

REGIONAL CAPITAL Assessment Meeting 1 November 2016 Report



Arts
NSW

Assessment Meeting Report

REGIONAL CAPITAL

Closing Date: Monday, 5 September 2016

Panel Meeting: Tuesday, 1 November 2016

Regional Capital is part of the Arts and Cultural Development Program (ACDP) and is available to regional organisations for the improvement of arts and cultural infrastructure and the purchase of equipment used for arts and cultural purposes.

The Regional Capital funding category supports innovative smaller scale capital infrastructure projects that increase and promote participation in arts and cultural activities. The funding is intended to develop regional arts and cultural facilities, address any local needs or infrastructure gaps, encourage collaboration between community, arts organisations and local government, and improve the maintenance and display of collections.

Eligible projects can include construction, alteration, renovation, completion or fitting out of building or facilities for arts and cultural use; digitisation of collections; repair and conservation of collections for public access or archiving purposes; and purchase of equipment such as seating, lighting and sound systems and air-conditioning, to improve the usability of facilities. Note: Regional Capital funding does not support the purchase of furniture and equipment for administrative purposes.

Arts NSW will provide matched funding of up to \$60,000. The category includes a special eligibility requirement that applicants must contribute 50 per cent or more income towards the project (including in-kind contributions). Applicants must demonstrate that items will be primarily used for arts and cultural purposes and/or to improve the usability of arts and cultural facilities.

Regional Capital applications were assessed by a panel of peers against the General Assessment Criteria:

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

ASSESSMENT FEEDBACK

The Panel were impressed by the quality and range of applications received and pleased to see a multi-disciplinary approach to cultural planning and scheduling in a number of regional facilities.

Stronger applications showed a commitment to strategic planning and thinking around the management of arts and cultural assets, whether from smaller communities or larger regional centres. The panel commented that local Government in particular should be commended for taking this approach and noted the positive inclusion of staged applications that addressed areas of need strategically. The applications demonstrated that levels of support from local governments varied across the State.

In general applications would have been strengthened by:

- support letters from the broader community (not just the relevant local Government body)
- provision of visual support material such as venue photos, video and/or websites
- provision of demographic statistics such as visitation numbers, number of community groups using the space, number of projects taking place to substantiate claims made in applications and speak to the viability of projects
- provision of evidence to substantiate claims around engagement with communities, especially for projects that engage with Aboriginal people or artists with disability (for example, a letter from the relevant community or Disability Inclusion Action Plans).

Improvement to facilities, such as the inclusion of accessible toilets, responds to needs and contemporary expectations and increases usability by the whole community.

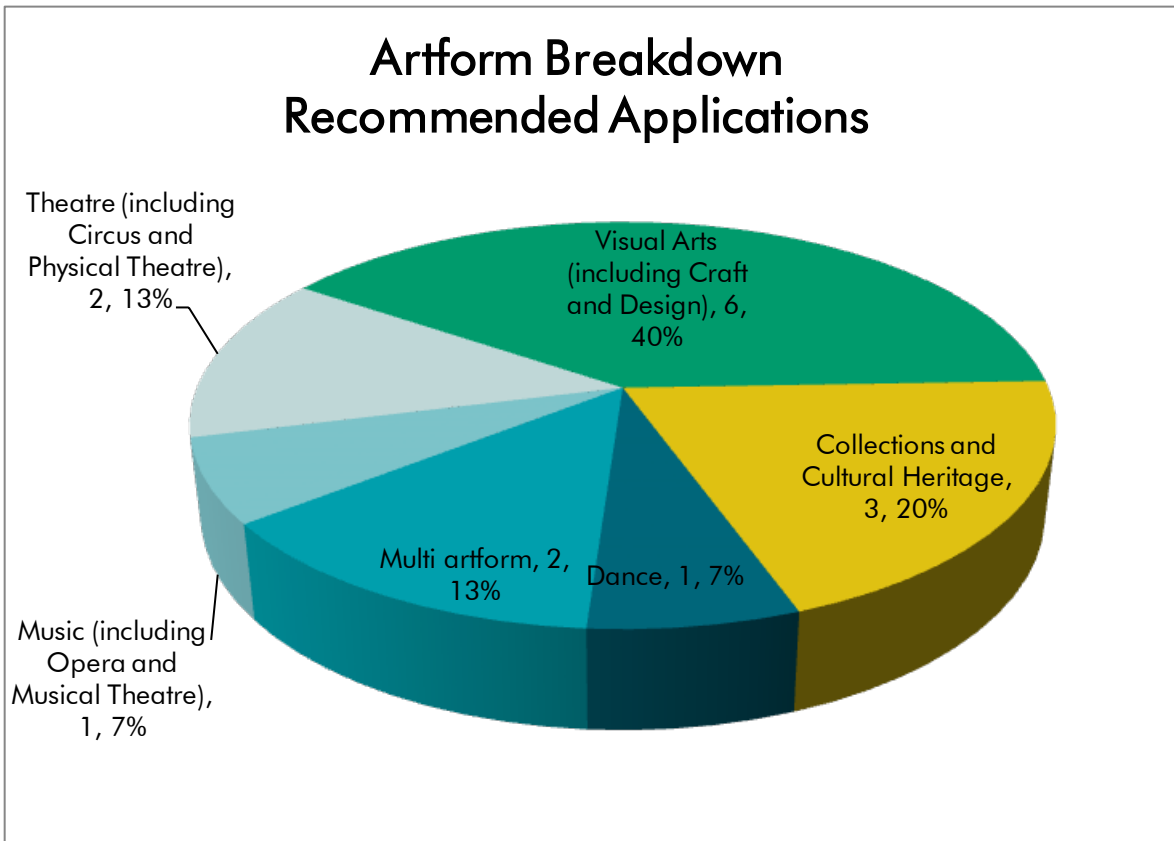
The panel also noted the vital importance of physical infrastructure such as disabled toilets, in increasing the overall reach, engagement and participation of audiences in regional NSW.

