

Arts & Cultural Projects

27 June 2016

Assessment Meeting Report



Arts
NSW

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ARTS & CULTURAL PROJECTS

Closing Date: 27 June 2016

Panel Meetings:

9-11 August 2016 (Performing Arts)

16 -18 August 2016 (Visual Arts, Literature, Museums)

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 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 work
- 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 peers.

Applications were assessed against the following Assessment Criteria:

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

ASSESSMENT FEEDBACK

The round reflected the cultural diversity of NSW, demonstrating a variety of content, significant engagement with audiences and strong partnerships developed across the sector and, more broadly, with non-arts organisations.

The strongest applications clearly demonstrated how projects engage with the ACDP priority areas. It was particularly noted that strong culturally and linguistically diverse (CaLD) projects are making links to other cultures and artforms, extending their practice and reach into communities.

More applications from people living in regional NSW, artists with disability and individual artists are encouraged. Applications from independent artists reflected the need for autonomous spaces to incubate and develop work so innovative ideas can take form.

Strong applicants demonstrated the quality of the project and were able to communicate this effectively in a succinct and clear manner. They also included strong support material from partners, collaborators, and demonstrations of past works.

For future rounds applicants should:

- ensure all parts of the application form, including artist biographies and letters of support, are completed
- ensure applications focussed on the development phase still include details of the overall project plans
- provide a good level of detail in timelines, including selection process for artists, where applicable, and ensure all key project dates and creative personnel sections are completed
- ensure support letters speak to the quality and trajectory of the work, clearly demonstrating proof of partnerships, community engagement and both financial and/or in-kind support
- provide evidence of knowledge and compliance with Arts NSW's Aboriginal Arts and Cultural Protocols (published on the Arts NSW website) for applications engaging with Aboriginal people
- in budgets, provide detailed explanatory notes and comments, including:
 - value of in-kind contributions such as partnerships, volunteer contributions and other in-kind services for both income and expenditure lines
 - a clear indication that income is confirmed or unconfirmed
 - detailed breakdowns of large cost items including fees and production costs
- note that an indication that artists are working for free or in-kind does not strengthen applications.

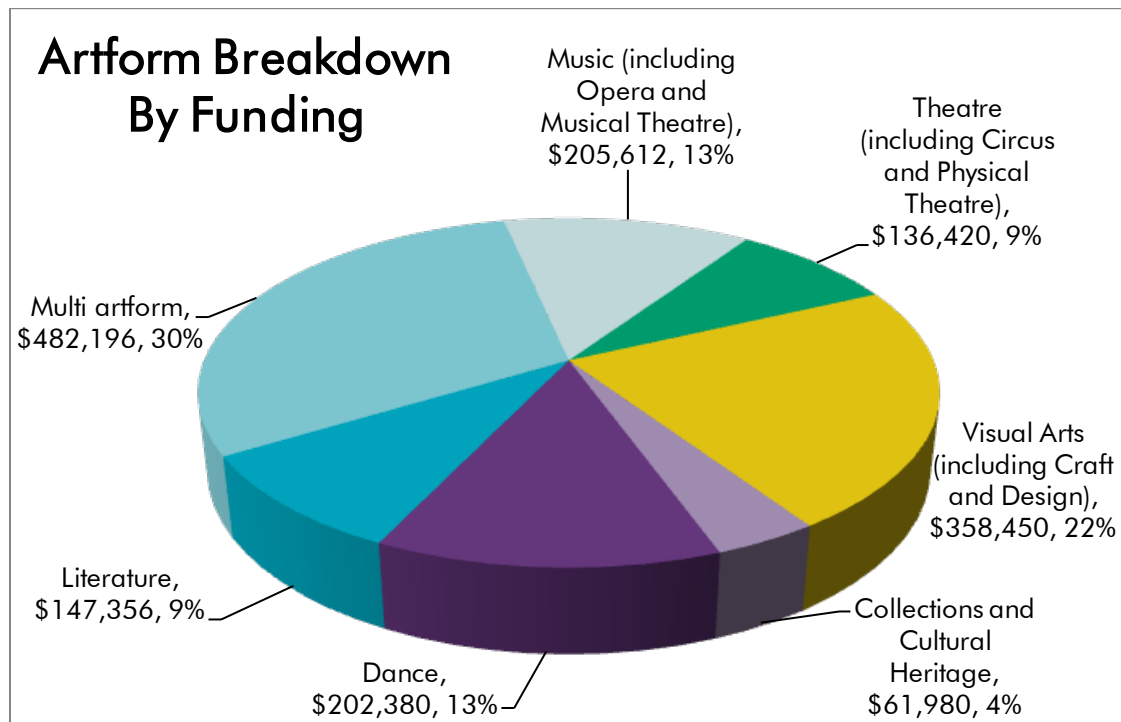
- include high quality images, which document the previous work of applicants or artists and creative practitioners involved, while still adhering to Arts NSW guidelines on limits and formats
- consider the inclusion of social media strategies in relation to audience and engagement.

