



THE HON PAUL FLETCHER MP

Minister for Communications, Urban Infrastructure, Cities and the Arts

MEDIA RELEASE

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Reigniting arts festivals across regional Australia

The Morrison Government is continuing to reactivate the arts and cultural sector in regional Australia, with 25 projects set to share in more than \$870,000, under Round 12 of the Festivals Australia program.

Minister for Communications, Urban Infrastructure, Cities and the Arts, the Hon Paul Fletcher MP, said the Festivals Australia program celebrates cultural projects and helps make them available to regional audiences across the country.

“The latest round of funding will support 25 diverse projects spanning music, theatre and visual arts – a strong reflection on Australia’s diverse arts sector which will help attract tourists and bring communities together,” Minister Fletcher said.

“We know that regional and remote artists, organisations and communities have been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, which is why we’re continuing to deliver record financial assistance to support their recovery.”

Creative Economy Taskforce Chair and Director of the Museum of Contemporary Art, Ms Liz Ann Macgregor, said the funding will generate considerable benefits for Australia’s regional economies, especially given the ongoing impacts and uncertainty of COVID-19.

“The impact of this funding will go beyond festivals, as such events are a significant tourism driver for regions,” Ms Macgregor said.

“Research shows that attending events such as a festival or cultural event is the main reason for visiting a regional area for 57 per cent of first-time visitors. There will be extensive flow-on employment and economic benefits to local businesses, as well as for the cultural and creative sector.”

The Morrison Government is investing more than \$1 billion into the arts and creative sector through a diverse range of programs in 2021-22. The Festivals Australia program supports arts projects that invite community participation and audience engagement at festivals across the country.

For more information on the Festivals Australia program, visit: <http://www.arts.gov.au/festivals-australia>

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The successful projects of Round 12 of the Festivals Australia program are listed below:

Organisation	Project Name	Activity Description	Funding
Vision Splendid Outback Film Festival Inc.	KOA, it's time!	An Indigenous arts, video and digital project involving the creation and filming of an artwork on the side of the Royal Open-Air Theatre. The documentary style film will also include stories from KOA elders.	\$40,000
Sunshine Coast Regional Council	Horizon Open Air Hinterland	A series of live music performances where local and visiting audiences can come together to experience outdoor concerts by Queensland based artists, including First Nations artists.	\$44,000
Nintiringanyi Indigenous Corporation	The Murama Experience	Three outdoor events focusing on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history and culture will connect and showcase emerging Indigenous youth and leaders, and present a collaborative theatre performance.	\$40,000
Creswick Neighbourhood Centre Inc.	Brass and Bollywood Breakfast @Cresfest	An outdoor gathering of music and dance bringing together the Creswick Brass Band, a Creswick Street Band, and the Sapphire and Creswick Bollywood dancers.	\$14,520
Modern Art Projects Blue Mountains	Carnivale Catastrophe	Eight artists will create artworks in collaboration with community organisations affected by the 2019/2020 bushfires. The resultant exhibition will allow frontline workers and volunteers to examine post experience care and the process of recovery.	\$38,936
Woolgoolga and Northern Beaches Chamber of Commerce	Hip Hop at Curryfest	L-Fresh the Lion, a well-known Sydney-based hip hop artist of Sikh heritage (Sukhdeep Singh Bhogal), will feature in a special show the evening before the festival.	\$23,321
The Alice Springs Meeting Place Foundation Ltd	Meeting Place Foundation Youth Program in collaboration with Desert Song Festival 2021	A multi-faceted project based around music, visual arts, and mentoring that is aimed at growing skills and confidence of alienated youth in Alice Springs and reconnect them with their heritage through art.	\$65,000
ACT Natimuk - Nati Frinj Biennale	Bamboo: Exquisite	The creation of three bamboo structures - Tower, Forest and Apart Together- for the performance of various site specific art forms including high lining and aerial performance, movement exploration, dance and shadow play.	\$64,200
Sean Le Rossignol Pty Ltd	The First People of Pangaea	An Indigenous artistic and cultural program of performances and interactive workshops by professional and emerging Australian Indigenous artists including Yothu Yindi, Baker Boy, Miiesha, and local Tasmanian Indigenous artists.	\$60,000
Near North Festivals	Laughable - The Great Comedy Competition	A project manager, workshop facilitators and performers will be engaged to support a series of three workshops and competition heats promoting local emerging comedic performers.	\$10,900
Four Winds Concerts Inc.	Four Winds Spring Youth Music Festival	A digital showcase of performances featuring talented young people performing to a live audience in the Windsong Pavilion. Each	\$15,600

