



**Andrew Gee**

Parliamentary Secretary for the Deputy Premier

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Wednesday, 22 July 2015

### **GRANTS AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR ART AND CULTURE IN NSW**

The NSW Liberals & Nationals Government is investing in the State's local community museums and galleries and the professional development of people working in this vibrant sector including artists, staff and volunteers.

Parliamentary Secretary for the Deputy Premier and Minister for the Arts Andrew Gee MP said the Government is committed to boosting the important industry across NSW.

"The NSW Government is proud to announce the successful applicants from the Volunteer Initiated Museums Small Grants Program, Mentorship and Fellowship Program, Volunteer Placements Program, and NSW Artists' Grants Program," Mr Gee said.

"Fourteen small community museum and galleries will share in \$20,000 to support upgrades, enhance collections and improve operations. Staff members will receive grants to undertake mentorships and fellowships at larger or specialised cultural organisations to boost their knowledge.

"More than \$10,000 has also been awarded to eight volunteers across the State for placements for up to ten days to learn new skills such as managing collections, conservation techniques and how to deliver cultural events.

"In addition, seven visual artists have received funding of between \$1,250 and \$2,500 this quarter to further develop their creative vision and give visual arts audiences the opportunity to experience diverse new works.

"The experiences taken from this investment will support the production and promotion of art and culture and better equip staff and volunteers to manage collections and engage with communities all over NSW."

The funding is part of the NSW Government's new *Create in NSW* arts and cultural policy framework that will guide strategy, investment and partnerships to grow a thriving, globally connected arts and cultural sector.

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The Volunteer Initiated Museums Program offers up to \$2,000 for short-term, collection focused projects, skill development and operational planning. The Mentorship and Fellowship Program supports paid staff working in museums and galleries. Mentorships are valued up to \$3,000 and up to \$6,000 is available for fellowships. The funding recipients are:

- **Bega Pioneers Museum (\$1,700)** to enable the museum to engage a timber tools expert, Ralph Hawkins, to work with the Bega Valley Historical Society to identify, catalogue and number the timber planes and carpentry tools of the Thatcher Collection.
- **Bowraville Folk Museum (\$400)** for the museum to buy a de-humidifier for the archive storage room.
- **Colonial Inn Museum, Mudgee (\$900)** for the museum to buy a glass display case.
- **Harper's Mansion, Berrima (\$2,000)** for a display unit for the newly refurbished exhibition room illustrating the life and times of Harper's Mansion. The objects inside include artefacts recently unearthed in an archaeological dig on the property dating back to 1835.
- **Headlie Taylor Header Museum, Henty (\$1,400)** to acquire the Mosaic accessioning program to catalogue the museum's collection of items associated with the construction of the world's first crop harvester by Headlie Taylor in 1914.
- **Kempsey Museum and Cultural Centre (\$1,000)** to buy 'hands on materials' to use in an education program for secondary students.
- **Moruya Museum (\$2,000)** towards the purchase of four wire mannequins for the display of costumes at the museum.
- **Mulwaree High School Remembrance Museum, Goulburn (\$1,200)** to buy two mesh mannequins to showcase military uniforms for the "Soldiers on Parade" display.
- **Norman Lindsay Gallery & Museum, National Trust, Faulconbridge (\$1,000)** for protection of the nationally significant collection of Norman Lindsay through archival material.
- **NSW Lancers Memorial Museum, Parramatta (\$1,000)** to buy two metal display cabinets to replace two old, wooden cabinets.
- **Old Courthouse Museum, Batemans Bay (\$2,000)** for a Significance Assessment of the local agent's shipping ledger (Shoalhaven-Nelligen) of the Illawarra & South Coast Steam Navigation Co., 1869-1875.
- **Port Macquarie Historical Museum (\$2,000)** to buy a lockable display case for use in its temporary exhibition space.
- **Tinonee Museum, (\$1,000)** to buy lighting equipment for five exhibition rooms including a kitchen display room, at the Tinonee Historical Museum.
- **Weethalle Whistle Stop Arts and Crafts and Museum (\$1,900)** for interpretive signage for the machinery collection at the Weethalle Museum. The collection was recently donated by local farmer Bill Browne.
- **Jenny Cheeseman, Auburn (\$6,000)** towards a fellowship at the Dallas Museum of Art, USA, to gain wider professional experience in her role as Arts Coordinator at the Peacock Gallery and Auburn Arts Centre.
- **Michael Hedger, Manly (\$5,700)** towards a fellowship at the National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Korea to examine how the museum planned its redevelopment. Michael will use this knowledge for the upcoming refurbishment of Manly Art Gallery and Museum.

