

# Arts & Cultural Projects

## Assessment Meeting Report

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# ARTS & CULTURAL PROJECTS

Closing Date: 13 June 2017

Panel Meetings:

Tuesday 25 – Thursday 27 July

The Arts & Cultural Development Program (ACDP) Arts & Cultural Projects category supports innovation, vibrancy and creativity in the NSW arts and cultural sector. It aims to deliver a dynamic and diverse range of arts and cultural experiences to communities across NSW, while strengthening professional arts and cultural practice, the development of artists and the small-to-medium arts and cultural sector.

This category is open to individual artists, arts/cultural workers, organisations, partnerships and groups. Projects may include, for example:

- the creative development and/or public presentation of work/s
- commissioning of professional artists to develop a new work for an event
- partnerships (including with the non-arts sector) to develop arts and culture in a specific region, priority area, artform or discipline
- community collaborations involving professional artists to develop skills, public performances, exhibitions or participatory events
- the development and presentation of a new museum display
- activities aimed at engaging young people in arts and culture, particularly students attending geographically and/or socio-economically disadvantaged schools
- extending an artist's/organisation's practice, audiences and markets
- developing and deepening audience engagement.

Arts & Cultural Projects applications were assessed by arts sector peer professionals. Applications were assessed against the following Assessment Criteria:

- Artistic and Cultural Merit (Quality)
- Engagement and Participation (Reach)
- Viability (Health)
- Budget (Health)

# ASSESSMENT FEEDBACK

The assessment panels of both Performing Arts and Visual Arts, Museums & Literature noted the following points as feedback for applicants to the Arts & Cultural Projects round:

## Quality

- The panel was impressed by the quality of applications and encouraged by the diversity of projects occurring across NSW.
- There is a noted struggle for festivals with unconfirmed programs (such as Fringe Festivals) to report on artistic merit. If working with unconfirmed programs, applicants are encouraged to include information on past achievements, what the selection will be and why confirmation could not be included in the application.
- Applicants are encouraged to include support material which is relevant to the project and represents the quality of work which will be produced.
- The panel noted a lack of applications from contemporary musicians and encourage them to apply for future rounds.

## Engagement

- Whilst it was great to see projects address cultural diversity particular in terms of disability, the panel would have liked to have seen more applications directly engage with disability.
- Applicants are encouraged to consider disability access needs within the framework of their projects.
- Applicants intending to involve regional communities in projects should consult and communicate with them before including them in an application. This is also applicable to any priority area. Applications are strengthened by providing evidence of such consultation through support letters.
- Applicants are reminded that an open-door policy does not suffice for meeting KPIs and addressing ACDP priorities.
- Panel noted an increase in the strength and number of applications from regional NSW but a lack of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led applications.

## Viability

- Practitioner bios and CV's are encouraged to be included as support material as well as confirmation evidence where applicable.
- Letters of support should be current and addressed to the funding body.