FUNDING STATISTICS

GRANT CATEGORY	Arts & Cultural Projects
ELIGIBLE APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	151
SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS	41
SUCCESS RATE	27%
AMOUNT REQUESTED	\$5,882,205
AMOUNT FUNDED	\$1,594,394

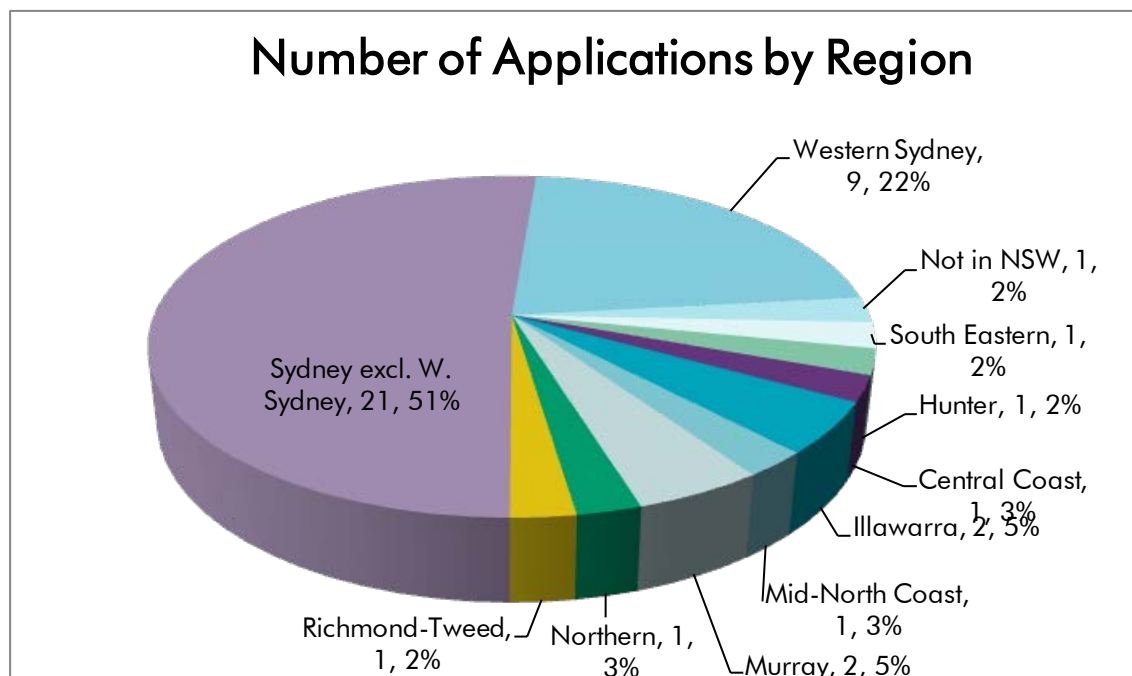
Artform Breakdown

Of the 41 applications funded, the highest numbers were from multi-artform projects, followed by visual arts. The following chart shows the distribution of funding according to artform.



