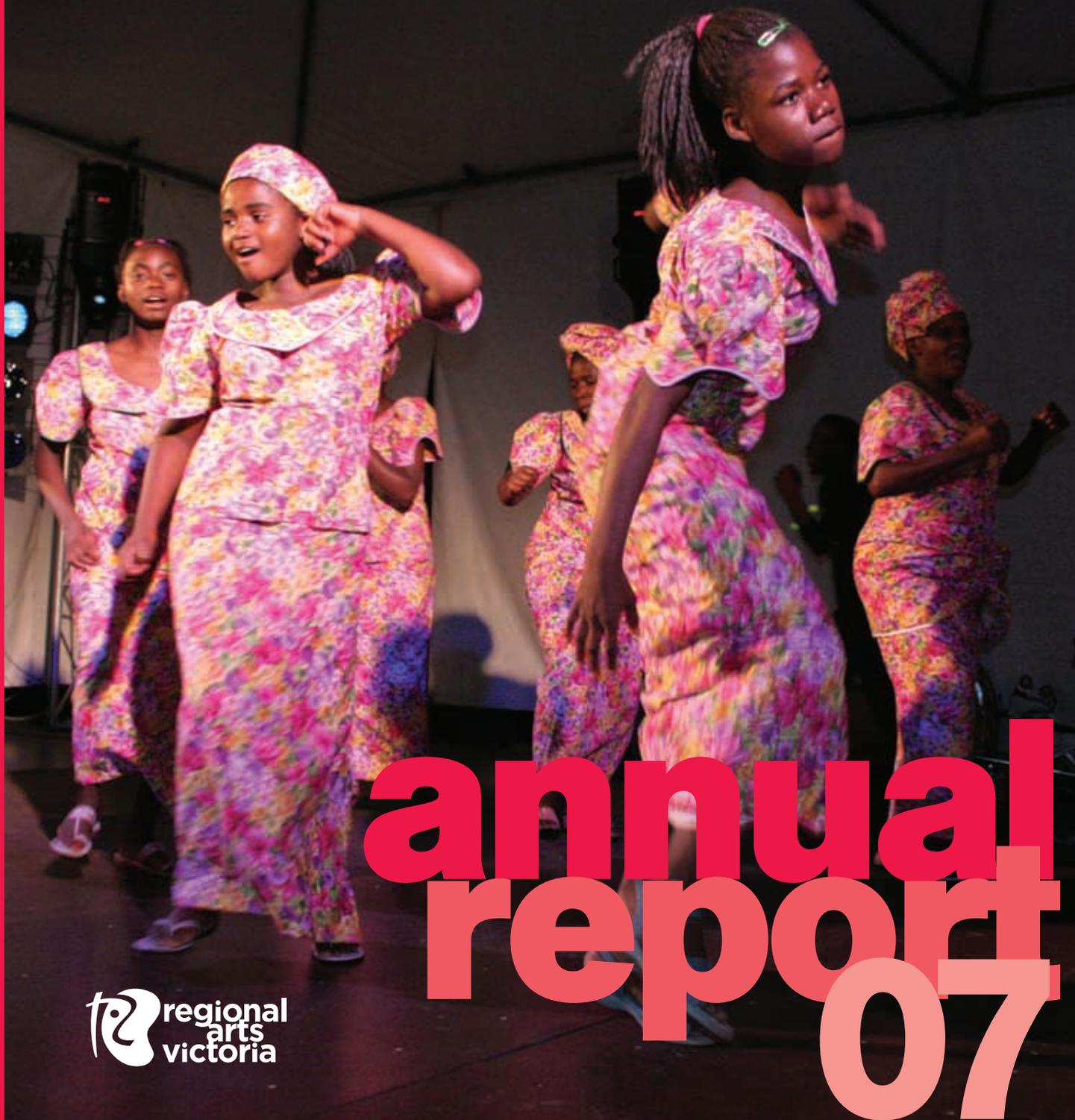


regionalartsvictoria
annualreport
2007



annual report 07

**Regional Arts
Victoria initiates,
facilitates and
celebrates the arts
in regional Victoria.**

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Front cover: The Congolese Dance Group perform at the 2007 SheppARTon Festival. Photo: Soc Hedditch

Back cover: Internationally and locally acclaimed artists-in-residence, Snuff Puppets, worked with local artists and community volunteers in the Wimmera to create large puppet farm animals and characters for the Horsham Show, the St Arnaud Show, the Hopetoun Show, the Dimboola Show and the Awakenings Festival all held in October 2007.

Important note for Indigenous readers

Regional Arts Victoria respects Indigenous cultural protocol. To many communities, it is distressful and offensive to depict persons who have died. Indigenous communities are advised that this publication may contain such images.



Image: Artists Vicki Couzens (left) and Carmel Wallace (right) creating a large stone environmental sculpture at Kurtonitj as part of *Fresh & Salty*. For more information on *Fresh & Salty* in South West Victoria see page 26.

Photo: Bindi Cole

objectives and programs

OBJECTIVES + PROGRAMS

What we do

Creative Communities Victoria facilitates community cultural development, networks, programs and projects.

arts2GO takes the best of the performing arts to schools in outer metropolitan, regional and rural Victoria.

Arts Across Victoria takes high quality and diverse art forms to communities in outer metropolitan, regional and rural Victoria.

Our projects are an ever-changing and energetic palette of activities that embrace, celebrate, extend, challenge and enhance all our work.

How we do this

Work with artists and regional communities to create high-quality art

Play a major role in developing regional arts networks, tours, projects, programs, skills development and funding

Provide leadership and support to our networks in regional Victoria

Celebrate the diversity of cultural experience in regional Victoria

Collaborate with partners in business, local, state and federal government, sponsors and education organisations

Strive for excellence through benchmarking and continuous improvement processes

What guides us

Traditions

- > RAV values the traditional heritage of the land, both Indigenous and non-Indigenous through our expression of contemporary cultural life.
- > *Our programs respect local heritage. We acknowledge the traditional owners of the land, the custodians for many centuries, who perform age-old ceremonies of celebration, initiation and renewal.*

Contemporary practice

- > RAV values contemporary arts practice and thinking in all its forms, and ideas and inspiration that flow from innovative art and artists willing to take risks with their work.
- > *We explore new ways for artists and communities to work together to create and experience art.*

Responsiveness

- > RAV values sensitivity and responsiveness as key principles in supporting local communities in the expression of cultural identity.
- > *Our programs respond to the needs and expectations of our membership, our constituents and our partners so that they can fulfil their own aspirations for a rich and reflective cultural life.*

Connectedness

- > RAV values its strong connections to communities in regional Victoria and to communities of arts practitioners.
- > *We provide networks connecting artists and communities across Victoria.*

Respecting Diversity

- > RAV values diversity in individuals, communities and arts practice and their involvement in all the work of RAV.
- > *We give voice to artists within their communities and within their arts practice. We engage communities and individuals in cultural activity in meaningful and respectful ways, in particular Indigenous communities.*

Leadership

- > RAV values artistic and community leadership and will support its members, staff, regional artists, community members and other arts organisations to take leadership roles in regional arts development.
- > *Our programs leave a residue of skills, experience and confidence in communities. RAV plays an active role advocating for regional arts at all levels of government and in other forums.*

Sustainability

- > RAV values the long-term viability of regional communities and supports this through sustainable arts and cultural development strategies.
- > *RAV will engage with young people, both as audience members and as practitioners. Our programs will continue to build capacity in regional communities.*



Image: Film Animator Dave Jones with one of the creations that feature in the *Fresh & Salty* animation. For more information on *Fresh & Salty* in the Wimmera see page 26.

Photo: David Fletcher

meet our people

RAV PEOPLE 2007

Board of Directors

The RAV Board comprises 12 members, 8 of whom are directly elected by the membership of local arts groups. The elected members co-opt 4 additional members to balance the skill levels of the Board. The Board members for 2007 were:

Mike Zafiroopoulos	Chairman – Co-opted
Karen Paton	Vice-Chair Western Region
Dennis Goldner	Treasurer – Co-opted
Malcolm McKinnon	Secretary – Co-opted
Rob Robson	Executive Officer General Director
Ross Lake	General Director
Andrea Lane	Gippsland Director
Gizelle Regan	General Director
Carolynne Hamdorf	General Director
Esmail Manahan	Co-opted
Jude Anderson	General Director
Mark Selkrig	Central Director

Farewell to retiring Board members

At the 2007 AGM RAV farewelled two longstanding board members, who between them had served 10 years on the RAV Board. We would like to again say goodbye and thank you to **Tamara Marwood** who retired after four years and **Catherine Larkins** after six.

2007 Staff

Lindy Allen
Director

Susan Strano
Manager, Creative Communities Victoria

Mary Booth
Business Manager

Roderick Poole
Program Manager, Arts Across Victoria (from March 07)

Hellene Workman
Program Officer, Creative Communities Victoria
Acting Program Manager, **arts2GO** (from November 07)

Kate Gerritsen
Communications Manager

Kane Forbes
Program Coordinator, Arts Across Victoria (from August 07)

Kate Fay
Program Officer, **arts2GO** (from April 07)

Keira McDonagh
Program Officer, Arts Across Victoria
Program Officer, Creative Communities Victoria (from November 07)

Zoe Wall
Marketing Officer, Arts Across Victoria

Laura Levitus
Program Assistant, arts2GO

Kate Andrews
Administrative Officer

Liz Duthie
Swan Hill Regional Arts Development Officer

Verity Higgins
Ballarat Regional Arts Development Officer

Marion Matthews
Wimmera Regional Arts Development Officer

Deb Milligan
Wellington Regional Arts Development Officer

Jo Grant
Moyne/Glenelg Regional Arts
Development Officer

Robbi Neal
Surf Coast/Golden Plains Regional Arts
Development Officer

Liz Webb (from December 07)
Mansfield/Mt Buller Regional Arts
Development Officer

Non-current Staff

Robin Penty
Program Manager, **arts2GO** (to November 07)

Sally Jasper
Program Manager, Arts Across Victoria
(to March 07)

Kevin de Zilva
Program Coordinator, Arts Across Victoria
(to August 07)

Artistic Advisor

Donna Jackson

From the chair

FROM THE CHAIR MIKE ZAFIROPOULOS



In delivering my fifth report as Chair of the Board of Regional Arts Victoria, I'm able to reflect with pride on the organisation's ability to continually push the boundaries, build on previous achievements and take on new challenges. In 2007, our first international artists' collaboration project, *Common Ground*, saw the final three collaborative installations in Lakes Entrance, Shepparton and Horsham completed. Our Regional Arts Development Officer network embarked on delivering the state-wide water project *Fresh & Salty*, which uses the previously successful RAV developed state-wide model to embed artists with non-arts organisations to create community projects that raise awareness about our most pressing regional issues, water, or our lack of it. This year, *Fresh & Salty* included a 30 minute animated film about the Wimmera River in partnership with the Wimmera Catchment Management Authority and created a giant stone sculpture based on a traditional eel-trap, on Aboriginal land at Kurtonitj in South-West Victoria, in partnership with Winda Mara Aboriginal Corporation. RAV continues to demonstrate new ways in which the arts can assist regional communities to deal with dramatic social and environmental change.

In 2007 our Regional Cultural Partnership Program reached its full complement of seven officers, supported by twelve local government authorities and three independent organisations. Our RADOs worked with a diverse range of local cultural organisations and individual artists, developing cultural strategies and plans, identifying funding and training opportunities, promoting our delivery of the Commonwealth Government initiative, the Regional Arts Fund and other government programs including those offered by Arts Victoria and the Australia Council, and assisting local celebrations, festivals, workshops and volunteer touring. We completed an evaluation of this program, in partnership with RMIT's Globalism Institute, which clearly demonstrates the immense impact and value of investing in people on the ground supporting community cultural activity. We will launch this research in 2008 as we embark on a campaign to ensure this network of RADOs can be sustainable supported into the future.

In 2007, Alcoa continued as Program Partner to our in-schools touring program **arts2GO**, supporting the commissioning of *The Best Little Town in the World* by Zeal Theatre. This production also received support from the Australian Children's Theatre Foundation, which also provides much-needed ticket subsidies for students from remote and disadvantaged primary schools. We will continue to work with both organisations to ensure we meet their objectives whilst continuing to deliver a quality program to primary and secondary students throughout Victoria.

Our touring program Arts Across Victoria has played an active role in state and national touring. RAV staff participated in an historic national forum into the future of touring, co-hosted by Regional Arts Australia and the Australasian Association of Performing Arts Centres, which resulted in a widely-endorsed proposal for national co-ordination support for the Blue Heeler Network, which was submitted to the Federal Minister for the Arts in late 2007.

