

# Regional Partnerships Assessment Meeting Report

22 June and  
2 November 2015



Arts  
NSW

# Assessment Meeting Report

# REGIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

## Expression of Interest Round

Closing Dates: Thursday, 22 June 2015

Panel Meeting: Tuesday, 28 July 2015

## Full Application Round

Closing Dates: Monday, 2 November 2015

Panel Meeting: Monday, 23 November 2015

Regional Partnerships is one of a suite of project categories within the Arts & Cultural Development Program (ACDP). Funding is available to support partnerships in regional NSW which stimulate strong and diverse regional arts and cultural activity. This funding supports strategic partnerships across and beyond the arts and cultural sectors, including with local government authorities or other public, private or community organisations.

The category objectives are as follows:

- Support strategic partnerships for the delivery of high quality regional arts and cultural activity in NSW
- Build the capacity of regional organisations to deliver arts and cultural activity in regional NSW
- Achieve enhanced long-term arts and cultural outcomes for regional and remote communities, including Aboriginal communities
- Support the employment, and professional and artistic development of NSW professional artists and arts/cultural workers

Regional Partnerships applications are assessed in a two stage process (EOIs proceeding to full applications) by a panel of peers against the Assessment Criteria:

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

## ASSESSMENT FEEDBACK

The panel was pleased to see a high number of projects that demonstrated active engagement with Aboriginal people and communities, and encourages future applicants to consider engagement with other priority areas, particularly disability and culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) which were underrepresented.

The artform spread was more limited than in previous years with few applications that focused on visual arts and none submitted for museums or literature. Performing arts was strongly represented, with two thirds of applications having a dance, theatre or music focus. Of these, theatre was the strongest with eight applications submitted. Applications from more diverse art forms in future rounds are encouraged.

The strongest applications were those that spoke to the objectives of the category in addition to addressing the selection criteria. Applications that addressed benefits to all partners engaged in the project and demonstrated innovative approaches to project design were also highly regarded.

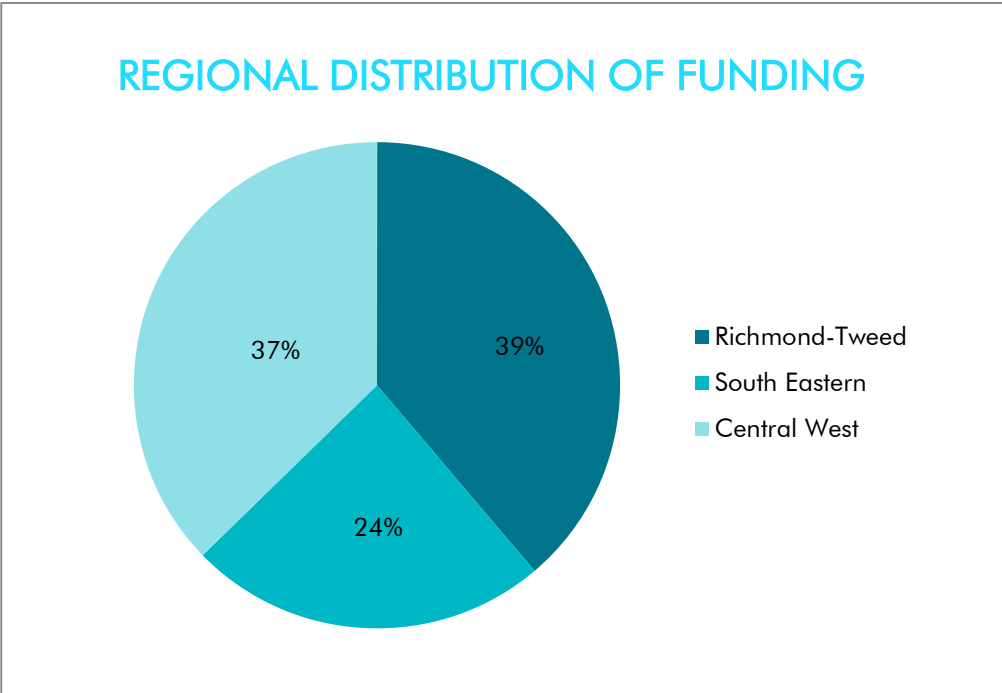
For future rounds, projects that reflect regional identities and seek to provide a bridge between regional and metro arts, and in particular showcase regional arts in metropolitan locations, are encouraged.

With these points in mind, applicants submitting to Regional Partnerships are reminded that:

- evidence and commitment to the partnerships is needed. The strongest partnerships are made when all partners invest in the project, both through cash and in kind support, at a level commensurate with the scale of the project
- applications should clearly articulate what the proposed activities are and how they will be implemented
- project budgets should be as realistic and detailed as possible, including confirmation of other funding sources and appropriate remuneration for regional artists
- the role of all partners should be fully explained, articulating their role in both the delivery and the outcome of the program.

# FUNDING STATISTICS

GRANT CATEGORY	Regional Partnerships
EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST	19
FULL APPLICATIONS REQUESTED	7
FULL APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	7
SUCCESSFUL APPLICATIONS	3
SUCCESS RATE BY APPLICATION	15%
AMOUNT REQUESTED	\$2,535,067
AMOUNT FUNDED	\$386,700



# SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS

## REGIONAL PARTNERSHIPS (2016)

**Northern Rivers Performing Arts (NORPA) (\$150,000)**, 'Bundjalung Nghari - Three Brothers'; a partnership between NORPA, Bundjalung Elders Council, Ngulingah Local Aboriginal Land Council, Northern Rivers Conservatorium, Playwriting Australia and Interrelate Family Centre, to create, produce and present a new and innovative theatre work 'Three Brothers' that will premiere at NORPA in Lismore in 2017.

**Four Winds Concerts Inc (\$92,500)**, 'The Bermagui Project' Stage 2; a creative collaboration between musicians and visual artists, scientists, and the South Coast community which builds on and significantly develops the initial Indigenous phase of this project. It encourages communities to reflect on 'place', inspired by local Indigenous knowledge. The project, which includes music performances and classes, involves the Indigenous community, professional artists, regional artists and young people.

**Orana Arts Inc (\$144,200)**, for 'Staging Stories 2', an intensive program that focuses on Aboriginal plays by regional Aboriginal playwrights, development of regional Aboriginal actors, and creation of new work based on regional Aboriginal stories. The partnership includes Papillion Foundation (Wellington), Casula Powerhouse (Western Sydney), Ngarru Mayin Elders Aboriginal Corporation (Narromine), WPCC (Dubbo), Moogahlin Performing Arts (Redfern) and BMEC (Bathurst and surrounds).