: Performer from Moonbi

An insightful training program with one of the worlds' most prestigious musical theatre companies in London's West End, under the direction of internationally acclaimed professionals.

Miss Gabriela Green: Dancer from Merimbula

To undertake a professional development program that will help to establish a sustainable and ever transforming career as a young dancer in Bega.

Mr Ethan Andrews: Comedian from Singleton

A mentorship with leading Australian comedy producer Karl Chandler, consultations with arts business advisors, and a period of creative skills development, culminating in the performance of a self-produced one man show at the 2018 Melbourne International Comedy Festival and an eight date 2017 regional NSW tour.

Mr Jackson Manson: Circus performer from Albury

A creative development period to explore and create a new solo circus act and to undertake internships with circus companies, Circus oz, Circa, Gravity and Other Myths.

Miss Breanna-Jade Krauss: Musician from Inverell

An intensive professional development program working with Golden-Guitar winning artist Kristy Lee Akers as well as industry professionals including Market the Music and Kilk Productions.

Miss Jessica Forster: Designer from Killimicat

A program designed to enhance the development of a body of work exploring sustainable textile art and design.

Mr Kayah Guenther: Dancer from Murwillumbah

To attend Impulstanz International Dance Festival in Vienna, participating in an intensive workshop program and seeing performances from over 150 internationally renowned teachers and choreographers.