RAV has continued to play an important role as part of the federation of state-based regional arts organisations, Regional Arts Australia. RAA has focussed much effort on evaluating its members' management of the Regional Arts Fund, which lapses in June 2008, and advocating for its continuation. RAA continues to talk to Federal Government about how the aspirations of regionally-based artists and organisations can be better-resourced in relation to access to funding, training and touring programs that support both professionally-managed venues and remote venues that are mostly managed by volunteers.

This organisation is fortunate to have a committed and hard-working complement of staff, working under the direction of our CEO Lindy Allen, which enables the Board to think about the big picture. A Board planning session held early in the year affirmed our long-term commitment to building community capacity through a vibrant program of innovative, inclusive projects and other activities.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to my colleagues on the Board for their time, wisdom and guidance. This year at our AGM we will say farewell to Central Area Director Mark Selkrig who has been a member of the Board since 2002. Mark has been a passionate advocate for the central part of the state and also for the needs of artists living and working in regional Victoria. During 2007, we welcomed to our ranks as General Directors Jude Anderson, a practising artist based in Castlemaine and Gizelle Regan, from Mallacoota. Gizelle later resigned following a move overseas.

Lastly, our achievements of 2007 would not be possible without the continued dedication of the thousands of volunteers throughout regional Victoria who have worked with over one hundred RAV Group Members. You ensure our important stories are shared and our culture celebrated.



DIRECTOR'S REPORT

LINDY ALLEN

from the director

2007 has been a year of consolidation and hard work in all three of our core programs. *Common Ground*, a project supported by the Regional Arts Fund, Arts Victoria, the Australia Indonesia Institute and Asialink, completed its final three festival collaborations in Lakes Entrance, Shepparton and Horsham, all three teasing out the ways in which an Indonesian approach to celebration enables the genuine and meaningful engagement of culturally diverse sectors of the community, creating hitherto unexplored avenues for local cultural expression. An audience member in Lakes Entrance later wrote, "I realised that this was the first time I had ever shared a meal in a mixed group of Aboriginal and European Australians – I am 60 years old. I've missed so much."

Under the expert guidance of our Artistic Advisor Donna Jackson, our Creative Communities Victoria (CCV) team developed a new project *Fresh & Salty*, an umbrella project that enabled our fabulous team of regionally-based RADOs to work with non-arts organisations drawing focus to the critical issue of water and demonstrating how arts practice can be used to assist regional communities to deal with forced change. CCV also worked closely with Martin Mulligan and Pia Smith from RMIT's Globalism Institute to evaluate RAV's unique model for the provision of RADO services to regional communities in partnership with local government and other interested organisations. This invaluable work will help RAV construct its case for the continuation of this network beyond its current funded period. Thankyou to each and every one of our RADOs for the stunning work you do as our shopfronts in seven locations across the state.

In February 2007, we bid farewell to our Arts Across Victoria (AAV) Program Manager Sally Jasper, who bought a one way ticket to London. AAV Program Co-ordinator Kevin de Zilva continued this theme in August, moving his young family in the same direction. After two years curating an excellent, high-quality annual program, our **arts2GO** Program Manager Robin Penty accepted an appointment at the Arts Centre commencing there in November 2007. I thank Hellene Workman who has acted in the Manager role since Robin's departure and also Laura Levitus who has assisted the **arts2GO** program on a casual basis during 2007. We have been very fortunate to recruit to our ranks, as AAV Program Manager, Roderick Poole, founder and Artistic Director of *Strange Fruit*. Roderick brings a solid understanding of all aspects of tour development and delivery and has been warmly welcomed by all RAV's stakeholders. Kate Fay joined our **arts2GO** team as Program Officer following an internal restructure and Kane Forbes, a former theatre technician and event manager from New Zealand, joined AAV as Program Co-ordinator in August. Following an expressions-of-interest process and successful negotiation with partners, Mansfield Shire Council and Mt Sterling-Mt Buller Alpine Management Board, we appointed Liz Webb as our seventh RADO in November.

With support from the Commonwealth Regional Arts Fund, RAV's Communications Manager Kate Gerritsen has produced two excellent hard copy issues of **Groundwork** and eleven e-news bulletins, all showcasing the rich and beautiful work of regional artists and organisations in Victoria.

My particular thanks are extended to Business Manager Mary Booth for her dedication to the detailed management our finances, the Audit Committee for their firm guidance and long-term vision and also to Creative Communities Program Manager Susan Strano who demonstrates the often mutually-exclusive talents for order and leadership in a role that encompasses so much of RAV's day-to-day interaction with our membership and our key stakeholders.

RAV is an exceptional organisation, with a dedicated and visionary board and committed staff who all go home knowing the world is a better place for their efforts – art is not the oil in the engine of our social and civic life, it is the engine itself – without it all we have is a rear vision mirror and a bit of faded duco. Long may the engine hum.



Image: Arts Across Victoria toured Chambermade's *Phobia* to seven towns across Australia in 2007.
Photo: Jon Green

REGIONAL ARTS VICTORIA'S THEATRE TOURING PROGRAM

RODERICK POOLE – PROGRAM MANAGER

arts across victoria

“The *Shape of Things* national tour... gave a much greater audience access to the company’s work and in turn gave Red Stitch exposure outside its traditional Melbourne market – through both publicity and promotion and positive word of mouth. The resounding success of the tour has helped form a strong foundation for future touring with RAV and Playing Australia.”

David Whiteley
Artistic Director, *Red Stitch Actors Theatre*

Arts Across Victoria works to bring together producers and presenters of performing arts with the aim of developing and delivering tours throughout Victoria and Australia. In doing so, it ensures that:

- > Audiences are given access to a diverse range of high-quality and professional performing arts productions
- > Producers (companies and artists that create the productions) are given the opportunity to reach a broader range of audiences and extend the life of their work
- > Presenters (venue managers) are given access to a range of professional productions for their programs

In order to develop tours, AAV is actively involved in a number of key industry events and programs that promote the work of Victorian producers. These include:

- > Membership of the Blue Heeler National Touring Network which runs Cyberpaddock, the Long Paddock national touring forum and several other programs aimed at improving and further developing the national performing arts touring industry
- > Co-hosting, with the Victorian Association of Performing Arts Centres (VAPAC), Showcase Victoria, a two day annual event showcasing the works of up to 50 Victorian producers
- > Hosting producer development forums in Victoria and Tasmania to introduce and update producers on touring mechanisms at all levels
- > Providing one-on-one advice to producers developing work with the aim of touring
- > Applying for tour funding on behalf of producers for state and national tours

2007 was a consolidation year for the AAV program. The previous year the program had expanded significantly with a staff increase taking the team from two to four people. This prompted the development of a detailed Strategic Plan, outlining a three year vision for improved services to both presenters and producers and an increased volume of touring overall. AAV also decided to re-engage with small and volunteer presenters in Victoria and develop a program of touring specifically for these venues.

In 2007:

- > AAV tours were attended by a total of 20,950 people
- > The AAV touring program delivered 102 performances throughout Australia
- > 66 artists were directly involved in AAV tours

The AAV program continued to be guided by the Touring Consultative Committee, a sub-committee of the RAV Board, made up of large and small presenter representatives and producers charged with overseeing the relationship between AAV and the wider industry. Members of the Touring Consultative Committee during 2007 were:

- > **Kaz Paton**
RAV Board member
- > **Rob Robson**
RAV Board member
- > **Robina Burton**
General Manager, ChamberMade
- > **Kath Melbourne**
Creative Producer, Melbourne Fringe Festival
- > **Bernadette Haldane**
General Manager, HotHouse Theatre
- > **Sharron Batt**
Coordinator, RuffArtz
- > **James Buick**
Manager, Clocktower Centre
- > **Karl Hatton**
Cultural Services Officer, Glenelg Shire Council
- > **Greg McGrath**
Manager, West Gippsland Arts Centre
- > **Mary Souness**
Just Shows to Go

Long Paddock 17-18 September 2007

For the first time in 4 years, AAV hosted the national touring forum, Long Paddock. The two-day event was held in Launceston, in the wonderfully ornate Princess Theatre and was attended by over 100 presenters from every Australian state and territory. Twenty-five producers were given the opportunity to "pitch" their productions and these appearances will likely lead to around a dozen national tours in 2009, funded by Playing Australia. AAV has been chosen to host the next Long Paddock taking place in Melbourne in April 2008.

The Blue Heeler Network

Touring Coordinators from four states make up the Blue Heeler Network. As well as developing and delivering national tours, the network meets regularly to discuss touring mechanisms and policy. This year it launched a new version of the online promotional site, www.cyberpaddock.com.au, improving its interface and expanding its features. The network is also in the process of developing standardised contracts across the industry and an online touring calendar. Towards the end of the year the network formalised its status as a body auspiced by Regional Arts Australia.

Showcase Victoria 2-3 May 2007

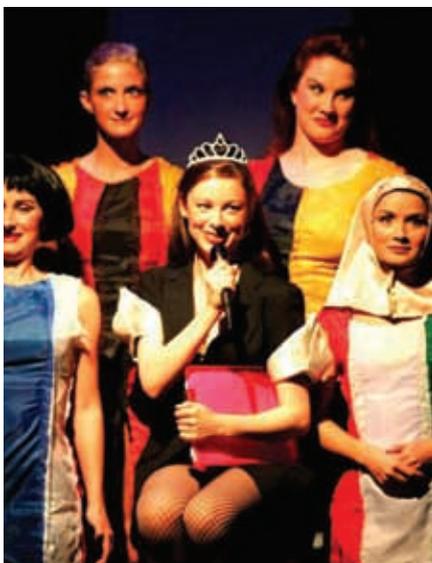
Once again, the premier Victorian promotional event hosted by AAV was Showcase Victoria. Run in partnership with the Victorian Association of Performing Arts Centres (VAPAC), this was another opportunity for producers to present examples of their work to presenters, this time with a view to developing Victorian tours. This year's event involved 20 producers performing live excerpts of their work to presenters from all around Victoria and a further 20 pitching directly to presenters during the Expo Session. Four Victorian tours for 2008 resulted directly from Showcase and many other producers received offers for short seasons and one-off performances.

Arts Across Victoria would like to thank the members of the 2007 Showcase Victoria selection panel for their significant input into the event:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| > Crusader Hillis | Gasworks Arts Park |
| > Ken Cameron | Hamilton Performing Arts Centre |
| > Janice Haynes | Her Majesty's Theatre, Ballarat |
| > Kath Melbourne | Melbourne Fringe |
| > Martin Karklins | Alexander Theatre, Monash |
| > Valentina Maxwell-Tansley | Whitehorse Centre |
| > Jade Webber | Drum Theatre, Dandenong |

thank you

Arts Across Victoria would like to thank Arts Victoria and Playing Australia for the financial support received towards the tours included in our 2007 program. We would also like to warmly thank industry partners VAPAC, APACA and members of the Blue Heeler Network, the producers, artists and production crew who have worked with us throughout the year and the performing arts centres, volunteer presenter groups and shire councils. These key program stakeholders, along with our dedicated staff, have brought great energy and commitment to the Arts Across Victoria program throughout 2007, allowing us to collectively challenge, inspire and entertain audiences across Australia.



Virgins – A Musical Threesome

Dean Bryant Productions

(Victorian Tour – March)

Audiences met a group of virgins fighting the plague of unmarried teen sex, logged on with a journalist exploring the world of internet porn and cast a vote for a favourite Refugee Idol. The girls took us there through the power of song and dance. This was a lively, edgy, contemporary Australian musical, performed with verve and attitude.

This project was funded by the Victorian Government, through Arts Victoria and the Community Support Fund.

Photo: Jeff Busby



A Local Man

Keep Breathing Productions

(Victorian Tour – March to April)

Ben Chifley has been called Australia's best-loved Prime Minister. His life story, from humble engine driver to national leader, has become one of Australia's iconic legends. This play showed us the man behind the politician. *A Local Man* was a poignant and powerful portrayal of a great Australian. Written by Bob Ellis and Robin McLachlan and starring award-winning actor Tony Barry.

This project was funded by the Victorian Government, through Arts Victoria and the Community Support Fund.



Phobia

ChamberMade

(National Tour – April to May)

Phobia paid homage to the Hollywood Foley artists whose ingenuity helped create the great film noir soundtracks of the 1950s and 60s. Taking place on a stylised sound set where every prop became an instrument, *Phobia's* performers wove a narrative of tension and intrigue through music and effects.

This project was funded by the Australian Government, through the Playing Australia program.