For facilities that had other uses (e.g. sporting clubs, non-arts community groups) it was noted that this funding category could not support the full 50 per cent of project costs. Arts NSW funding should reflect the proportion of activity that is primarily arts and cultural in nature, and this should be demonstrated in the application.

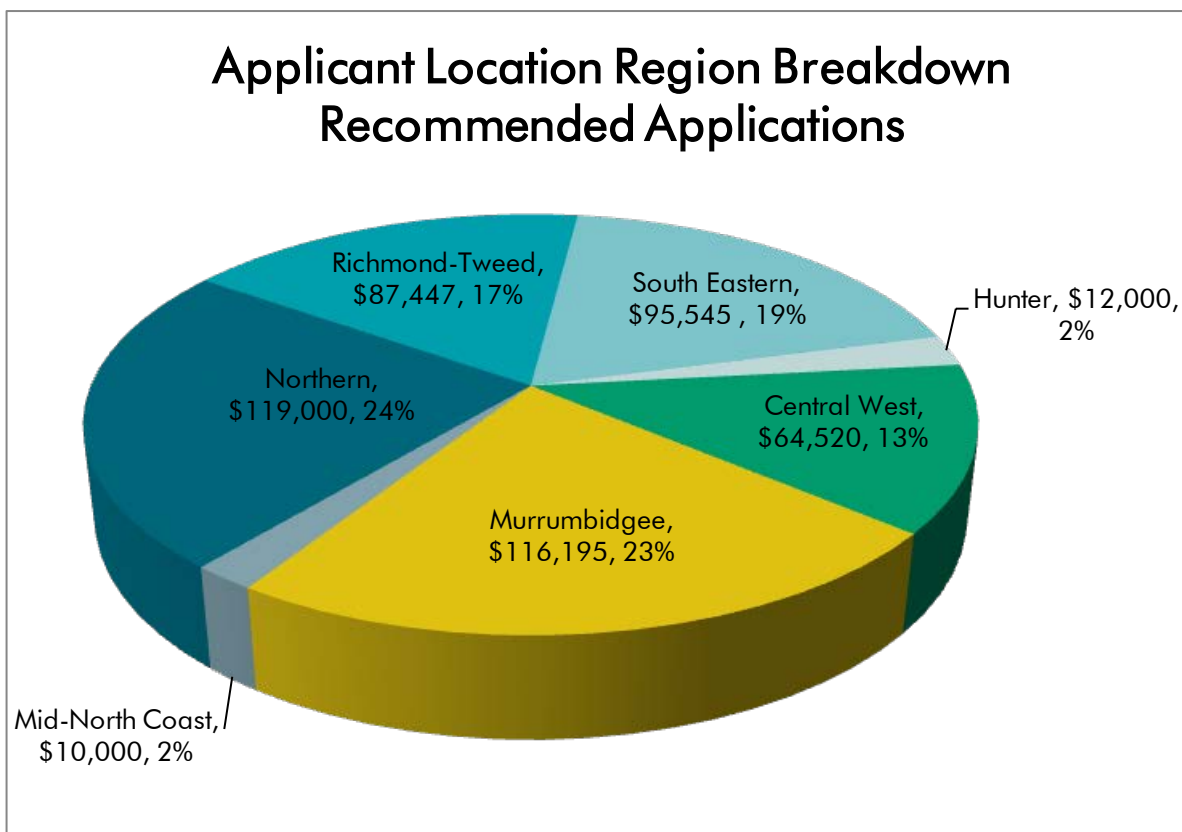
FUNDING STATISTICS

GRANT CATEGORY	Regional Capital
APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	42
SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS	15
SUCCESS RATE	36%
AMOUNT REQUESTED	\$1,307,879
AMOUNT FUNDED	\$501,647

ARTFORM BREAKDOWN



REGION BREAKDOWN (GEOGRAPHY)



SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS

REGIONAL CAPITAL

Ballina Shire Council - \$40,000

Ballina Shire Council will upgrade the Erco track lighting system in the Northern Rivers Community Gallery (NRCG), replacing the current halogen lamps with Light-Emitting-Diode (LED) lamps. The lighting upgrades will achieve significant operational savings for the NRCG, which can be reinvested back into arts and cultural activities for the community.

Byron Bay Community Association Incorporated (BBCA) - \$47,447

The Byron Bay Community Association Incorporated (BBCA) will replace the Byron Theatre auditorium seating and under-seat carpet.

Condobolin and District Historical Society Inc - \$7250

Condobolin and District Historical Society Inc will install air conditioning units to moderate the internal environment of the Condobolin Museum building.

Coolamon Shire Council - \$35,900

Coolamon Shire Council will redevelop The Up-to-Date Store Cultural and Learning Precinct in Cootamundra including building works, upgrade of lighting, sound and visual technology, construction of shelving and display units, and signage. This will to increase access at the historic precinct.

Flipside Dance Inc - \$12,000

Flipside Dance Inc, based in Newcastle in the Hunter region, will purchase a portable lighting rig including truss, parcans and lighting board, black staging curtains and tracking to improve performance uses of the space.

Goulburn Liedertafel Inc - \$45,600

Goulburn Liedertafel Inc will replace the current toilets and install an additional accessible toilet in the Lieder Theatre Building.

