



Troy Grant
Deputy Premier of NSW
Minister for Justice and Police
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MEDIA RELEASE

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NSW GOVERNMENT BUILDS UP REGIONAL ART

The NSW Government will provide almost \$385,000 to support 10 arts and cultural capital works projects across regional NSW, Deputy Premier and Minister for the Arts Troy Grant said today.

The projects are being funded on a dollar-for-dollar basis with local organisations under the NSW Government's Regional Capital program, which supports capital works projects and equipment used for arts and cultural purposes.

"Arts and cultural facilities are the lifeblood of many regional communities, providing opportunities for people to engage with a range of art forms and local history," Mr Grant said.

"I've been privileged to see first-hand many of the successful recipients' facilities recently and I urge everyone across NSW to get involved in the terrific offerings our regions have available.

"This investment showcases our commitment to developing thriving local art scenes and ensuring people can experience cultural activities no matter where they live," Mr Grant said.

Regional NSW is a priority area under the Government's new *Create in NSW* 10-year policy framework that guides strategy, investment and partnerships to grow a thriving, globally connected arts and cultural sector.

Projects funded are:

Cootamundra Creative Arts Inc (\$20,000) to enhance the Cootamundra Arts Centre with the installation of climate control and lighting systems as well the extension of storage space. The works will enable the Centre to be made available to the community year round for a range of arts and cultural activities including programs for Aboriginal people, young people and people with disability.

Dubbo City Council (\$60,000) to refurbish the studio in the Community Arts Centre of the Western Plains Cultural Centre into a 'black box' theatre. The project fulfils a need for a space in the region to host small scale and experimental productions. The theatre will be for community and professional use and showcase new Aboriginal theatre works and young people's theatre projects.

fLiNG Physical Theatre Inc (\$16,000) in Bega for the purchase staging and production equipment. The equipment will support fLiNG to tour to other regional centres, schools as well as providing a resource for other organisations to hire. The project provides

opportunities for young people to engage and participate in quality arts and cultural activities.

Flying Fruit Fly Foundation Ltd (\$9,700) in Albury for the installation of new fittings for a training space, and improved storage solutions. The project will help expand the use of the training and rehearsal floors for circus arts sessions running concurrently and provide safe storage of equipment, props and in particular valuable items in the Flying Fruit Fly Circus national archive.

Goulburn Mulwaree Council (\$46,500) to upgrade the lighting in the Goulburn Regional Art Gallery to achieve best industry standard lighting for exhibitions. This will be achieved by removal of existing lighting tracks and replacement with a suspended universal light system and upgrade lights to energy efficient LED luminaires.

Inverell Art Society Inc (\$30,000) to install air conditioning and solar electricity at Inverell Art Gallery. This project will improve the Gallery's ability to house collections, run exhibitions and will secure long term cost saving, allowing the Gallery to deliver additional visual art workshops for Aboriginal people and young people.

Moree Cultural Art Foundation (\$27,500) for the upgrade of the Moree Plains Art Gallery's air-conditioning system. The project will help preserve the Gallery's heritage building, increase energy efficiency and install humidity control to better protect sensitive collection material, including significant Aboriginal heritage items and artworks. Securing the preservation of collections will ensure the local Kamilaroi community can regularly view and engage with their artistic and cultural heritage.

Morundah Bush Entertainment Committee Incorporated (\$60,000) for the Morundah Arts Centre towards the addition of a green room, stage lighting and assistance with the fit out of a new permanent 350 seat theatre. It will deliver an attractive, modern and purpose-built arts and community space that can also host touring events and artists. The facility will also allow the Centre to strengthen its ongoing education programs for young people.

New England Regional Art Museum Limited (\$60,000) for energy efficient LED light fittings for the museum in Armidale. The project will improve conservation needs for displaying artworks from the Museum's historic art collections and visiting exhibitions, as well as providing an improved visitor experience for tourists and regional audiences.

Orange City Council (\$54,500) for refurbishment of the Orange Regional Gallery. The project includes improvements to flooring, main reception and removal of furnishings to create greater exhibition space. The refurbishment coincides with the launch of the neighbouring Orange Regional Museum and increased visitation to the precinct. The improvements will support the Gallery to host exhibitions of international significance as well as ongoing programs for young people and people with disability.

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