Photo: Jeff Busby



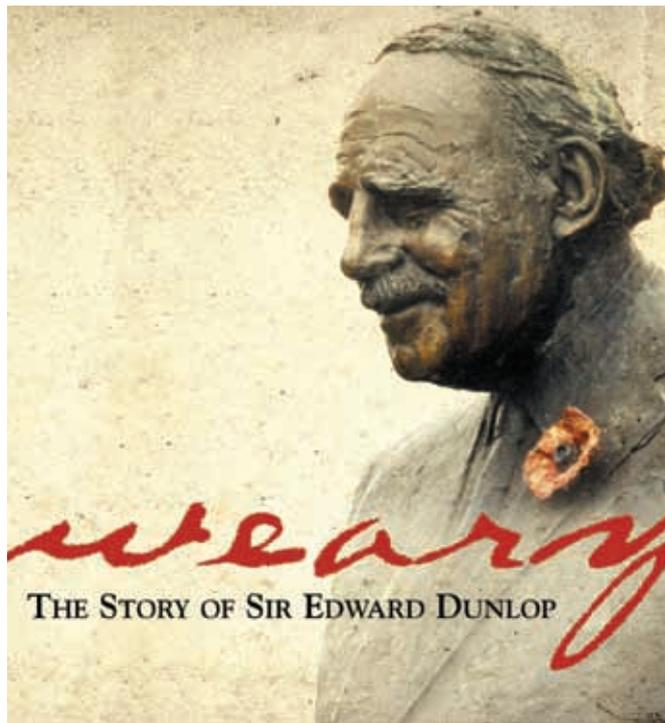
The Shape of Things

Red Stitch Actors Theatre
(National Tour – June to July)

Brutal, sexy and funny, *The Shape of Things* was an acutely well-observed exploration of desire and aspiration, a surprising drama that peeled back the skin of modern day relationships and our easy assumptions about how we 'fit in'. This was a confronting and witty piece of contemporary American theatre writing.

This project was funded by the Australian Government, through the Playing Australia program and the Victorian Government, through Arts Victoria and the Community Support Fund.

Photo: Jodie Hutchinson



Weary – The Story of Sir Edward Dunlop

McPherson Touring
(Victorian Tour – July to August)

Weary Dunlop is a true Australian icon. His life was lived to the full, but it was as a war hero and life-saving surgeon on the infamous Burma-Thailand railway that his exploits became the stuff of legend. This production was the first theatrical work based on the life of Weary Dunlop and starred Ronald Falks and Samuel Johnson.

This project was funded by the Victorian Government, through Arts Victoria and the Community Support Fund.



A Tribute to Danny Kaye
Fletcherpants Productions
(National Tour – August to November)

This show brought to us the hilarious magic of one of the most-loved entertainers of all time in a rollicking, sing-a-long, laugh-a-minute riot for the whole family. *A Tribute to Danny Kaye* by award-winning comedian Russell Fletcher featured Danny's best characters and routines, from the songs of Hans Christian Andersen, to tongue twisters from *The Court Jester*.

This project was funded by the Victorian Government, through Arts Victoria and the Community Support Fund.



Burning Embers
ChamberMade
(Victorian Tour – August)

Burning Embers gave us the opportunity to bask in the warm glow of one of Australia's most remarkable story-tellers and song-writers, Richard J Frankland. It was an informative, entertaining, sometimes humorous and occasionally confronting look at our world from the eyes of both black and white Australia. An inspired show for head and heart.

This project was funded by the Victorian Government, through Arts Victoria and the Community Support Fund.



Visiting Mr Green
Ellis Prater Productions
(Victorian Tour – September)

A funny, heart-warming play about two men, poles apart in every way, who find friendship through an understanding and tolerance of their different views and lifestyles. *Visiting Mr Green* starred Alan Hoppgood and David Tredinnick performing with skill, humour and perfect timing.

This project was funded by the Victorian Government, through Arts Victoria and the Community Support Fund.



"This was an amazing event for our school community, for both students and teachers alike. We absolutely loved it. Afterwards we discussed the way in which Brian relates to kids (particularly difficult ones)...watching him in action was professional development and very inspirational. He brought out the best in all students and was able to connect with them and make them feel wonderful about themselves... the students were so inspired."

Orbost Secondary College on
RockWiz in Schools by Renegade Films

Image: Brian Nankervis and students
from Footscray City College at *RockWiz
in Schools* 2007.

Photo: Craig Cahill

REGIONAL ARTS VICTORIA'S SCHOOLS TOURING PROGRAM

HELLENE WORKMAN

ACTING PROGRAM MANAGER (NOVEMBER 2007 – FEBRUARY 2008)

For over 38 years **arts2GO** has been committed to making high-quality arts experiences affordable and accessible for all Victorian schools, regardless of size, distance or disadvantage. We do this with the support of the Victorian Department of Education and Early Childhood Development and the generous support of our program partner Alcoa of Australia. Our Primary Schools' Subsidy Program is made possible with the support of the Australian Children Theatre Foundation and our Secondary Schools' Subsidy Program is delivered with the support of the Trust Company and the Victorian Community Foundation–The Claire Susan Gardiner Trust.

In 2007 **arts2GO** boasted a program of 20 productions by companies such as, the award-winning *Zeal Theatre*, *Impro Melbourne*, *Polyglot Puppet Theatre* and *Kahurangi Maori Dance Theatre*. Also in 2007, **arts2GO** significantly increased the workshop component of the program. The focus on workshops provides a deeper level of engagement for students and teachers, across a growing number of areas including visual arts, new media and creative writing.

2007 highlights included:

- > The inclusion of *Hoods* by Real TV and *Shrimp* by Shrimp Company on the 2007 VCE Drama studies playlist and the bumper regional tours that followed. *Shrimp* also went on to win the 2007 Drama Victoria Best Performance For Young People Award.
- > World premiere performance of *The Best Little Town in the World* at Anglesea Hall (21 May 2007) and a performance at the Potato Shed in Geelong for students that took part in the creative development of the play.
- > Playwright, Angela Betzien won two awards for *Hoods* at the 2007 Australian Writers' Guild 40th annual AWGIE awards, the inaugural Richard Wherrett Prize for Excellence in Playwriting and the Theatre for Young Audiences Award. *Hoods* was co-commissioned and co-produced by Regional Arts Victoria and Sydney Opera House, who shared the Richard Wherrett prize with Angela.
- > The *RockWiz in Schools* tour generated media interest and provided a huge boost to drought-stricken communities.
- > Mansfield and its surrounding region was the focus of Education Week for **arts2GO** in 2007. Activities included free performances of *Celebrations!* by KITA Performing Arts Company for 450 students from five Mansfield region primary schools and free drama workshops with renowned educator Chris Thompson and his team from randomACTS for 250 Mansfield Secondary College students.
- > Partnering with the Australian Centre for the Moving Image (ACMI) to present the *ACMI Regional Residencies Program*. 371 VCE students from schools in Warrnambool, Terang, Portland, Manangatang, Sea Lake, Mildura and Robinvale experienced a screening of their school's chosen VCE film-text followed by a seminar conducted by one of the leading experts in VCE film text, ACMI's, Gary Simmons.

Every school in Victoria is able to access the performances and workshops offered by arts2GO. In 2007:

- > 46,703 Victorian school students experienced an arts2GO event
- > 490 performances and workshops were delivered
- > 13,925 disadvantaged and remote students experienced an arts event through the arts2GO school subsidy program
- > Over 70,000 kilometres were travelled
- > 250 touring days were completed
- > 75 artists and arts workers were employed



Peoples of the Pacific
Kahurangi Maori Dance Theatre
 Years P - 6

Peoples of the Pacific is a dazzling, rhythmic spectacle, bringing to life the traditional songs and dances of New Zealand's Maori and neighbouring South Pacific cultures. Children are delighted by choreography and music, tracing the migrations of South Pacific peoples from Hawaii to Tahiti, across Samoa and the Cook Islands, and down to New Zealand. Six Indigenous performers provide cultural, geographic and social information about the dances and music styles and educate students about the vibrant heritage of the Maori people. Through audience participation, tribal music, song, dance and hand-crafted traditional dress, Kahurangi Maori Dance Theatre thrill, entertain and educate students about our close Pacific neighbours.



Tulsi
Natyalyaa Indian Dance Company
 Years P - 8

Tulsi, or 'Basil', is an engaging dance story that brings to life the many myths and legends of the basil plant, indigenous to India and South Asia. Set to traditional and contemporary Indian music, this enchanting performance features descriptive and narrative dances that explain how basil became a sacred plant. The beauty of growing things will be contrasted with battles with gnarly demons to demonstrate how and why basil plays such an important role in Indian culture.



Impro in Schools
Impro Melbourne
 Years 7 - 12

Impro in Schools is a fun, interactive performance illustrating the skills of improvisation. A valuable resource to introduce and further the skills of students in drama and improvisation, the performance opens with a demonstration focussing on creativity, teamwork, communication, trust and respect for other's ideas. Clear definitions on basic terminology give students and teachers the opportunity to learn from demonstrations and develop a shared language for the skills of improvisation and scene-building. Demonstrations are followed by a performance where students observe the rules in action as the improvisers create spontaneous scenes using audience volunteers and suggestions as stimulus.

Photo: James Plenidis



Impro Next Stage

Impro Melbourne

Years 7 - 12

Impro Next Stage is designed for schools already using improvisation that want to further develop their skills. Following the structure of Impro Melbourne's popular *Impro in Schools*, the performance allows students to observe the next level of improvisation skills in action, using audience suggestions and participation to enhance the learning. Terminology introduced in this production includes cancelling, hedging and negative acceptance. *Impro Next Stage* explores a wider range of scene structures and ways of using improvisation as a performance tool.

Photo: James Plenlidis



In The Circle with Andrew McKenna

Andrew McKenna

Years P - 6

Andrew McKenna is a master storyteller who captivates students with stories sourced from the far corners of the earth. Through movement and music, students will participate in ancient and modern tales of how animals got here and how the world came into being, ogres, impossible journeys, princes and princesses, shape changers and coyotes. Andrew's stories criss-cross the globe, from Ghana to Denmark, Ireland to Iran with laughter, havoc and excellent fun. Imagination and creativity are essential to human wellbeing and engaging with storytelling helps to develop children's capacity to enter the world of ideas.

Photo: Mandy Smith



Missing Link

Arena Theatre Company

Years 7- 12

Missing Link is a highly theatrical, funny and moving account of siblings Holly and Eddie, who are on a search for information about their biological origins. Having just been told that they are the products of donor conception, the siblings set off on a road trip to meet the donor who helped give life to Holly eighteen years earlier. *Missing Link* provides a potent vehicle for the exploration of contemporary themes of identity, biological origin, family and legal rights. *Missing Link* uses a range of non-naturalistic techniques as the characters role-play imagined versions of the past, present and future. The show features projected video images, a unique set design and an original score.

Photo: Jeff Busby



The Best Little Town in the World

Zeal Theatre
Years P - 6

Commissioned by the Australian Children's Theatre Foundation with additional support from Alcoa of Australia

The holidays! Time to spend with the family, time to discover the world and time to have fun. Three members of the Moscat family are traveling to Uluru on the holiday of a lifetime. Little Toni can't stop talking but has a big heart... Mum doesn't trust anyone, but wants to find the country's heart... and Grandad is always grumpy and having heart problems. The Moscats need a good holiday! But when their car breaks down in the middle of nowhere, the Moscats need more than a little help. Everything seems hopeless until... wait... what's that sign up ahead? Welcome to the *Best Little Town in the World!* The multi-award winning Zeal Theatre takes students on an hilarious and thought-provoking journey into the heart of Australia, into the human heart, and toward a better understanding of those in need of help.

Photo: Rusty Stewart



Hoods

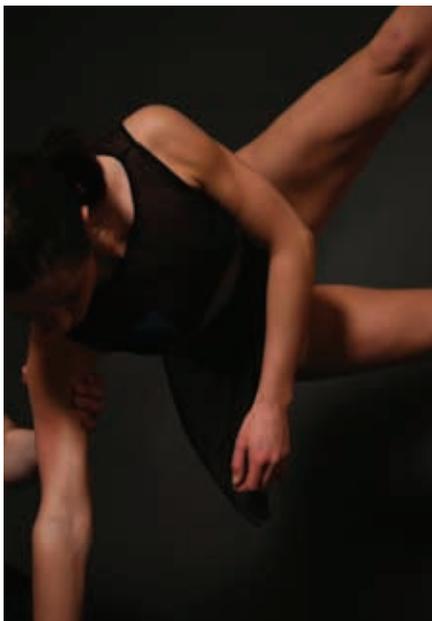
Real TV Project
Years 8 - 12

Co-commissioned by Regional Arts Victoria and Sydney Opera House with additional support from the RE Ross Trust

From the creators of *Children of the Black Skirt* comes an extraordinary contemporary tale of Hansel and Gretel. It's Friday night, KFC night, and the last days of school before Christmas. Kyle, Jessie and baby brother Troy are waiting in the car for their mum. Kyle broods in the front seat with visions of Sony Playstation dancing in his head while Jessie begs him for a game of eye spy. As night closes in, the shopping centre shuts down, their mum still hasn't come back and the baby just won't stop crying. This haunting play explores themes and issues associated with the impact of poverty and domestic violence on children, families and community. A brilliant piece of writing, *Hoods* utilises Brechtian techniques, including multiple role playing, episodic narrative, direct address and rhyming word. Two physical actors, a simple set and a filmic music score combine to conjure up the suburban landscape of this challenging tale of solidarity and survival against the odds

Photo: Daryl Charles





Triple Helix

aka Dance

Years 7 - 12

A visual feast, *Triple Helix* explores the mystery of contemporary dance, helping students to understand the art and craft of dance performance and choreography. A program of athletic and accessible short dance works, this unique 'up-close' encounter with four incredible dancers engages students with the power and complexity of the human body in motion, while at the same time unravelling the mystery of how and why dances are made. Students learn about using their bodies as a model of healthy personal expression and a means for understanding the world around them. Short works explore diverse themes including friendly competition between mates, electrical storms, Carl Sagan's theory of stars and the dynamics of negotiating power in intimate relationships.