Geographical Spread

Funding was recommended for projects taking place across NSW. Of the 41 applications recommended, 21 came from Sydney, 9 from Western Sydney, 10 from regional NSW and 1 from outside NSW. The following chart shows the number of applications funded based location.



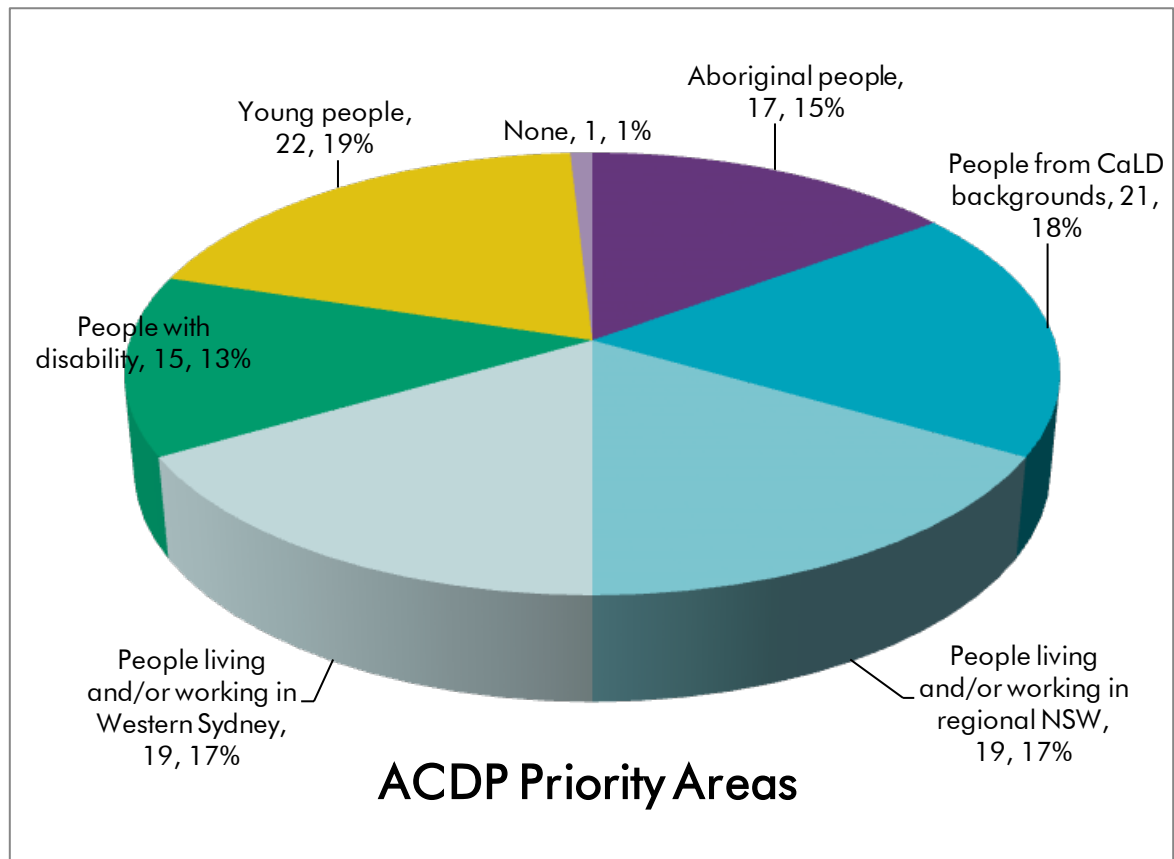
ACDP Priority Areas

The majority of applications recommended for funding showed a genuine and deep level of engagement with the ACDP priority areas:

- people living and/or working in regional NSW
- people living and/or working in Western Sydney
- Aboriginal people
- people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds (CaLD)
- people with disability
- young people.