## Budget

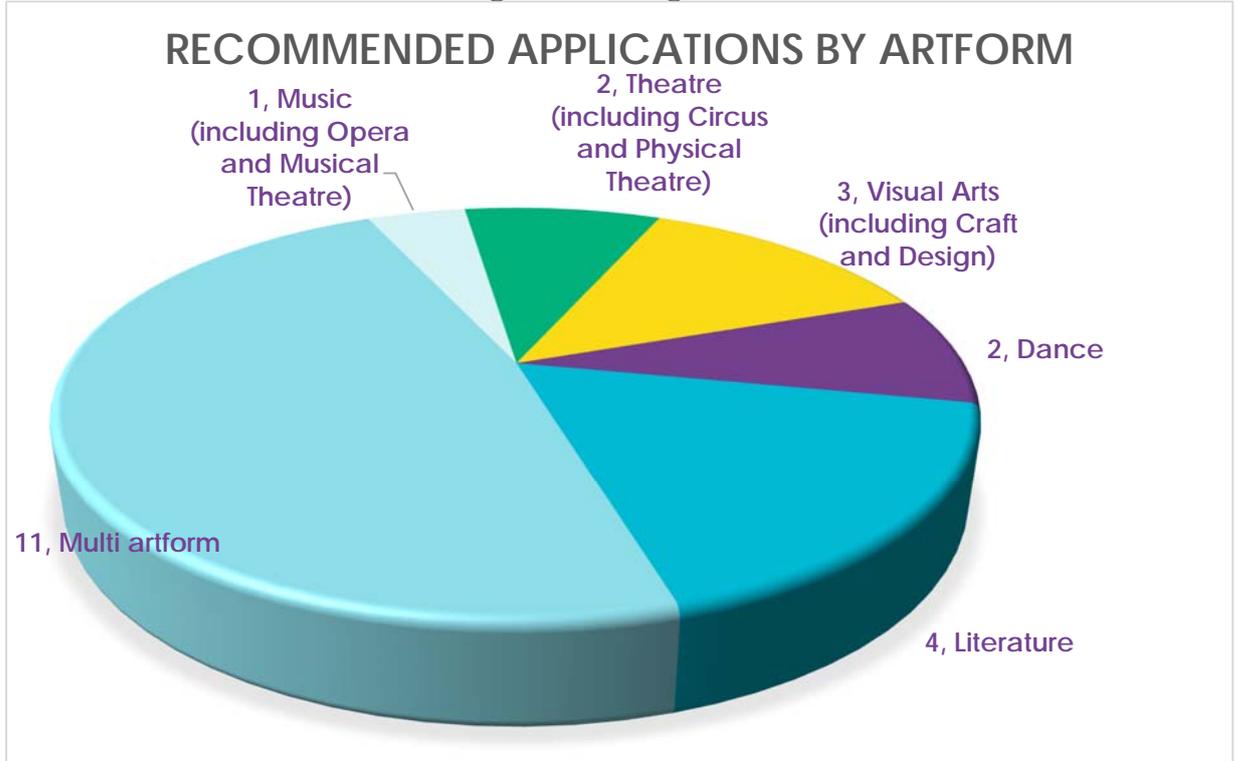
- Budgets should provide break down of large amounts e.g artist fees and include explanatory notes.
- Artists engaged in projects must be paid an acceptable fee for your application to be successful. See our Frequently Asked Questions document for links to payment guidelines.
- Income in venue tables (performing arts applications) are often miscalculated. Applicants are advised to use clear calculations in venue table income. Full income should be presented and co presentation figures listed in budget table.
- 'Confirmed Income' in the budget table needs to be confirmed, this cannot include items such as ticket/bar sales.

## FUNDING STATISTICS

GRANT CATEGORY	Arts & Cultural Projects
APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	139
SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS	23
SUCCESS RATE	17%
AMOUNT REQUESTED	\$4,799,526
AMOUNT FUNDED	\$886,341