Photo: Rhonda Bonnici



Shrimp

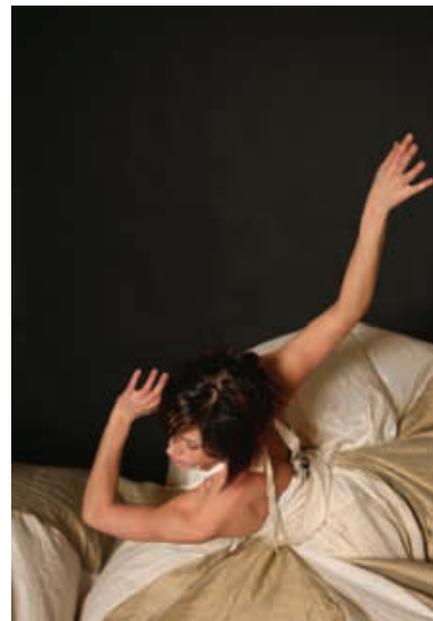
SHRIMP Company

Years 8 - 12

SHRIMP Company in association with La Mama and Melbourne Workers Theatre

Vietnamese war-baby Dominic Golding was airlifted out of Saigon at the end of the Vietnam War and adopted into an Australian family in Mount Gambier. In 1999, he returned to Vietnam for his own tour of duty. A co-production by La Mama and Melbourne Workers Theatre, *Shrimp* is a tour de force theatrical autobiography, taking us to the streets of war-torn Saigon, the wet pastures of Mount Gambier and the varied landscapes of modern Vietnam where Dom returns to find his family. Reflecting upon his rural upbringing and the chaos of Saigon, Dom, who is partially hearing-impaired due to rifle fire, tries to reconcile his battle over footy, fish sauce and finding himself.

Photo: Sayraphim



Dance Discovery

aka Dance

Years P - 6

Dance Discovery is a performance of engaging, athletic and accessible short contemporary dance works that will help students understand the art and craft of dance performance and choreography. A feast for the eyes and ears, *Dance Discovery* will unravel the mystery of how and why dances are made through performances and movement workshops. With dance themes that explore teamwork, deaf sign language, science and nature, and friendly competition between mates, *aka Dance* takes students on a voyage into the imagination and the human body.

Photo: Rhonda Bonnici



Celebrations!
KITA Performing Arts Company
 Years P - 6

One of our most popular companies, KITA Performing Arts Company, takes students on a journey to experience the lively magic of Asian cultural celebrations. Featuring the Lion Dance from Tet Trung Tho Children's Festival from Vietnam, a Bollywood-style stick dance from India, a Drum dance for the Farmers Harvest Festival of Korea, the Legend of the Moon Lady from the Chinese Full Moon Festival and Poco-Poco from Indonesia, this highly-participatory performance uses dance, martial arts and song to enthrall primary students as they learn about the movements, styles, stories and celebrations of different Asian cultures.

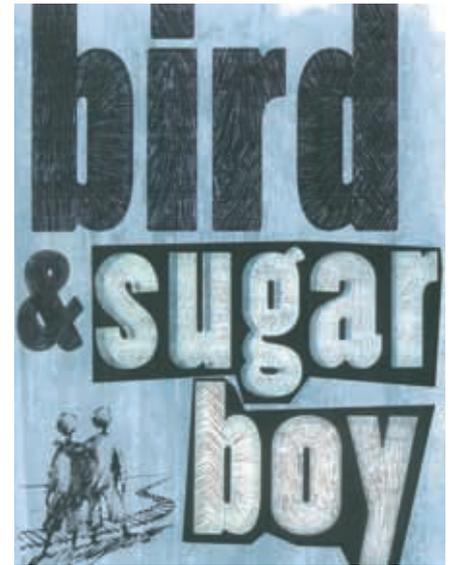
Photo: Catherine Acin



You Can Do It Too!
Llynda Nairn
 Years P - 6

Madeline dreams of becoming a professional juggler, but thinks she could never be good enough. She discovers that the only way to improve is to start with the basics and to learn from her mistakes — and the sky's the limit! *You Can Do It Too!* is an inspired and positive performance which uses juggling as a metaphor for learning. Many of the keys of the *You Can Do It* program are nestled in Madeline's journey to find confidence in her unique abilities. Throughout this delightful performance, Llynda Nairn (Madeline) performs amazing routines involving everyday objects such as feather dusters, golf clubs, tea cups and even eggs! This performance is highly relevant to student motivation and self-esteem programs.

Photo: Melissa Powell



Bookgig on the Road:
Bird & Sugar Boy by Sofie Laguna
Centre for Youth Literature,
State Library of Victoria
 Years 4 - 9

"Sugar Boy gave me the name Bird, otherwise I'm James Burdell. I live with my dad who has a big tattoo that says Live to Ride. He is so strong he can lift up a car, but he can't tell me what he's thinking."

This funny and incredibly moving book describes the journey of a twelve year old boy, James 'Birdy' Burdell, who, being raised by his father in a small country town, must come to terms with his best friend moving to another state. *Bookgig on the Road*, an initiative of the Centre for Youth Literature at the State Library, combines live performance of scenes from *Bird & Sugar Boy* with an authors talk by Sofie Laguna and questions from the audience, to provide learning opportunities in areas of literacy, drama, critical thinking, writing and listening.



Street Sense

Llynda Nairn

Years P - 6

Street Sense is an excellent introduction to road traffic safety for primary school students. This production covers topics including Pedestrian Safety, Passenger Safety and Safety on Wheels. The performance introduces *Street Sense* concepts to very young primary students, and reminds older students of these important safety issues as they become more autonomous in their neighbourhoods. The messages are delivered within a circus style presentation and are punctuated throughout with extraordinary juggling feats from Llynda Nairn, one of Australia's leading juggling talents.



The Apology

Zeal Theatre

Years 8 - 12

The Apology is a gripping drama about a Year 9 excursion to Maitland Gaol gone wrong and the lasting effects on a young boy enduring years of sustained abuse and bullying by his enemies and his so-called mates. This moving play explores self-esteem, survival and the recent rise in anti-social behaviour. Written by Stefo Nantsou and performed with fellow Zeal founder Rob Dilley, this confronting play from the celebrated multi-award winning Zeal Theatre (*The Forwards*, *The Stones*) explores the idea that even a single act of bullying can leave lasting scars. Be prepared for a visceral experience of great theatre that you and your students will never forget!



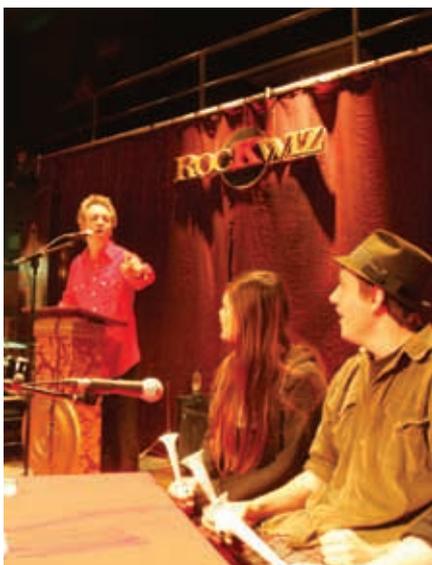
A Shared Story: The Water of Life

Impro Melbourne

Years P - 6

Developed with generous support from the Australian Children's Theatre Foundation

A Shared Story: The Water of Life is a humorous play about a foolish prince who discovers that small thoughtless acts can have big long-term consequences. As the story begins, the prince assumes that when litter is thrown away, "The wind takes it and we never see it again". It is not until the whole Kingdom is ill and the young royal is sent to find the healing water of life that the prince discovers where the litter goes and how it affects our environment. Based on the Grimm Brothers' tale, *The Water of Life*, and using improvisation to stimulate active audience participation, the talented team from Impro Melbourne weave a playful and compelling story, encountering many-legged puppets, a gargantuan giant, a dancing dwarf and decisions about trust, respect and looking after our waterways.



Rockwiz in Schools
Renegade Films for SBS
 Years 7 – 12

The hard-rocking team from the SBS hit show *Rockwiz* take their talent to schools to teach students about the history of Australian contemporary music. Part quiz format, part live performance, this production tests and enhances students' knowledge about Australian rock, blues, folk and contemporary music forms. Accompanied by a versatile trio of stellar session musicians, the very funny host of *Rockwiz in Schools* will engage students with stories of legendary Aussie music-makers and of how the music got made. *Rockwiz in Schools* is an exciting way for students to learn about their own music history. A performance event that the whole school will enjoy and talk about for a long time to come!

Photo: Craig Cahill



The Travelling Troubadours
Sunwrae presents
 Years P - 12

The Travelling Troubadours present a visually and aurally exciting musical performance with multiple instrumentation, cultural diversity and heaps of exuberance. The quartet consists of orchestral and more progressive instruments, including a large range of percussion, brass and woodwind. Travelling around the globe, students will experience music from different cultures, including Europe, New Orleans, Africa, Cuba, Brazil, the Middle East, Ireland and back to Australia. The Troubadours' journey is an exploration of musical culture and styles; students appreciate the variety and diversity of tunes, from classical recitals and hip-hop battles, mardi gras parades, submarine sing-alongs and a Swedish cappella concert. A memorable and interactive performance that communicates the importance of cultural diversity.



Check Out!
Polyglot Puppet Theatre
 Years P - 6

Check Out! is a wickedly funny work of theatre about consumer culture by the witty and wonderful Polyglot Puppet Theatre. Set in a grocery store, this production examines how children are targeted as a highly influential group in the consumption of goods in modern Australian society. The central character, an 'I WANT I WANT' child, is forced to face up to some pretty interesting conclusions as she battles for survival in the supermarket. *Check Out!* is filled with puppetry at its most innovative and cheeky, working with sound as the ever-present muzak that can change an atmosphere instantly and become a character in its own right. Don't miss this brand new production from one of the country's finest, most inventive puppetry ensembles!

Photo: Marshall Commercial Photography (2006)

2007 WORKSHOPS

ACMI Regional Residencies Program

Australian Centre for the Moving Image

Years 11-12

The Australian Centre for the Moving Image (ACMI) runs education programs that have earned an international reputation for quality and innovation. ACMI Screen Education programs encourage dynamic thinking, interaction and activity in which hands-on production experiences sit alongside traditional screening lecture and seminar programs. This one-day residency program, available to VCE students and their English teachers in remote south-west and north-west Victoria, includes a screening of the school's chosen VCE film-text followed by a seminar on the film-text conducted by leading expert in VCE film text, ACMI's Gary Simmons.