While addressing an ACDP priority area is not a requirement for funding within this category, panels consider priorities when making final recommendations to ensure appropriate spread across priority areas.

The following chart shows the percentage of funded applications engaging with each priority area. Note: several applications engage with more than one priority area.



SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS

2016/17 Arts and Cultural Projects

Performing Arts

Australasian Performing Rights Association Ltd - \$60,000

The Australasian Performing Rights Association Ltd (APRA), based in Sydney, will present *Sounds Australia 2017*. The project will engage professional musicians and companies to increase their access to international markets, broker key partnerships, create trade linkages and grow income streams.

Dr Iqbal Barkat - \$24,311

Dr Iqbal Barkat, based in Sydney, will undertake a creative development of a new multi-artform work (theatre/digital art), using a solo performer in dialogue with digital projections. Inspired by actor Fadi Alameddin's loss of religious faith, this work will explore concepts of belief, religion and atheism from a personal and wider social context.

Tammy Brennan - \$60,000

Tammy Brennan, based in Sydney, presents *Daughters*, an intercultural experimental opera collaboration between Australian and Indian artists. This socially engaged work investigates representations of gender violence using cross-disciplinary processes and forms. Tammy and her international creative team, The Daughters Group, will creatively explore the work to test new methodologies of experimental opera.

Bundanon Trust - \$75,000

Bundanon Trust, based in Nowra, will present a performance project, *End of the Line* delivered by Annette Tesoriero and Philip Channells. They will work with senior citizens, exploring ways of incorporating site, sound, dance and conversation. The project will work with the community to develop a unique creative process resulting in a series of mini-showings and a dynamic large-scale performance.

A/Professor Bruce Crossman - \$12,912

Bruce Crossman, based in Western Sydney, will undertake an experimental multi-artform creative development *Shy Like Blushing Flowers*. Together with experienced Western Sydney artists, he will rehearse and record vocals, create digital projections, and present a 30-minute development showing at Riverside Theatres, Parramatta.

Free Broadcast Incorporated - \$45,000

Free Broadcast Incorporated (FBI Radio), based in Sydney, presents *Tracks*, a professional development program and series of events to be held in Blacktown in 2017. The program includes a Music Open Day with industry, training for young volunteers and three events. The partnership between FBI Radio, Elephant Traks, MusicNSW and Blacktown Arts Centre will build audiences and community engagement for contemporary music in Western Sydney. It will also connect these organisations with local artists and build pathways into industry.

Ghenoa Gela - \$42,620

Ghenoa Gela, based on the Central Coast, will present *My Urrwai (My Style)*, an autobiographical solo dance-theatre work about a Torres Strait Island woman born in a small town on mainland Australia. The show tells of her struggles to find a place, not only in western society, but in her own culture. The work will be created with director Rachael Maza and choreographic mentor Kate Champion, encompassing traditional, contemporary and popular dance with spoken word.

Sue Healey - \$30,000

Sue Healey, based in Sydney, presents two 30-minute works: a collaborative duet by Healey and choreographer Martin del Amo and a duet by Healey for Shona Erskine and Michelle Heaven. Both works explore the nature of vision; the observed/observer relationship and the act of seeing. First stage performances will be delivered at Glasshouse Gallery, Port Macquarie and Brenda May Gallery, Sydney.

Lindy Hume - \$18,193

Lindy Hume, based in Bega, will engage in a two-week creative development period in Candelo for a new performance work based on Jim Jarmusch's iconic film *Dead Man*. William Blake's journey will be relocated to an equally impenetrable and mythology-steeped landscape - the far south east of Australia during the troubled European settlement of the late 18th/early 19th centuries.