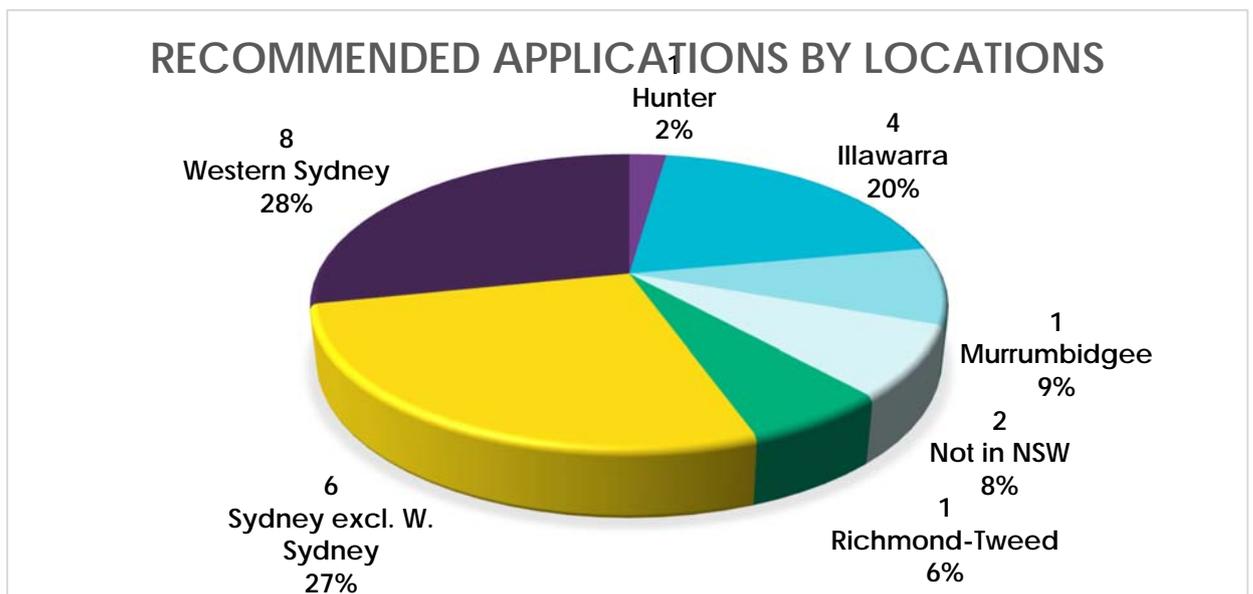
## Artform Breakdown

Of the 23 applications funded, the highest numbers were from multi-artform projects, followed by literature. The following chart shows the distribution of funding according to artform.



## Geographical Spread

Funding was recommended for projects taking place across NSW. Of the 23 applications recommended, 6 came from Sydney, 8 from Western Sydney, 7 from regional NSW and 2 from outside NSW. The following chart shows the number of successful applications from each region, and displays funding allocated to that region as a percentage of all funds.



# SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS

## 2017/18 Arts and Cultural Projects

### **107 Projects Inc - \$50,000**

Based in Sydney 107 Projects program titled, Hack Sounds, is an entry point into the world of electronic music production. Inclusively designed for all abilities, Hack Sounds, educates and supports new music creation by emerging and experienced artists. This program will engage artists in the City of Sydney, Waverley and Parramatta LGA's.

### **Mr Abdul Hekmat - \$13,000**

The Invisible, curated by Abdul Karim Hekmat is a four multi-disciplinary refugee program at the UTS Gallery Sydney. Artists will come together to transform their refugee experiences and histories into artworks. Artworks will encourage the artists to move individuals towards recovery of self, agency and power in the exhibition.

### **Amanda Jane Reynolds - \$24,720**

Wiring-guwal (Female Ancestors) is an exhibition featuring ancestors along one of the ancient pathways from NSW to South Australia. This project will showcase the creative cultural expressions of several NSW Aboriginal women during Tarnanthi Festival of Contemporary Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art.

### **Ballina Shire Council - \$55,000**

BSC will establish 'Ignite Arts', a regional multi-disciplinary art space to fulfil a community need not currently catered for within the Northern Rivers region. The art space would include, artists' studios, workshop and project spaces as an extension of the NRCG exhibition facilities to present a range of public programs and activities.

### **Bundanon Trust - \$34,000**

Established in 1993, Bundanon Trust in the Shoalhaven region, supports arts practice and engagement with the arts through its residency, education, exhibition and performance programs. Siteworks is Bundanon's annual spring event which brings together scientists, artists and community voices to share ideas arising from the Bundanon sites.

### **Chris Dunstan - \$15,000**

Project title. Exchange, will develop and present a creative exchange between, Shopfront Arts Co-Op and Blacktown Arts Centre. Exchange will enable young people on different sides of Sydney to meet, share ideas and create a piece of performance that is immediate to their imaginations and experiences.

### **Cootamundra Creative Arts Inc - \$75,000**

'Harvest' The Arts Centre (TAC) Cootamundra program 2018/19 is a multi-faceted inclusive creative arts program which will include: artist residencies including development and presentation of work, creative learning workshops, mentorships, regionally based emerging and mid-career artists and public community events.

### **Dance Makers Collective - \$75,000**

Dance Makers Collective in partnership with the City of Parramatta, information and cultural exchange, FBI's Canvas, Art and Ideas and Parramatta Artist Studios will develop and present a dance event and broadcast in consultation and collaboration with community groups from across Western Sydney for presentation in Parramatta.

### **Insite Arts International Unit Trust - \$9,000**

Insite Arts International Unit Trusts based in Melbourne Victoria's, project titled 'Saltbush' Tour of China'. This project funding covers, three Sydney based Aboriginal performers, rehearsal and a 4-week tour to the Chinese regional cities of Wuhan, Suzhou and Hangzhou. This dance-theatre work is made up of Aboriginal, Italian and Australian artists. The target audience is young people and their families.