Generously supported by Alcoa of Australia



Possum Skin Cloaks Visual Arts Workshop Tour

Vicki Couzens & Treahna Hamm

Years P - 6

In 2005, Regional Arts Victoria co-ordinated the largest contemporary possum skin cloak-making project ever undertaken in South-Eastern Australia. The project, conceived by Indigenous artist Vicki Couzens produced 34 cloaks by Aboriginal language groups that were worn by Elders during the Opening Ceremony of the Commonwealth Games in Melbourne in March 2006. In 2007, **arts2GO** offered an interactive visual arts workshop based on this project. In a workshop presented by one of the lead artists from the Commonwealth Games project, students were told the stories behind the cloaks, learn how they were made and understood their significance to Aboriginal culture. Students participated in drawing and design activities to create a frieze-style mural representation of their own cloak. A local Elder joined the workshop, to establish links for schools with their local Indigenous arts community.

arts2GO also offered the following workshops to metropolitan schools and by request to regional schools:

Improvisation Workshops	Impro Melbourne	Years 7- 12
Jumping Off the Page Workshop	randomACTS	Years 7-12
Exploring Group Dynamics Workshop	randomACTS	Years 7-12
Dance and Dancemaking Workshop	aka Dance	Years 7-12
Making Dances! Workshop	aka Dance	Years P-6

Designers @ Work:

Akira Isogawa Virtual Tour and Fashion Textiles Workshop Tour

National Gallery of Victoria

Years 7 - 12

The National Gallery of Victoria's Education Programs have developed the *Designers @ Work* workshop to offer students an "education through the arts" experience with emphasis on cross-curricula and cross cultural teaching and learning. Akira Isogawa is one of Australia's most distinctive and respected contemporary designers whose design sensibility draws upon the costume and textile traditions of his native Japanese heritage and reinterprets them according to the more relaxed influences of Australian attitudes and environment. Students engage in a virtual tour of Akira's exhibition, investigate ideas, materials and techniques followed by a practical workshop using the classic singlet to design, create and make their own textile piece.

Creative Writing Workshop Tour:

Creating Character with Sofie Laguna

Centre for Youth Literature, State Library of Victoria

Years 4 - 9

Sofie Laguna, author of the moving novel *Bird & Sugar Boy* (Penguin) and many other works of fiction for young people, takes students for a focused workshop about understanding the impetus for creative writing, ideas for brainstorming new characters and ways of giving characters strong, compelling stories. The workshop is designed to excite and inspire students about writing and will include an opportunity for students to read their own work aloud. Sofie Laguna has a background in live performance and brings a lively, animated quality to her workshop teaching. A golden opportunity for students to work with a great author.

Image: Bangerang dancers perform in front of the temple at the 2007 SheppARTon Festival.

Photo: Soc Hedditch



creative communities victoria

CREATIVE COMMUNITIES VICTORIA

SUSAN STRANO - MANAGER

“The RADOs have been able to strengthen regional networks of arts practitioners and link these to statewide networks and resources... Their work has demonstrated that investments in regional arts should be seen as a long-term investment in the sustainability of local communities.”

A Strategy for Growing the Regional Arts Sector in Victoria, Martin Mulligan and Pia Smith, The Globalism Institute, RMIT University, Melbourne

The Creative Communities team provides focused support to volunteer-based local arts groups, engaging regional artists, arts organisations and other community groups in contemporary regional arts development.

Seven Regional Arts Development Officers (RADOs) work across Victoria to:

- > Improve access to arts resources and programs for regional communities, artists and arts organisations
- > Provide training
- > Develop resources to assist regionally-based artists
- > Provide access to a state-wide network of arts groups
- > Assist regional artists and communities to achieve their local objectives

In most cases, the RADOs work in partnership with local councils through the Regional Cultural Partnerships program. This program is supported federally through the Regional Arts Fund, at state level by Arts Victoria and at a local level by our program partners.

2007 Regional Cultural Partnerships

Liz Duthie	Swan Hill Rural City Council
Marion Matthews	Wimmera Partnership: Horsham Rural City Council, Northern Grampians Shire, Hindmarsh Shire Council, Yarriambiack Shire Council
Jo Grant	South West Partnership: Glenelg Shire Council, Moyne Shire Council
Robbi Neal	Surf Coast / Golden Plains Partnership: Surf Coast Shire Council (to October 2007), Golden Plains Shire Council
Verity Higgins	Ballarat Partnership: City of Ballarat, Ballarat and District Aboriginal Cooperative, Ballarat Regional Multicultural Council
Deb Milligan	Gippsland Partnership: Wellington Shire Council
Liz Webb	Mansfield Mt Buller – The High Country Partnership: Mansfield Shire Council, Mt Buller and Mt Stirling Alpine Resort Management Board

- > 7 Regional Arts Development Officers
- > 16 local council and community organisation partnerships
- > Over 310,000 kilometres travelled in support of the arts in Victoria
- > Supporting local ideas – local communities – local artists

Globalism Institute research into RAV's RADO network

In 2007, with support from the Regional Arts Fund and its own core funds, RAV commissioned the Globalism Institute at RMIT to evaluate the pilot period of RAV's RADO network (2005-2008). We wanted to find out how the positions were meeting the expectations of all funding partners. We were also interested in finding out what the benefits or disadvantages might be in relation to RAV's centralised employment of the RADOs. Martin Mulligan and Pia Smith conducted this research.

The general observations Mulligan and Smith make in relation to the RADO network are:

- > RADOs provide local cohesion to community assistance available from the three levels of government: "They can build stronger links between funding applications and the overall arts development strategy for the region in which they work co-ordinating a range of state and federal initiatives and linking these into local government planning."
- > "RADOs can help shift attitudes and practices within local government."
- > Innovation: "RADOs can initiate, support and/or promote local product that will often surprise local audiences with its quality and innovation."
- > Strengthening networks and building collaborations: "RADOs play an important role in consolidating networks across local government boundaries; they take advantage of their relationship with RAV to make links with artists and networks from outside their own region; RADOs help draw down funding for practising artists and establish lines of communication that allow collaborations on projects or programs."
- > In relation to the centralised employment structure, the RADOs interviewed all found this way of working extremely useful, providing independence from the local government partners and support from a wider network of peers.

The key findings of the research demonstrate that RAV's seven regional officers are delivering important outcomes across a number of government agendas. RAV has subsequently developed a response paper that argues for ongoing, whole of government commitment to funding of the RADO network and considers, by examining recent evidence, what would be lost in regional Victoria if the network is not sustainably supported into the future.

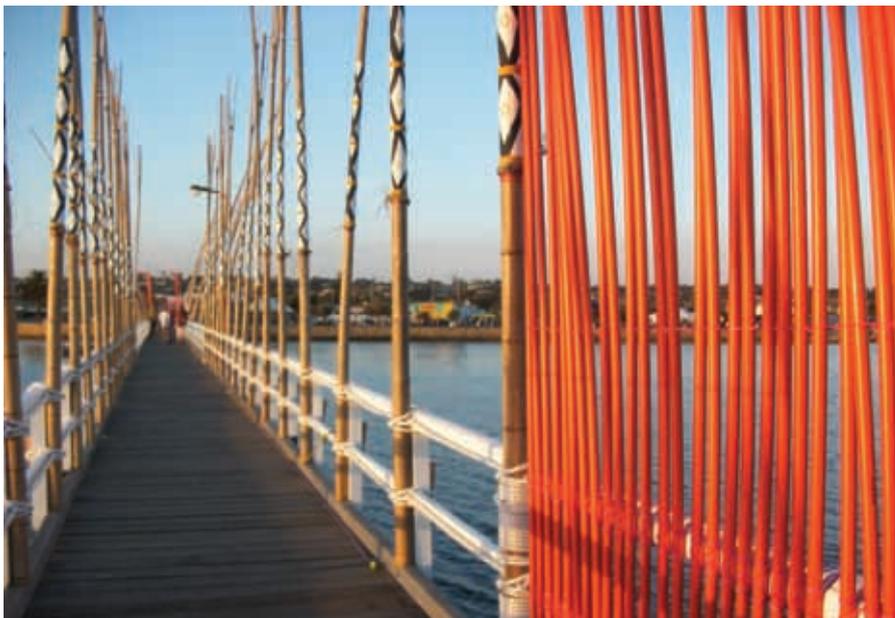


Image: Bridge installation designed by Eko Prawoto in collaboration with Catherine Larkins, Frances Harrison and the Lakes Entrance community as part of Common Ground Lakes Entrance, January 2007.

Photo: Eko Prawoto

Eko's role in Shepparton was again to provide a supportive structure to cultural activity that already exists. The project plan encompassed three elements: the installations, the workshops and the performance. Working closely with local artists Angie Russi, Jan Donaldson and Helena Gibson, Eko used the ubiquitous fruit box to design a meandering outdoor exhibition space housing work by groups as diverse as the workers from the Corboys packing shed, the Dookie Lifestyle Group and a number of schools. A fruit-box footbridge built over the levee bank that linked the earth on the footy oval to the water of the adjacent river, a spectacular outdoor gallery space and a fruit-box temple created a simple yet exquisite space for quiet contemplation of the region's fertility. The launch of the space on the opening night of the festival included a local performance which made use of all these elements and involved many local groups plus many of the recent migrant groups to the area.

The collaboration with Art Is... festival in Horsham was dealt two major blows – key funding applied for by the festival was unsuccessful, and the earthquake in Yogyakarta on 27 May 2006 forced Eko to cut short his residency time in Australia (as an architect, he has been directly involved in the reconstruction effort). Ian worked with the local artistic team including Jill McLeod, Anna Loewendahl, Mary French and Lynn Quick to scale back the project whilst still maximising community participation and cultural exchange. *Upstix* featured the creation and installation of several 20-sided icosahedrons by Jill, each of which became a performance/exhibition space during the festival for kids animations, spoken tales from children in Yogyakarta, physical theatre, music and storytellers, all exploring the idea of upping stix – travelling, immigrating and playing.

RAV's development and co-ordination of the project was supported by Arts Victoria, the Regional Arts Fund, the Australia Indonesia Institute and Asialink.

Common Ground

In 2007, Regional Arts Victoria completed its first international artists residency program, *Common Ground* which brought Indonesian architect and internationally renowned installation artist Eko Prawoto to Victoria to work with four regional festivals to examine the role of collaborative art practice in facilitating community engagement. Artistic Director for the project, Ian Pidd, supported Eko ensuring the project delivered on its objectives of combining high artistic values with strong skills development outcomes for participating communities. The residency was supported by a series of workshops and forums with the participating festivals' programming and organising committees and the broader regional festival sector.

The project was developed in response to substantial interest shown by regional Victorian communities in international exchange and in particular, the opportunity to learn from our nearest neighbour new ways to achieve effective community engagement in projects that involve local celebration.

During November 2006 in Sale, Eko and Ian worked alongside musical instrument-maker Steve Langton, who used found and scrounged materials to create a multi-faceted musical instrument, with bells made from mag wheels, 'doofs' made from 40 gallon drums and his trade mark thongaphone made from ag-pipe. The sound-based architectural installation created, called *Ruang*, an Indonesian word for space, responded to the community, its landscape, resources and materials. Festival Director Darren McCubbin co-ordinated a local performance which featured work composed for the instrument by local teacher Jenny Candy in collaboration with Steve.

Lakes Entrance lead artist Catherine Larkins was keen to work with her community to create an event that genuinely celebrated local culture. Ian and Eko worked with Catherine, event co-ordinator Gizelle Regan, Indigenous coordinator Lennie Hayes, local Indigenous artists Frances Harrison and weaver Elaine Terrick and non Indigenous netmaker Sandy Boswell, schools and the broader community to develop a three-day program. Eko worked with Catherine to design an installation on the Lakes Entrance footbridge which featured spears and rods symbolic of Gunai/Kurnai culture.



Fresh & Salty

In 2007 Regional Arts Victoria began an exciting state-wide project that showed how artists, artists and communities can collaborate to shed new light on local issues, utilising their own unique assets and resources and even the local landscape.

Regional Victorians have all been severely impacted by the drought. Through the *Fresh & Salty* project RAV wanted to use its newly expanded RADO network to demonstrate the role that the arts and artists can play in providing positive opportunities for communities to express their concerns and enhance understanding of how water has influenced and supported our way of life, locally and across Victoria.

Fresh & Salty involved five projects around the state, coordinated by the local RADO, which explored and responded to the drought through an artistic collaboration that was specific to their own community and local issues. The result was five unique and inspiring art works, each using mediums specific to their locations. Two projects were completed in 2007, one in the South West and the other in the Wimmera.

Fresh & Salty has been funded by the Federal Government through the Regional Arts Fund, the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust and VicHealth. In addition, funds were leveraged at a local level through partnerships for each project.

Wimmera River, Horsham January - October 2007

Wimmera-based RADO Marion Matthews and the Wimmera Catchment Management Authority (WCMA) engaged highly-skilled animator, Dave Jones, and puppet maker, Mary French, along with emerging animator, Hannah French, to develop a short animated film that tells the story of rising salinity and its impacts on Wimmera habitat through the eyes of the river creatures and residents. The film captured the imagination of young people and has been used as part of the WCMA's Waterwatch education program. The project will also be used to enhance the WCMA 2007 strategy that is aimed at increasing public awareness of the overall health of the river.

Supported by Wimmera Catchment Management Authority.

Image: Still from the *Fresh & Salty* animation. Animations by Dave Jones and Hannah French, puppets by Mary French and Dave Jones.