Illuminart - \$75,000

Illuminart, based in the Blue Mountains, will present *The GeriActivists (From the Corner to the Station)*. An agile assertive gang of senior citizens equipped with augmented mobility scooters will meet in performance workshops over several months to take over St Mary's Queen Street in an outrageous technologically enhanced public procession.

Jodee Munday Collaborations - \$15,000

Jodee Munday Collaborations, based in Melbourne, presents *Imagined Touch*, a multi-sensory art project revealing a unique and rare insight into the world of the Deafblind. An interdisciplinary work the production combines live art, theatre, tactile design, light/sound design, installation, touch choreography and sensory performance and will premiere in Sydney.

Marrugeku Inc - \$55,000

Marrugeku Inc, based in Sydney, presents *Burrbgaja Yalirra* (Dancing Forwards), a three-year commitment to support the next generation of dance artists as change makers in contemporary intercultural and Indigenous dance. *Burrbgaja Yalirra* will produce up to three new intercultural dance theatre works.

Murmuration - \$60,000

Murmuration, based in North Western Sydney, presents *Days Like These*. An integrated performance company, it will work closely with a collective of multi-disciplinary professional artists with and without disability. Parallel to the development, Murmuration will facilitate an education day, open studio day and artist discussions.

The Optimism Association Inc - \$26,962

The Optimism Association Inc, based in Sydney, will present *The Ghost Project*, a series of installations, lectures and story exchanges examining our contemporary relationship to ghosts and haunting. It will be presented in February 2017 at the Asia-Pacific Triennial of Performing Arts (AsiaTOPA).

Rhiannon Newton - \$34,140

Rhiannon Newton, based in Sydney, will undertake the final-stage creative development and presentation of *Bodied Assemblies*, a new dance work, programmed by Dancehouse in the 2017 Dance Massive festival. The creative development continues with dancers Bhenji Ra, Ivey Wawn and Julian Wong over four-weeks, alongside collaboration with Sydney percussionist Bree van Reyk and long-term collaborator Kynan Tan.

post - \$25,000

post, based in Sydney, will premier *That's Life*, a new Australian theatre work at Campbelltown Arts Centre (CAC). *That's Life* is commissioned by CAC, with the creative development of the project undertaken across 2016 and the final development stage and presentation of the project happening in 2017.

Readymade Works Inc - \$40,620

ReadyMade works Inc, based in Sydney, presents three projects as part of its 2017 annual program: *Happy Hour*, *First Run* and the *Moving Ideas Dance Residency Program*. The projects will extend the cultural capacity of ReadyMade Works in supporting the vibrancy of the independent dance and moving arts community in Sydney.

Satu Bulan Theatre Company - \$15,420

Satu Bulan Theatre Company, based in Sydney, presents *The Age of Bones (Jaman Belulang)*, a new Australian-Indonesian play recently shortlisted for the Griffin Award. It is co-produced by Satu Bulan, Performing Lines and Teater Satu. This bilingual and mixed media play is about an Indonesian boy, Ikan, who travels to Australia working on a boat carrying displaced people. After inaugural seasons in Indonesia, Satu Bulan will re-mount and premiere the play in Sydney at the Australian Theatre for Young People (ATYP), as well as interstate.

Justin Shoulder - \$37,730

Justin Shoulder, based in Sydney, presents the creative development of an experimental performance work *Carrion Woke*. The grant will support two stages of creative development: a residency focused on choreography and sound composition and another focused on theatrical dramaturgy with lighting, video, and scenic components. *Carrion Woke* will be presented at Liveworks, Performance Space in 2017.

Sirens Big Band - \$27,700

Sirens Big Band, based in West Sydney, presents *Bridge of Dreams*, a project that involves the creation, presentation and recording of a major international collaborative work for 17-piece big band, Hindustani quartet (voice, harmonium, two tabla players) and saxophone soloist. It will explore creative possibilities arising from the dialogue between jazz and Indian music. The work will be premiered in Western Sydney at the Parramasala Festival 2017 and broadcast by ABC Radio National.