- **Ian Howarth, Broken Hill (\$2,300)** towards a mentorship at the National Centre for Creative Learning, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney, to increase Ian's capacity to create and develop interpretive material and outreach programs at the Broken Hill Regional Art Gallery.
- **Tesha Malott, Woolloomooloo (\$2,300)** towards a mentorship at Gertrude Contemporary, Melbourne to develop her skills in project management, program development, exhibition and studio programs, philanthropy and stakeholder relations. The placement will benefit future planning and governance at Firstdraft Gallery, Woolloomooloo.
- **Erika Taylor, Murwillumbah (\$2,700)** towards a mentorship at the Digital Innovation Labs at the State Library of NSW to help her interpret collections using a digital medium.
- **Zoe Whiting, East Maitland (\$2,800)** towards a mentorship at Port Arthur Historic Site Management Authority, Tasmania to help Zoe develop new ways to engage audiences at Maitland Gaol.

**Museums & Galleries NSW Volunteer Placements Program places volunteers in larger cultural institutions for up to 10 days. The funding recipients are:**

- **Sonia Binks, Huskisson (\$1,940)** for a placement at the Australian Museum to develop conservation skills and storage techniques - for use at Lady Denman Heritage Complex, Orange.
- **Pauline Reynolds-Barff, Gloucester (\$1766)** for placement at the Australian Museum to develop skills in storage and preventative conservation techniques - for use at Gloucester District Historical Society.
- **Heather Thompson, Queanbeyan (\$1650)** for placement at the Australian Museum to learn about collection management techniques such as cyclical maintenance, risk assessment and improved pest control - for use at Queanbeyan and District Historical Museum Society.
- **Lloyd Beresford-Maning, Nambucca (\$1,320)** for a placement at Newcastle Museum to improve skills in designing exhibitions, signage and museum marketing - for use at Frank Partridge V.C Military Museum at Bowraville.
- **Tracey Morris, Adaminaby (\$990)** for placement at National Museum of Australia to develop skills in preserving and storing documents and significant objects – for use at Snowy Scheme Museum, Adaminaby.
- **Lisa Chidlow, Orange (\$1,290)** for a placement at State Records of NSW to gain skills in cataloguing, storage, preservation and information technology - for use at Orange RSL Museum.
- **Frederick Finn, Lithgow (\$460)** for a placement at the Australian Museum to develop skills in object storage, conservation and condition reporting - for use at Eskbank House, Lithgow.
- **Sue Fulton, Blue Mountains (\$631)** for a placement at State Records of NSW to improve skills in paper conservation, cataloguing, indexing and digitising paper-based collections - for use at Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum.

**The NSW Artists' Grants Program is administered four times per year by the National Association for the Visual Arts. The artists who will receive grants are:**

- **Rebecca Conroy, Summer Hill (\$1,250)** to develop *Dating an Economist*, a sound installation featuring dinner dates with radical economists.
- **Annemaree Dalziel, Mittagong (\$2,500)** for an exhibition of video installation and performance at Margaret Lawrence Gallery, Victorian College of the Arts.
- **Bonita Ely, Marrickville (\$1,250)** to develop *Interior Decoration*, which examines the impacts of post-traumatic stress disorder on war veterans' families, to be displayed in Mildura for 2015 Palimpsest Biennale.
- **Jay-Dea Lopez, Main Arm (\$1,250)** to develop *Auditory Visions* at Lismore Regional Gallery, featuring seven prominent printmakers whose works will be interpreted through soundscapes.
- **Emily Parsons-Lord, Newtown (\$1,250)** for a performance piece exploring the Earth's evolution, to be presented at Underbelly Arts Festival 2015.
- **Justin Shoulder, Summer Hill (\$2,500)** to develop a video installation about Filipino mythological stories relating to the concept of queering.
- **Danielle Zorbas, Erskineville (\$2,500)** for a video art installation project by artists/curators Danielle Zorbas, Sophie Kitson and Angela Carrick. *Island Salon* will unite more than 100 female artists for a cinema installation at Underbelly Arts Festival 2015.