Kurtonitj, near Tyrendarra (South West Victoria) August - December 2007

South West RADO, Jo Grant, worked with artists, Vicki Couzens, a Keerray Wurrong/Gunditjmara woman from Koroit and Carmel Wallace of Portland, to create a large stone environmental sculpture that reflected the different ways European settlers and Indigenous cultures have lived on the land and utilised water for their livelihood. The design referred to traditional stone walling techniques and Indigenous eel traps. The project was developed in partnership with Lake Condah Sustainable Development Project within Winda Mara Aboriginal Corporation at Heywood. The sculpture was built at Kurtonitj Indigenous Protected Area near Tyrendarra (between Portland and Port Fairy), on land owned and managed by Winda Mara, and will be used as an educational and culturally significant site for regular tours to the property. The large stone artwork involved Winda Mara Aboriginal Co-operative Elders and staff and members of the wider community.

Supported by Winda Mara Aboriginal Corporation, Glenelg Shire Council, Moyne Shire Council, Foundation for Regional and Rural Renewal and Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority.

Image: The completed *Fresh & Salty* sculpture at Kurtonitj Indigenous Protected Area near Tyrendarra

Photo: Bindi Cole



“...all writers feel isolated, and for those living outside the major cities this feeling can only be intensified. In bringing together so many writers and would-be writers, there was a wonderful feeling of warmth and support, of the exchanging of experiences and information that is so indispensable to writers.”

Linda Funnell, HarperCollins Publishers Australia

Image: Y Space’s Emma Waite performs with animations by Transience, Main St Animation Salon and Dugfish. Performed on a Bambuco designed structure, *Cyrk Stage Three* was developed at Arts House Cultural Lab Program, May 2007.
Photo: Melissa Powell



Regional Arts Fund

The Regional Arts Fund is an Australian Government initiative supporting the arts in regional, remote and very remote / isolated Australia to support arts and cultural projects that offer long-term impact, sustainability and skills development opportunities. Regional Arts Victoria will administer the RAF in Victoria until 30 June 2008.

In 2007:

- > 26 Project Grants were distributed for a total of \$317,392
- > The Regional Cultural Partnership program received \$200,000
- > 67 Quick Response Arts and Professional Development Grants were approved for a total of \$81,672
- > RAV’s Recipient Initiated Projects including Groundwork, Common Ground, the Business of Arts and Fresh & Salty received a total of \$131,000
- > Total distribution: \$730,064

In 2007 the Victorian Regional Writer’s Festival received a RAF project grant

The Victorian Writers Festival brought together writers from across Victoria with publishers, editors and agents. Offering workshops and panel discussions, the Festival provided a rare opportunity for regional writers to access writing professionals and network with peers. In this way, the festival was unique in that it focused on the needs of writers, rather than those of audiences.

Image: Author, Adib Khan and emerging writer, Asher Leslie at the Victorian Regional Writer’s Festival in Buninyong.

RAF Project Grants

Applicant	Project	Awarded \$
Round 1, 2007		
South West Healthcare	Morphed	10,000
Golden Dragon Museum	Autumn Harvest Moon Festival	10,000
Horsham Rotary Club	Feature Sculpture for Infant Memorial Garden	15,000
Tarerer Gunditj Project Association	Maar Meerreny Karweeyn (People of the land who dance)	15,000
Boort Regional Arts Group	Spanners - Welding our Community	14,872
Teesdale Community	Turtle Meeting Place	9,550
Shire of Campaspe	Crossenvale Community Digital Stories	15,000
Nowa Nowa Community Development Group	Open for Inspection	15,000
Susan Purdy	Valley of Coal	10,000
Orchestras for Everyone	Orchestras for Everyone	7,260
Gippsland Regional Arts Sale	Brass Form	14,400
Round 2, 2007		
Meg Viney	Fibre as Artform	5,050
Bendigo Chorale Inc	Chorale Expansions, 2008 Musical Season	10,300
Golden Plains Shire Council	Art Stop	15,000
Shepparton Art Gallery	Youth Arts Access Project	5,000
Dawn Whitehead	Suzanne Project- Stage 2	9,460
Patrick Jones and Peter O'Mara	How To Do Words With Things	15,000
Joyce Nowrungsah	Tidelik	6,500
Goulburn Valley Community Health Service	Parkside Estate Community Art Project	15,000
Prom Coast Arts Council Inc	Collaborating with Chaos	15,000
City Of Wodonga	Todos Arte	15,000
Brophy Family Youth Services	Interior Complexities	15,000
Greg Pritchard	Lit from Within	10,000
The Old Van Ltd	The Seal Wife (Mildura)	15,000
Kim Chalmers	Elements	15,000
Horsham Rural City Council	Bell Chance	15,000
	Total	317,392



Quick Response Grants

Quick Response Arts and Professional Development Grants are provided to organisations and individuals for professional and skills development, professional artists working with communities and mentoring other local artists and small projects involving artists working with communities. In 2007, 67 applications were approved for a total of \$81,672.

In 2007 the Beechworth Arts Council received a Quick Response Grant for the exhibition *Greener Pastures*.

The *Greener Pastures* exhibition offered four regionally-based sculptors the opportunity to present their work at Yarra Sculpture Gallery in Abbotsford, Melbourne. The experience helped build ongoing connections between the artists and other arts professionals in Melbourne and encourage sales of the artist's work.

“This project exceeded expectations... and Beechworth Arts Council is planning an exhibition with members of the Contemporary Sculpture Association in our space. It is hoped that this will lead to more arts and cultural exchange.”

Jo Voigt, Beechworth Arts Council

Image: *Greener Pastures* at Yarra Sculpture Gallery

Photo: Courtesy Beechworth Arts Council



Guarantee Against Loss Program

RAV administers Guarantee Against Loss Category 1 (GAL 1) on behalf of Arts Victoria. Guarantee Against Loss gives volunteer presenters and producers the confidence to:

- > present a greater diversity of product for the benefit of a wide range of people
- > attract new audiences, particularly young people
- > present work in their local communities through financial insurance on the risk they take
- > present works where commercial viability is difficult

GAL 1 provides a box office 'buffer' and encourages:

- > greater networking between members of the volunteer presenter network
- > greater distribution of funding, both geographically and across volunteer presenters
- > more isolated communities to access the funding

In 2007:

- > 4,756 people saw 41 GAL 1 supported presentations
- > The total expenditure on the arts in regional Victoria through GAL 1 supported activities was \$136,649.80
- > \$85,505 in fees were paid to artists
- > An average per seat subsidy of \$7.36 was provided to those regional presenters who accessed the fund

Image: La-La Parlour's *Tarnished*

Photo: Michelle McFarlane

In 2007 the Arapiles Community Theatre received a GAL 1 grant to present La-La-Parlour's *Tarnished* at the Natimuk Frinj Festival.

La-La-Parlour took audiences into a world of hilariously tortured glamour as four earnest chorus cuties revelled in deconstructed chorus lines, whip-cracking, acrobatics, fan dancing, cake desecration and physical comedy. A highlight of the festival.

Creative Volunteering

A national skills development project for people running community organisations.

An initiative of Regional Arts Australia, managed and delivered in Victoria by Regional Arts Victoria in partnership with Ausdance Victoria.

272 people attended 31 workshops in Moyn, Surf Coast, Wellington, Glenelg, Mount Alexander, Swan Hill, Loddon and East Gippsland Shires covering topics such as:

- > Working with Collections
- > Business Planning
- > Plan and Program Events
- > Developing Funds and Resources
- > Networking with Communities
- > Marketing
- > Governance
- > Cultivate Productive Relationships

Quick Response Grants

Applicant	Project	\$
Artists In The Rotunda	Artists In The Rotunda	1,500
Winchelsea Community House	Winchelsea Skate Park Mural	1,500
Glenorchy Primary School	Mountains to Mallee	940
Arts Network East Gippsland	Organisational Structure workshop with Janet Schulz	762
Loddon Arts Inc	Loddon Arts Precinct	1,500
Warrnambool Community Health Centre	Food in the Frame	1,500
Orbost Exhibition Centre on the Snowy River	Bridge the Gap Easter Festival	1,500
The Fringe Thing Inc	Random Acts of Digital Chaos	1,500
Tara Gilbee	Professional Development in Darwin	1,000
Megan Beckwith	Professional Development at Tasdance	1,000
Kat Mansbridge	Leafworx	1,000
Exit Theatre	The Fly Guardian	1,500
Greg Pritchard	Professional Development for 'Arthur & Francois'	1,000
Daylesford Foto Biennale	Photosensitive	1,500
Victorian Feltmakers Inc	9th Southern Hemisphere Feltmakers' Convergence	1,000
Libraries Sunraysia	Lit Fest 2007	1,500
Goulburn and North East Arts Alliance	Across the Arts Forum - Haiku Poetry Project	1,500
Catherine Hamilton	Professional Development - The Teaching Methods of Devid Leffel	1,000
Murray River Quilters	Evolving Quilt Design Class	700
Justin Marshall	Tunji Beier Masterclass/Lessons	500
The University of Melbourne	Engaging Indigenous Artists in Community Arts Publishing	1,500
Shiree Pilkinton	Professional Development Carnivale (Dunedin, NZ)	1,000
Anna Loewendahl	Professional Development Carnivale (Dunedin, NZ)	1,000
Dawn Whitehead	The Suzanne Project (Professional Development)	1,000
Lynden Nicholls	Ascot Working	1,400
Mansfield Shire Council	Mansfield Mount Buller High Country Festival Spring Arts	1,500
La Trobe University Visual Arts Department	Animation Media Arts Festival	1,500
Beechworth Arts Council	Greener Pastures	1,000
Bianka Rich	Ignite Womens Community Dance Project	1,500
Mildura Arts Festival Inc	The Stories All Around Us	1,500
Anthony Pelchen	Japan Workshops (Nou Machi/ Natimuk Exchange)	1,500
Bendigo Irish Association Inc	Masterclass for Singers	550
Australian Community Writers Inc	It's all about publication	1,000

Applicant	Project	\$
Child and Family Services	Secret Places	1,500
Horsham Rural City Council	Start the Bell Ringing!	1,200
Gippsland Art Gallery	Street Fair	1,500
Colour Gang	Exhibition Beyond	1,000
Claire Smith	Calin Dan - City Tags Workshop	1,000
Andrew McKenna	Storytelling- Rumi Workshops	450
Longwarry and District Progress Association	Portrait of Longwarry Bollard Trail	1,500
Basil Eliades	Professional Development Workshops	1,500
Wombat Regional Arts Network	Neighbours Painting Neighbours	1,400
James Vallance	Professional Development	1,000
Macedon Ranges Jazz Inc	Macedon Ranges Jazz Festival Masterclass	1,500
Jennifer Mullett	Bird Myths	1,000
Wimmera Womens Circus	Wimmera Womens Circus Training	1,500
Wimmera Hub	Wimmera Singing Leaders Workshop	800
Indigo Shire Council	Ice Sculpture Event	1,500
North East Catchment Management Authority	Indigenous/ Landcare Weaving Project	1,500
Caroline Hawkins	Mentorship for Caroline Hawkins	1,000
The 3 Graces	Seymour Hospital Goulburn/ Whiteheads Creek Arts Project	1,500
Dimboola A&P Society Inc	Parading the Puppets	1,500
Dunkeld Mosaic Arts Festival	Bombing @ The Station	1,500
Emily Ardley	Emily Ardley Artistic Development	1,000
Deaf Access Victoria - Gippsland	Water & Ocre + Civilisation - Auslan Interpretation	1,500
Wellington Music Educators Network	The Victorian Orff Schulwerk Association and the Kodaly Music Educators Institute of Australia (VIC)	1,000
The Colac Players	Riverdust	1,500
Julie Collins	New York and Washington Professional Development	1,000
Wendy Allen	Byron Bay Workshop	1,000
Independent Musos Network Inc	Metal Mentoring	1,000
Party with the Ponies Steering Committee	Painted Ponies	1,470
Richelle Nicholls	ACCET Choral Conductors Summer School	1,000
Arapiles Community Theatre	Natimuk Lake Show II	1,500
Gretchen Hillhouse	JMGA Conference and Insiders Out Exhibition	1,000
Art Is...	Art is... Puppet Project	1,500
Michelle Tisdale	Professional Development in West Africa	1,000
Mariama Camara	Professional Development in West Africa	1,000

home



Image: RAV Group Member, the Nowa Nowa Community Development Group, received a RAF grant to commission over 20 artists to convert a derelict house into a life-size work of art called *Open for Inspection*. The pictured artwork is *Blind* a collaborative installation by Catherine Larkins and Frances Harrison. The project was curated by Gary Yelen.