Rachel Swain - \$50,000

Rachael Swain, based in Sydney, will co-develop a new theatre work with Western Sydney writer Michael Mohammed Ahmad and choreographer of filmic dance-theatre Gavin Webber, along with some of Sydney's leading dancers, parkour and martial artists. *The Burrigong Affair*, a surrealist action thriller set in Western Sydney, contrasts immigration issues in NSW from the 1860's and post 9/11.

Theatre of Image Ltd - \$35,000

Theatre of Image Ltd, based in Sydney, will commission/develop a major visual/physical production about iconic Sydney artist Brett Whiteley. The development of this story of art and love – using interviews with his wife Wendy will culminate in a visual script, workshop and digital imagery. With partner Legs On The Wall, the creative team will lead a cast of experienced and emerging NSW actors and physical performers.

Dr David Williams - \$11,000

Dr David Williams, based in Sydney, will present *Only Players*, a documentary theatre project about Shakespeare and education in Australia. Edited transcripts of interviews with English teachers in NSW schools about their experiences of teaching Shakespeare will be shaped into a performance script. It will be intercut with Shakespeare soliloquies selected by the interviewees that help to frame a discussion around a specific memorable moment from their teaching practice.

Visual Arts, Museums and Literature

Albury City Council - \$30,000

Albury City Council will present *Art Activation Albury* in 2017. It will consist of three public art and activation programs, located at The Riverside Public Art, Q Gallery and the new Queen Elizabeth II Square Cafe, Youth Centre and Retro Lane development. All activities will engage NSW artists to create public artworks that are connected to and inspired by a sense of place.

Barkindji Maraura Elders Environment Team Ltd - \$29,580

Barkindji Maraura Elders Environment Team Ltd, based in Dareton, NSW, will present *Our River, Our Culture: An Exhibition of Barkindji Heritage*, an exhibition focusing on Barkindji traditions and culture. Barkindji people will host workshops and events to reengage their local community with the history of their land through the creation of new work with creative and professional skills development.

Blue Mountains Cultural Centre - \$19,000

The Blue Mountains Cultural Centre will engage local artists Sean Cordeiro and Claire Healy with local Blue Mountains residents in developing an interactive installation. The work will be exhibited at the Blue Mountains City Art Gallery alongside the 2017 touring exhibition *Landmarks: works from the John Kaldor Family and AGNSW Collection*.

Creative Mullumbimby Inc - \$64,000

Creative Mullumbimby Inc will produce and present, over two years, the Mullumbimby Sculpture Walk. This project is a dynamic interweaving of five community based activities that engage local artists, makes art accessible and knits art making into the fabric of Mullumbimby and its region. There will be an integrated public art education program to foster young new artists, commission new work and develop a virtual platform. It will culminate with the Riverside Sculpture Festival as a community celebration of art and culture at the end of 2018.

Critical Animals - \$32,000

Critical Animals, based in Sydney, will present the *Critical Animals Creative Research Symposium* in Newcastle, NSW as a part of This is Not Art. The symposium will concentrate on contemporary visual art at the intersection of arts and research.

Dr Bonita Ely- \$60,000

Dr Bonita Ely will represent NSW in the international art festival Documenta 14 in Kassel, Germany and Athens, Greece in 2017. Her two immersive installations, outcomes of research at both sites, will explore the trauma of the seemingly irreversible pollution of our planet's future environment, and the intergenerational effects of post-traumatic stress disorder as an outcome of war.

Gurehlgam Corporation Limited - \$11,000

Gurehlgam Corporation Limited based in Coffs Harbour, will present the *Dreaming Trails* exhibition and public program at Wadjar Gallery, Yarrawarra Aboriginal Cultural Centre. This project will explore the tradition of trade between the two neighbouring language groups of Bundjalung and Gumbaynggirr, with Yaegl identified as the bridge between both nations.