Gunnedah Shire Council - \$16,020

Gunnedah Shire Council will undertake a revitalisation of the of gallery and studio spaces of the Bicentennial Creative Arts Centre including a new lighting system, lockable cabinets, artist equipment and other renovations.

Hay Shire Council - \$4275

Hay Shire Council will purchase and install two reverse cycle air-conditioning units in the visual arts workshop area, known as the Supper Room, of the Hay War Memorial Hall.

Lachlan Arts Council - \$2000

Lachlan Arts Council will install new display and lighting systems in the Condobolin Community Centre.

Moree Cultural Art Foundation Ltd - \$59,000

The Moree Cultural Art Foundation Ltd will renovate all bathrooms at Moree Plains Gallery to improve accessibility and enhance visitors' experience of gallery facilities. Six bathrooms will be renovated including a voluntary upgrade of the existing accessible bathroom and the creation of a new ambulant toilet.

Narooma School of Arts and Soldiers War Memorial Hall Inc - \$47,655

Narooma School of Arts and Soldiers War Memorial Hall Inc will undertake capital works to upgrade and enhance the 90-year-old Hall. This will include the construction of wing space for the stage, new dressing rooms and a large wrap-around exterior awning to relieve congestion in the small foyer and increase patron comfort.

New England Regional Art Museum (NERAM) - \$60,000

New England Regional Art Museum will replace the existing exterior fibre cement sheet cladding and sub-wall insulation of the building. This work will allow NERAM to present a more professional and appealing face to visitors as well as being more energy efficient.

Orange City Council - \$54,500

Orange City Council will modify the entrance foyer and reception area of the Orange Regional Gallery and upgrade the adjacent East and West Room spaces to provide additional functionality.

Port of Yamba Historical Society - \$10,000

The Port of Yamba Historical Society will replace the corroded Zinalume sheeting on the Yamba Museum roof and install a R.25 building blanket. The project will use materials suitable for Yamba's climatic conditions.

Wagga Wagga City Council - \$60,000

Wagga Wagga City Council will replace seating and carpet in the Wagga Wagga Civic Theatre auditorium.