Photo: Catherine Larkins

regional arts victoria members

REGIONAL ARTS VICTORIA MEMBERS

Regional Arts Victoria's members are the lifeblood of local arts and cultural activity in their communities. They take a broad approach to initiating and celebrating the arts in their communities and to supporting local artists. From classical music, theatre, visual arts to media arts, they celebrate and support local culture and bring a world of artistic excellence to their communities. Making imaginative use of cafes, pubs, clubs, local halls and the streets of their towns these groups are an integral part of the fabric of regional Victoria. In 2007, 334,751 people attended RAV members' projects or events.

Regional Arts Victoria offers Group Membership for cultural organisations based in outer metropolitan and regional Victoria and Individual Membership for practising artists and arts workers from across Australia.

Regional Arts Victoria continues to look for new ways to support its members.

Current benefits of Individual Membership include:

- > affordable public liability and volunteer workers insurance under RAV's umbrella scheme
- > a free subscription to eGroundwork – RAV's monthly online newsletter including news, opportunities and what's on in regional Victoria
- > support, advice and assistance through RAV's Regional Arts Development Officers and staff in Melbourne

In addition, RAV Group Members receive:

- > financial assistance through the Guarantee Against Loss (GAL1) scheme for professional performances
- > discounts to attend regional, state and national conferences
- > free subscription to Groundwork – RAV's magazine profiling inspiring arts projects (published twice yearly)
- > membership to ourcommunity.com including subscription to the monthly grants enewsletter
- > voting rights at RAV's AGM
- > the chance to nominate a Director for RAV's Board

The following groups joined Regional Arts Victoria in 2007 to take advantage of these benefits:

- > Port Arlington Community Association Inc
- > Arts Chiltern Inc
- > Torquay Theatre Troupe Inc
- > Lorne Sculpture Exhibition Inc
- > Plenty Players
- > Stawell Performing Arts Company Inc

Membership evolution over the last 6 years

	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
RAV Group Membership	106	112	105	85	88	79
RAV Individual Membership	253	162	90	20		
Membership of RAV Group Members	6,765	8,584	6,572	6,180	5,270	4,890
Membership under 18	695	570	600	494	211	
Festivals as a major activity	25	17	16	12	12	
Volunteer hours recorded	126,097	136,351				
Total Annual Turnover	\$5.3M	\$5.4M	\$3.0M	\$2.5M	\$2.2M	\$1.5M



Allan's Walk Artist Run Space Inc

Located in Bendigo, Allan's Walk Artist Run Space Inc exists to support regional emerging artists and emerging art forms/practice within a regional critical context. In 2007 Allan's Walk presented a calendar program of Australian regional emerging artists and artists working in emerging art forms. In April Allan's Walk participated in the Victorian Initiative of Artists Network celebration and publication Making Spaces (see www.via-n.org) and in November-December presented Test Match, an opportunity for local central Victorian artists to invite artists outside of the community for a seven day hot-house to test ideas (see <http://testmatch.allanswalk.com>).

Image above: Ellen Coyle's work as part of *Space Issues* at Allan's Walk, 16 May-11 June 2007

Tarerer Gunditj

Since 1996 Tarerer Gunditj has produced the Tarerer Festival at Tower Hill, a site which is home to three clans of the Peek Wuurong people located on the south coast of Victoria, near Killarney. This multicultural celebration is an invitation to gather together in the spirit of the 'meeting of the clans' from which Tarerer takes its name. Tarerer is the focus for restorative arts practice enhancing the region's cultural identity, the history and environmental significance of the land. Thought to be the only event of its kind in Victoria, Tarerer promotes harmony and exchange through the celebration of culture and country. In 2007 Tarerer Gunditj received support from the Regional Arts Fund to bring several tribes of around eighty dancers from across Victoria to the festival, to collaborate on dance performance *Maar Meerreng Karweeyn (People Of The Land Who Dance)*.

Image left: Lowell Hunter of the Warrnambool Gunditjmarra Karweeyn Dance Troupe performs at the 2007 Tarerer Festival. Photo: Alison McColl-Bullock, iCatching Photography



Arts Network East Gippsland (ArtsNet)

Arts Network East Gippsland is a community performing arts venue in Bairnsdale specialising in original stage and music productions. ArtsNet offers a low-cost alternative to mainstream theatre and music programs to the wider community and provide local young people and adults with the opportunity to be directed by seasoned professionals who strive for outcomes of a high standard, challenging the participants, performers and the audience. Annual projects include the literary arts magazine GERALD and a series of music CDs developed through the continuing outreach project *Warts & All*. In 2007 ArtsNet staged twelve performance nights of three plays written by local professional and amateur playwrights, produced two *Warts & All* CDs and one edition of GERALD.

Image: ArtsNet working on the *Warts & All* mobile audio recording project



Art Is... festival

Horsham's annual Art is... festival is a week long community celebration offering a diverse programme of quality performances, exhibitions, workshops and forums. The focus is on creating a unique, challenging and inspirational festival that celebrates and develops the excellence, value and diversity of local arts practice, our environment, our community and our heritage in the Horsham Rural city region and surrounds. The festival has an annually-changing theme which encourages artists and the wider community to participate and engage at various levels. In 2007 the festival was themed *Art is... everywhere*. Held from 21-23 March 2007 the festival featured the creation of large and spectacular icosahedrons for the *Common Ground* project, Grey Matters forums, exhibitions in local shops and live music at the Festival Club.

Image: *Upstix* installation designed by Jill McLeod at the Art Is... festival, Horsham, March 2007.

Photo: Melissa Powell



Stratford On Avon Shakespeare Association

Since 1996 the Stratford On Avon Shakespeare Association has produced the Shakespeare on the River Festival, a diverse community celebration featuring theatre, music, comedy, film, visual arts and folkloric skills, in Stratford, Gippsland. The festival includes over 20 different workshops, performances and events held over a three weeks. In 2007 the festival launched on 23 April, Shakespeare's birthday, and featured two versions of *Macbeth* by Bell Shakespeare and international touring company, DreamPuppets, a community performance of *Taming the Shrew* directed by Alexis Ingram, and the Avon Village Fair.

Image: Street Theatre presented by the Stratford On Avon Shakespeare Association



Mildura Arts Festival Inc

artsmildura (trading as Mildura Arts Festival Inc.) explores and celebrates unique regional identity through the provision of diverse arts experiences. A dynamic and challenging annual program of arts events encompassing fine music, contemporary visual arts, theatre performance, street theatre, cinema, comedy, literature, classical music and opera, popular music, jazz, street and parades during the Murray River International Music Festival (held in January), the Mildura Wentworth Arts Festival (March), the Mildura Writers' Festival (July), Palimpsest (September) and the Mildura Jazz, Food and Wine Festival (November).

Image: Members of the Mildura Sing Australia group perform at the Mildura Wentworth Arts Festival

LIST OF MEMBERS

Albury Wodonga Theatre Company

President: Joseph Thomsen
Secretary: Tracey Bodsworth

Allan's Walk Artist Run Space Inc

President: Melissa Urquhart
Secretary: Andrea Robson
Treasurer: Ellen Coyle
www.allanswalk.com

Apollo Bay Arts Inc

President: Judi Forrester
Secretary: Jane Gross
Treasurer: Lyn Butt
www.apollobay.com/arts

Arapiles Community Theatre

President: Natasha Pavlin
Secretary: Kate Rowe
Treasurer: Phil Wilkins
www.natimuk.com

ARC, Yinnar

President: Jan Tulloch
Secretary: Helen Coloe
Treasurer: Kate McGuire
www.arcyinnar.org.au

Art House Gippsland Inc

President and Secretary: Louisa Waters
Treasurer: Sally Tatterson

Art Is... Festival

President: Jo Devereaux
Secretary: Jenny Payne
Treasurer: Gill Venn
www.artis.wimmera.com.au

Artists Society of Phillip Island

President: Diana Bannister
Secretary: Jenny Broomhall
Treasurer: Susan Brereton

Arts Casterton

President: Dani Telley
Secretary and Treasurer: Robyn Rhodes

Arts Chiltern

President: Louise Hazelton
Secretary: Debbie McGann
Treasurer: Brenda Griffiths

Arts Council of Mansfield Inc

President: Karen Pirie
Secretary: Glenys Rae-Wingate
Treasurer: Isabel Appleby
www.artsmansfield.com

Arts Network East Gippsland (ArtsNet)

President: Margaret Taylor
Secretary: Susan Patton
Treasurer: Peter Duggan
www.artsnet.net.au

Arts Rutherglen

President: Genevieve O'Reilly
Secretary: Robyn Sullivan
Treasurer: Leonie Featonby
Arts Upper Murray Inc
President: Graeme Jephcott
Secretary and Treasurer: Pamela Menere

Arts Violet Town

President: Robena Binks
Secretary: Sandy Garrett
Treasurer: Janet Allen
www.violettown.org.au

Arts Wodonga

President: Ken Raff
Secretary: Greta Thomas
Treasurer: Dorothy Vassallo

Arts Yackandandah

President: Geoff Simmons
Secretary: Geraldine Hall
Treasurer: Brendan Lauritz

Australian National Piano Award

President: Neil Werner
Secretary: Judy Longley
Treasurer: Barbara Evans
www.pianoaward.com.au

Bannockburn and District Arts Inc

President: Phil Adams
Secretary: Lyn Dickson
Treasurer: Ros Bosnar

Barking Owl Theatre

President: Beverley Geldard
Secretary: Sue Scoullar
Treasurer: Catherine Ryan

Beechworth Arts Council

President: Erika Balla-Harper
Secretary: Jo Voight
Treasurer: Brenton Saxby

Bright Art Gallery and Cultural Centre Inc

President: Neville Garner
Secretary: Heather Kelly
Treasurer: Brian Kelly
www.brightartgallery.org.au

Bruthen Events and Arts Council

President: Joy Manley
Secretary: Dave Ritter
Buchan Arts Council
President and Secretary: Evelyn Schmid
Treasurer: Judy Gray
http://gippsland.com/web/
BuchanArtsCouncilInc

Buninyong Gold King Festival

President: Simon Jess
Secretary: Glenda Stanislaw
Treasurer: David Stanislaw
www.goldking.ballarat.net.au

CAA - Wyndham Community Arts Alliance Inc

President: Nick Oliff
Secretary: Wolf Heidecker
Treasurer: Tess Leckie
mc2.vicnet.net.au/home/caawyn/web/
homepage

Camperdown Theatre Co Inc

President: Michael Marrs
Secretary: Lyn McLean
Treasurer: Susan Place

Castlemaine State Festival Ltd

President: Michael Bottomley
Secretary: Gayle Crooke
Treasurer: Gary McClure
www.castlemainefestival.com.au

Charlton Arts

President: Marj Larmour
Secretary: Nola Wright
Treasurer: Garry Larmour
www.charltoncinema.iinet.net.au

Circus 3230

President and Secretary: Bronwyn Sdraulig
Treasurer: Lee McFarlane
Class Act Productions Inc
President: David Pickburn
Secretary: Jan Pickburn
Treasurer: Alison Symons

Clayton Clarinda Arts

President: Joan Pretty
Secretary and Treasurer: Dot Henderson

Community Arts Pakenham

President: Lisa Innes
Secretary: Julie Adam
Treasurer: Barbara Calton

Community Theatre Project Inc

Secretary: Judy Scott
Treasurer: Troy Van Den Akker
www.grainerylane.com

Corangamite Arts Council Inc

President: Gail Watson
Secretary: Josie Black OAM
Treasurer: Mary Foley

Cowwarr Arts Network Inc (CAN)

President: Margaret Booth
Secretary: Angela Thomas
Treasurer: Sharon Cooper
www.cowwarr.com/CowwarrArtsNetwork/

Creators Artspace Inc

President: Jeff Harbick
Secretary: Greta Thomas
Treasurer: Susan Morris

Curlew Arts Council

President: Mary Macqueen
Secretary: Frank Blatchford
Treasurer: Marj Saines

Dandenong Ranges Community Centre

President: Paul O'Halloran
Secretary: Sid Lawrence
Treasurer: Sue Amico
www.burrinja.org.au

Daylesford Foto Biennale Inc

President: Julie Millowick
Secretary: Sally Van Rooden
Treasurer: Lily Andrew
www.daylesfordfotobiennale.org

Eaglehawk Dahlia and Arts Festival

President: David Richards
Secretary: Laurie Preston
Treasurer: Keith Gilbee
http://dahlia.bendigo.net.au

East Gippsland Aboriginal Arts Corporation

President: Jeffrey Cooper
Secretary: Margie Moubourne
Treasurer: Brett Ross

East Gippsland Art Gallery

President: Maureen Proudlock
Secretary: Marion Dawson
Treasurer: Lyn Osbourne
www.eastgippslandartgallery.org.au