	Digital Showcase	performance will be filmed and uploaded onto a website as a Digital Festival.	
City of Karratha	Puppets of the Pilbara	A community engagement and skills development project with puppetry and mask making workshops in schools and community venues culminating in the performance of the Ngurra Nyujunggamu (Yindjibarndi Puppet Creation Stories) by Juluwarlu Group Aboriginal Corporation	\$129,421
Whitsundays Arts Festival Inc.	Performing Arts at the 2021 Whitsundays Arts Festival	A multi-faceted performing arts package exploring contemporary dance movement, outdoor theatre, Puppet Theatre and music master classes with local emerging bands and local high schools.	\$16,015
FABalice Festival Inc.	FABalice Festival Performer Partnership	Ms Courtney Act, a nationally recognised Australian drag queen will conduct workshops for youth dealing with sexuality and diversity issues, MC the FABalice fashion parade and perform as a key artist at the Carnivale gala night.	\$30,000
Event Connection Pty Ltd	Tasmanian Disability Festival Art Prize	An art competition free to enter and open to all people over the age of 18 living with disability who reside in Tasmania. All visual art mediums will be accepted.	\$8,500
Gulargambone Community Enterprises Co-operative (Auspiced by two eight two eight)	Billboard Street Art	Three large outdoor panels will be constructed for invited street artists to paint murals responding to the theme of the festival. Both sides of the panels will be painted to maximise exposure to walkers as well as street traffic.	\$36,000
Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre	The Hidden Creatures Gallery	An outdoor street animation will activate the route between the three festival venues, the library, regional gallery and entertainment centre. The animation will be integrated with community digital augmented reality workshops.	\$39,000
Adelaide Film Festival	Curate Your Own Festival 2021	Four aspiring film curators from regional South Australian towns will be given professional development opportunities to produce a mini international film festival in their community.	\$24,450
City of Albany	Noongar Menang Cultural Hub	An inclusive program of cultural experiences by local Noongar people showcasing Albany's Indigenous arts and culture through dance, language, storytelling, painting, carving and weaving workshops, and a series of Indigenous short film screenings.	\$40,000
Fish Creek Carnival (Auspiced by Manna Gum Community House)	Fish Parade	Visual artists, musicians, and professional acrobats will collaborate with the community to prepare costumes, floats, music and circus performances for a parade through the town.	\$31,000
Port Fairy Folk Festival Committee Inc.	Port Fairy Folk Festival – Local Emerging Artists Development Program	A development opportunity for 10 emerging local musicians to learn, work, collaborate and perform with established artists. Each artist will be given two performance opportunities at the festival.	\$20,000

Hahndorf Winter Lantern Festival Inc.	HWLF community Workshop programme	Seven weeks of community, visual arts and music workshops. The workshops will employ five artists, a musician and an arts worker to run lantern making and music workshops targeting families and children.	\$12,000
Townsville Intercultural Centre Ltd	Meet and Greet the Giant Talking Cockatoo	The Giant Talking Cockatoo will travel in the region, delivering up to 15 workshops of multicultural celebrations involving food, art, performance and culturally specific activities.	\$33,000
Manjimup Cherry Harmony Festival	Festival Arts Project	The Boorna Waanginy: The Trees Speak sound and light show highlights the Nyoongar culture and will be projected onto trees in the Manjimup Heritage Park.	\$12,000
Moura Coal and Country Festival Association Inc.	50th year anniversary concert	A 50th year anniversary concert celebrating community cohesion, industry and agriculture as part of the festival program.	\$25,418