### **Lake Macquarie City Council - \$20,000**

Engage immersive heritage specialist Brett Leavy to work with the Awabakal community and artists to develop three VR experiences. This will enable artists to explore and develop skills in VR and in collaboration with VR professionals, reawaken Aboriginal heritage through creative and accessible forms and extend the culture to new audiences.

### **Live Ideas Pty Ltd - \$23,781**

'Hidden Sydney' is an immersive theatre concept created by Live Ideas in partnership with Working Management. This concept will offer a non-conventional, engaging theatre experience representing twentieth century Australian stories. The genre is an interactive promenade theatre within a site-specific and historically relevant environment, with audience an artist's occupying the same space which will allow for experimentation and communication between character and the participant.

### **Mark Bolotin - \$48,840**

The Lumiphonic Creature Choir Show is a unique new multimedia performance where audiences can interact with a giant twelve-headed creature that sings and recites prose. The show is to be developed and have its world premiere in Bilpin, Western Sydney, with the intention to then tour it to New York.

### **Marrugeku Inc - \$57,000**

Marrugeku based in both Sydney and Broome WA will produce the second stage of 'Burrbgaja Yalirra' a three-year initiative to support change makers in intercultural contemporary dance, including the final development and Sydney season of the new solo works for NSW artists Eric Avery and Miranda Wheen.

### **Miriam Williamson & Mahalya Middlemist - \$23,000**

The Altitude Project is a contemporary arts event to be held on a number of heritage listed sites in the Blue Mountains. This event endeavours to share a history of invention, innovation and technology. Sites include: Linden Observatory and the Memorial Parks in Katoomba named after the celebrity aviators of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

### **Modern Art Projects Blue Mountains - \$22,000**

This project will provide curatorial residencies at The KIOSK Artist's Studios for three contemporary artists to develop their professional practice as artist/curators by creating three separate exhibitions, each involving three to five other artists. Each residency will have four weeks to develop an exhibition to be subsequently shown in the main gallery space.

### **National Young Writer's Festival Inc - \$35,000**

The planning, programming and presentation of the National Young Writers Festival in 2018. NYWF is a free and accessible four-day festival held annually in Newcastle. The festival will gather young writers, artistically ambitious, inclusive, participatory and diverse, curated and managed by a young team of staff.

### **Next Wave Festival - \$60,000**

Next Wave Festival based in Melbourne will showcase five outstanding projects by emerging NSW artists. This diverse group of projects will explore a wide range of contemporary issues such as: family, feminism, sexuality and culture to computers directing our decisions, loyalties and fates.

### **Our Community Project Inc - \$60,000**

A program of arts activities and events with Tender Funerals. Tender's residency and workshops will engage artists to families, volunteers and the broader community to lay the foundation for an integrated and ongoing arts practice that will change the culture of funerals. This program will offer the community a direct experience of the transformative power of art by engaging professional practicing artists.

### **Sweatshop: Western Sydney Literacy Movement - \$24,000**

Western Sydney Literacy Movement will establish an ongoing writer's collective for Western Sydney woman from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, who will meet once a month to develop content for a new anthology. The workshops and publication will be managed and developed by Tongan-Australian writer and editor, Winnie Dunn.

### **The Red Rattler Theatre In - \$60,000**

The Red Rattler Theatre is a not-for-profit, artist and activist run warehouse venue and artist's studios based in Sydney. The Red Rattler will further support the development and presentation of new and innovative queer performance art and ideas from artists, academic, activists and other perspectives. This program is specifically focussed on subsidising and showcasing works by people of colour.

### **Theatre Kantanka Inc - \$18,000**

Based in Sydney, Theatre Kantanka will rehearse and present a live performance incorporating 3D sound technology and surround animation. To be premiered at Parramatta Riverside followed by a season at 107 Projects, Sydney.

### **Western Sydney University- \$27,000**

New Nature Writing the Sydney Review of Books will commission 18 NSW writers to write original essays on the broad theme of nature for publication on the Sydney Review of Books website. A series of workshops and masterclasses on nature writing will supplement the published essays.

### **Wollongong Writers Festival Inc - \$57,000**

Wollongong Writers Festival will feature a range of diverse voices on what sustains people and artistic practice. Wollongong Writers Festival funding will support the delivery of the core program components.