Modern Art Projects, Blue Mountains Association Inc - \$25,000

Modern Art Projects Blue Mountains Association Inc will present a project exploring the layered narratives and transitional histories that are associated with the Woodford Academy, a site of heritage and environmental significance in the Blue Mountains. Artists working across a range of media will produce new work in response to the historical and cultural resonances of this site. The project will also include a short-term residency that will be awarded to an emerging artist from Western Sydney.

MOP Projects Inc - \$48,125

MOP Projects, currently based in Sydney, will publish and distribute an archival publication documenting 13 years of its significant artist-run-initiative exhibition program. Approximately 400 exhibitions and over 600 artists will be represented. The publication will be launched at the final exhibition for MOP in the Ideas Platform at Artspace.

National Young Writers Festival Inc - \$35,000

The National Young Writers' Festival (NYWF), based in Sydney, will present a free and accessible four day festival held annually in Newcastle, NSW. The festival is Australia's leading event for young writers, an established convergence point for young and emerging writing communities from across the country.

Newcastle Writers Festival Inc - \$60,000

The Newcastle Writers Festival Inc will celebrate and acknowledge the Hunter Region's literary talent, and will provide opportunities for aspiring and emerging writers to advance their skills and networks through engagement with local, national and international writers.

Sydney Non Objective Group Inc - \$35,000

Marrickville based Sydney Non Objective will present 10 exhibition and performance projects creating inter-generational relationships between artists and supporting the production of new work. This project will support the NSW arts community by bringing new ideas in contemporary culture to a wide audience locally, nationally and internationally.

Tamworth Regional Council - \$32,400

Tamworth Regional Council will present Light up the Night, an ephemeral and permanent public artwork based on the 'City of Light' theme. Tamworth became the first city in Australia to be lit by electric street lighting in 1888 and this achievement is commemorated at the Tamworth Powerstation Museum. The project will use public art to tell this story and provide a focus for local narratives. The resulting works will create participatory outcomes telling this significant story.

The Big Fix Inc - \$60,000

The Big Fix, based in Blackheath, NSW, will present *Changing the Story*, a development and multi-format publication of media stories by Western Sydney storytellers (writers, photographers, videographers, printmakers, animators and cartoonists). This project will emerge from a series of events, workshops, mentorships, collaborations and engagement with local cross-sector alliances and youth Co-Labs.

Think & DO Tank Foundation Limited - \$60,000

The Think & DO Tank Foundation Limited, based in Sydney, will present *LOST IN BOOKS (LIB)*, in Liverpool, NSW. The project will be a multilingual bookshop, café, creative learning hub and safe space for women. It will offer a rich public program focused on literacy, language acquisition and wellbeing for children, young people and adults.

Windmill Trust - \$24,325

The Windmill Trust will celebrate 20 years of the Windmill Trust Scholarship, a NSW Regional Visual Art Prize that delivered over \$100,000 to disadvantaged regional artists. An exhibit will showcase winning regional artists and a smaller-scale regional touring exhibition, with events and floor talks by the winning recipients, will engage with other regions. The major exhibition will be held in September 2017 at Murray Art Museum Albury, NSW.

Wollondilly Shire Council - \$40,000

Wollondilly Shire Council in Western Sydney will present *IlluminARTE Wollondilly*, a creative arts festival featuring the digital projection of local artworks on landmark buildings in Picton. It includes a three day art exhibition for professional and emerging artists, lantern making workshops and a lantern parade for community members, live performances by local musicians and buskers and a range of markets for local artisans and traders.

Wollongong International Writers Festival - \$52,356

The Wollongong International Writers Festival will present the 2017 Wollongong Writers Festival addressing the theme *Can Words Change the World?* The topic will be examined from multiple perspectives, including that of women, local Indigenous peoples, internationally persecuted authors and refugees, and eco-warriors.