

**2016 NSW  
Regional Arts  
Fellowship**

**2 August 2016**

**Assessment  
Meeting  
Report**



Arts  
NSW

# Assessment Meeting Report

# 2016 NSW REGIONAL ARTS FELLOWSHIP

Closing Date: Tuesday, 2 August 2016

Panel Meeting Date: Thursday, 15 September 2016

## NSW Regional Arts Fellowship

The NSW Regional Arts Fellowship is offered by the State Government to enable an artist or arts/cultural worker from regional NSW to undertake a self-directed program of professional development. In 2016 three Regional Arts Fellowships will be offered.

The fellowships were open to artists and performers or arts/cultural workers from all art forms, including dance, design, digital arts, history, Aboriginal arts, literature, music, theatre, screen and the visual arts.

### Activities may include:

- travel (international and/or national)
- mentorships or internships with recognised arts organisations
- residencies at institutions/organisations
- short-term courses, workshops or other training (Note: The Fellowship is not available to support study which will result in formal tertiary qualification such as a degree)
- creation of new work
- any combination of the above.

### Assessment Criteria

2016 NSW Regional Arts Fellowship applications were assessed by a panel of peers against the following criteria:

1. demonstrated high artistic and cultural merit
2. potential to significantly benefit the applicant's artistic or cultural practice
3. demonstrated contribution to building capacity of arts and culture in regional NSW
4. the program is well planned and achievable.

## FUNDING STATISTICS

|                       |             |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| GRANT CATEGORY        | Fellowships |
| APPLICATIONS ASSESSED | 17          |
| SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS | 3           |
| AMOUNT REQUESTED      | \$850,000   |
| AMOUNT FUNDED         | \$150,000   |

## ASSESSMENT FEEDBACK

The panel was impressed by the range and quality of the applications received for the 2016 Regional Arts Fellowship. They reflected the diversity and strength of the artistic community in regional NSW.

The applications demonstrated a clear commitment to individual artistic excellence and community cultural engagement. The panel were impressed by how many people are reached by regional artists. This is particularly notable given that many regional artists work without organisational support.

This assessment process reinforced the artistic and cultural ambitions and ability of regional NSW artists and the importance of this program to enable these practices. The panel hoped that the fellowship would continue to provide an opportunity for successful applicants to focus on their own artistic development.

The panel was delighted to recommend three successful recipients, Ms Lee Pemberton, Mrs Sarah McEwan and Mr David Burraston. Each was selected for their innovative artistic vision and their inspiring, ambitious programs. The panel believe they will contribute to the capacity of arts and culture in their regions and beyond.

The panel congratulates the successful applicants, who represent a variety of art forms and creative practice.

In future rounds, applicants are reminded to:

- demonstrate outcomes of the project/s for the regions
- clearly articulate the benefits of the Fellowship to the next stage of their professional development, regardless of where they are in their career
- present a range of activities that sit within a clearly identifiable framework for the Fellowship, making sure that they justify every element of their proposed program
- present a coherent and cohesive program that contributes to their artistic development.

# SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS

## NSW 2016 REGIONAL ARTS FELLOWSHIPS

**Lee Pemberton**, based in Tathra, is a choreographer and former artistic director of fLING! Physical Theatre. Ms Pemberton will undertake an 18 month Fellowship connecting two generations of dancers, to explore the history and unique geographies of the Bega region. The Fellowship program includes:

- research of choreographic processes with established dancers
- development of small performance vignettes with young emerging artists that reflect the research findings
- research into geographical elements of the South East region of NSW
- mentorship with dance academic
- collaborations with a musician, a composer and a documentary photographer.

**Sarah McEwan**, Sandigo resident, is an artist, musician and curator whose work is underpinned by the philosophies of feminism, art for social change and diversity in the arts. Over 14 months, Mrs McEwan's Fellowship will include:

- mentorship with Professor Elizabeth Grosz, Duke University, North Carolina
- two week research trip with Dr Jacqueline Millner, Sydney University
- two week residency at the Women's Centre for Creative Work, Los Angeles
- development of three new projects to be exhibited in the regional areas of Dubbo, Wagga Wagga and Narrandera, NSW.

**Dr David Burraston**, based in Muttama, is an award winning artist/scientist operating from regional NSW since 2007. Mr Burraston's Fellowship will include an intensive mentorship, on location in Hull and Newcastle, United Kingdom (UK), with internationally renowned field recordist Chris Watson (UK). This mentorship will be followed by a series of short mentorships with internationally renowned artists from the UK, France and the USA. Dr Burraston will also undertake residencies at Elektronmusikstudion (EMS), Sweden and Allenhead Contemporary Arts, UK. The outcomes of this fellowship will include vinyl/CD releases on international labels *Important Records* and *Moog Sound Lab*, UK and an exhibition of new work for Hull's *City of Culture 2017*, UK and in Cootamundra, NSW.