Eltham Arts Council

President: Beverley Harris
Secretary: Anne O'Shea
Treasurer: Angela Davies

Euroa ARTS

President: Tess Noonan-Egan
Secretary: Fiona Lewis
Treasurer: David Kelly

Festival of St Arnaud

President: Jenny Torney
Secretary: Jeanette Burgess
Treasurer: Stephen Greenall

Geelong Arts Alliance

President: Glen Smith
Secretary: Julie Churchill
Treasurer: Sue Hartigan
www.geelongartsalliance.org

Geelong Folk Music Club Inc

President: Adam Burke
Secretary: Peter Fogarty
Treasurer: Deryk Gail
www.geelongfolkmusicclub.com

Geelong Sculptors Inc

President: Geo D Francis
Secretary: Jan Francis
Treasurer: Cinnamon Stephens

Geelong Textile and Fibre Artists

President and Secretary: Elaine Mitchell
Treasurer: Jean Inglis

Gippsland Acoustic Music Club

President: Barbara Brabets
Secretary: Liz Roberts
Treasurer: Kate Haines
www.musicclub.org.au

Gippsland Regional Arts Sale

President: Annette Frew
Secretary: Jim Pennell
Treasurer: Darren McCubbin

Goulburn and North East Arts Alliance

President: Kathleen Whelan
Secretary: Trish Gallagher
Treasurer: David Briggs
www.acrossthearts.com

Hepburn Springs Swiss Italian Festa

President: Rob McDonald
Secretary: Liz Schibig
Treasurer: Barbara Simpson
www.swissitalianfesta.com

Horsham Regional Arts Association

President: Merle Hathaway
Secretary: Joy Cowie
Treasurer: Marian Anderson

Kingston Arts Network Inc

President: Anthony Nightingale
Secretary: Dorothy Plummer
Treasurer: Jennie Wragge

Lorne Sculpture Exhibition Inc

President: Jack Wynhoven
Secretary: Cynthia Wynhoven
Treasurer: Evan Lowenstein
www.lornesculpture.com

Lyrebird Arts Council

President: Geoff Harris
Secretary: Anne Bateman
Treasurer: Suzanne Henderson
www.lyrebirdartscouncil.com.au

Mallacoota Arts Council

President: Alida Beedle
Secretary: Peter Giddings
www.mallacootaarts.org

Mallee Arts Council

President: Dorothy Brown
Secretary: Janet Lynch
Treasurer: Barbara Chaplin

Maryborough Arts Society Inc

President: Fred Treble
Secretary: Michael Hartwig
Treasurer: Margaret Harrison

Marysville's Cultural Community

President: Mary Souness
Secretary: Gayle Walters
Treasurer: Faye Vietz

Mildura Arts Festival Inc

President: Ross Lake
Secretary: Alison MacGregor
Treasurer: Bruce Penny
www.mwaf.com.au

Mirboo North Arts

President: Frith Dennis
Secretary: Betty McLaughlin
Treasurer: Ian Bristow

Moartz (Moe)

President: John Worters
Secretary: Sharon Anderson
Treasurer: Jeanette Teague
www.moartz.com.au

Murray Arts Inc

President: Bernie Haldane
Secretary: Jenni Munday
Treasurer: Maree Menz
www.murrayarts.org.au

National Celtic Folk Festival

President: Una McAlinden
Secretary: Sue Andrews
Treasurer: Jayne Louise Collins
www.nationalcelticfestival.com

Nhill Arts Council

President: Dale Stanford
Secretary and Treasurer: Leah Davies

Nowa Nowa Community Development Group

President: Eric Gascoigne
Secretary: Lynne Gascoigne
Treasurer: Heather Costigan
www.nowanowa.com

Orbost Exhibition Centre on the Snowy River Inc

President: Bronwen Di Barri
Secretary: Janet Yeo
Treasurer: Peter Quin
www.orbostexhibitioncentre.org

Paynesville Jazz Festival

President: Tim Wright
Secretary: John Dickinson
Treasurer: Judith Anderson
www.paynesvillejazzfestival.com

Plenty Players Inc

President: Laurie Lewis
Secretary: Alwyn Lewis
Treasurer: Merilyn Numa

Plenty Valley Arts Inc

President: Thelma Cardwell
Secretary: Bevelly Shearer
Treasurer: Margaret Martin

Portarlington Community Association Inc

President: Monica Hayes
Secretary: Ian Pingle
Treasurer: Bill McGrath
[www/portarlington.asn.au](http://www.portarlington.asn.au)

Portland CEMA Inc

President: Jan Colliver
Secretary: Katrina Antony
Treasurer: Gregor McGregor
www.portlandcema.org.au

Prom Coast Arts Council Inc

President: Kerry Spokes
Secretary: Jane Power
Treasurer: Anda Banikos
www.promcoastarts.org.au

Pyrenees Arts Council

President: Heather Featherston
Secretary: Barbara Blamey
Treasurer: Maurice Trainer

RuffArtZ

President and Secretary: Sharron Batt
Treasurer: Doug Watson
Shepparton Arts Alliance Inc
President: Bower
Treasurer: Mick Molloy
www.shepparts.com.au

SheppARTon Festival Inc

President: Sam Birrell
Secretary: Liz Zito
Treasurer: Peter Bicknell
www.sheppartonfestival.net.au

Spa Country Events Group Inc

President: David Hall
Secretary: Averil Dickenson
Treasurer: Jeff Bain

Spring Into Art Festival Inc

President: Cheryl Kane
Secretary: Lisa Grassby
Treasurer: Roman Mansier
www.springintoartfestival.com

St Arnaud Arts Council

President: John Dods
Secretary: Jan Dods
Treasurer: Rosalind Small

Stawell Performing Arts Company

President: Deb Slorach
Secretary: Maree Sanders
Treasurer: Barry Curtis

Stawell Regional Arts

President: Meg Capurso
Treasurer: Karen Hyslop

Stratford On Avon Shakespeare Association

President: Joan McCloud
Secretary: Peter Wakefield
Treasurer: Peter Wakefield
www.stratfordshakespeare.com.au

Surf Coast Arts Inc

President: Jennifer Garlick
Secretary: Julie Dyer
Treasurer: Glenda Shomacy

Tarerer Gunditj

President: Andy Alberts
Secretary: Rebecca Biber
Treasurer: Alan Garth
www.tarerer.com.au

Tarra Festival Committee Inc

President: Tim Gash
Secretary: Sharon Macgowan
Treasurer: Michelle Graham
www.tarrafestival.com.au

The Beechworth Theatre Co Inc

President: Wendy Stephens
Secretary: Ali Pockley
Treasurer: Julius Holt

The Fringe Thing Inc

Secretary: Jo Bodno

The Great Alpine Gallery Inc

President: Deidre Jack
Secretary: John Butler
Treasurer: Lenore Richardson
www.swiftscreek.net/scgallery

The Village

President: Ian Pidd
Secretary: Suzanne Kalk
Treasurer: Stuart Vaskess
www.thevillagefestival.com.au

Torquay Theatre Troupe Inc

President: Maryanne Doolan
Secretary: Carleen Thoernberg
Treasurer: Michael Lambkin

Traralgon Arts Council

President: Ann Dyer
Secretary: Barbara Brabets
Treasurer: David Kneebone

Upper Kiewa Valley Arts Council

President: Rollo Kiek
Secretary: Peter Brockhurst
Treasurer: Susan Cohn

Wangaratta Arts Council Inc

President: Margaret Brickhill
Secretary: Patricia Rohan
Treasurer: Mary Burns

Wangaratta Festival of Jazz Inc

President: Patti Bulluss
Secretary: Tanya Tatalaschwili
Treasurer: Greg Mirabella
www.wangaratta-jazz.org.au

Wangaratta Textile Arts Association

President: Adele Davies
Secretary: Jenny Brown
Treasurer: Rosalie Bonica
www.stitchedupfestival.com

Warracknabeal Arts Council Inc

President: Judith Drage
Secretary: Barbara Bell
Treasurer: Dennis Bell

Wedderburn and Region Theatre Society

President: Dean Lauder
Secretary: Denise Christie
Treasurer: Margaret Peterson

Wesley Performing Arts and Cultural Centre

President: Wendy Weight
Secretary: Mary Lou Spehr
Treasurer: Simon Dandy
www.wesleypac.com.au

Wombat Players Inc

President: Richard Wayman
Secretary: Liz Monty
Treasurer: Carol Hofmeyer

Wombat Regional Arts Network Inc

President: Sally Goldstraw
Secretary: Lou Callow
Treasurer: Tracey Taylor
www.wombatarts.net

Women's Compass Network

President: Ingrid Thomas
Secretary: Susan Curnow
Treasurer: Yvonne Magyar

Y Space

Director: Jillian Pearce
www.yspace.com.au

Yackandandah Folk Festival Inc

President: Patten Bridge
Secretary: Jennie McKern
Treasurers: David and Cath Bishop
www.folkfestival.yackandandah.com

Yarra Valley Arts Council

President: Karen Meuleman
Secretary: Nan Francis
Treasurer: Diana Francis
www.yarravalleyarts.com

Yarrawonga Arts Council Inc

President: Liz Seeliger
Secretary: Charney Hunt
Treasurer: Vivian Spilva



Image: The *Fire Up* performance as part of the 2007 Prom Coast Sea Change Festival was supported in part by the Regional Arts Fund.

Photo: John Banikos

the rave awards

RAVE AWARDS

In 2006 the Board of RAV undertook a review of its Awards so that they might better recognise the work of organisations and individuals engaged in delivering arts and cultural activities in regional Victoria. The inaugural RAVE Awards were presented at the Regional Arts Symposium on Saturday 5 May 2007 in Lakes Entrance. The RAVE Awards will be offered in six categories every second year and will next be awarded in 2008 and presented at the Regional Arts Symposium in 2009.

Previous RAVE Award recipients

2006

Carmel Wallace
Contemporary Cultural
Development Award

Wild Dogs from Down Under
Arts and Business Partnership Award

Elaine Terrick
Indigenous Arts Award

Lucas Handley
Youth Leaders Award

Margaret Brickhill
Arts Volunteering Award

Charles Parkinson
Touring Award

2005

Dianne Shephard
Brian Petterson
John and Joycelyn Grunden
Bruce Lockwood
Gordon Mitchell
- John Little Award
Anne Phelan
- Don Mackay Award

2004

Terry Lyons
Gill Venn
Anne Davie
Marj and Garry Larmour
- John Little Award
Sean McKinty
- Don Mackay Award

2003

Jim Pennell
David Madden - John Little Award
John Bell - Don Mackay Award

2002

Janice Cross
Dianne Paragreen
Tamara Marwood - John Little Award
Barbara Hamer - Don Mackay Award

2001

Wendy Hansted
Sue Henry
Helen Myles
Heather Broadfoot - John Little Award
Stefo Nantsou - Don Mackay Award

2000

Tom Yates
Diane Wiadrowski
Sharon Batt (inaugural)
- John Little Award
Jill Smith
- Don Mackay Award

1999

Nancy Cain
Lesley Jackson
Heather Broadfoot
Rob Gebert (inaugural) -
Don Mackay Award

1998

John Wood-Ingram (posthumous)
Merle Hall/Ann Buzza
Shirley Guest
Barbara Bell
Darren McCubbin
Marie Johnstone
Judith McLorinan

1997

Jean Curnow
Evelyn McColl
Brenda Miller
Margaret Walker
Alan Bowes
Pat Rohan

1996

Lex Chalmers
Dorothy Davies
Wendy Hutcheon
Zeta Bridgeman
Bruce Pritchard
Jenny Taylor

1995

Josie Black
Bryan Dennehy
Raelene Hausler
Jack Holdsworth
Marg Jacob
Marion Mahood
Shirley Mewett
Andrew Miller
Joyce Fuller
Peg Clark
Audrey Gates
Laurie Gregg
Mary Mitchell
Don Reeves
June Solly

1994

Gordon Mitchell
Gwen Petersen
Joan Pretty
Jean Riley

1993

Barry and Shirley Pictor
Margaret Brooke
Jennifer Paragreen
Peg Lundie
Ann and Peter Dyer
Isobel (Mitty) Costello
Ivan Gates
Marj and Garry Larmour
Reg George

1992

Nina Cooke
Charles Dorning
Gordon Dowell
Joyce McGill

1991

Noel Montgomery
Aileen Mitchell
Tony Hart
Doug Latham
Doug McColl
Ona Whiteside
Colin Mills
Sue Cunningham

1990

Mary Burns
Helen and Dugald Campbell

LIFE MEMBERS

2007 recipient - Catherine Larkins

Catherine Larkins significantly contributed to the culture of RAV as a Board Member for 6 years and as a lead artist and artistic director on numerous RAV projects which helped to change the face of the organisation. These include *Bute Utes*, *Bute Utes the Movie*, *Common Ground* and our hosting of the Regional Arts Australia national conference Meeting Place held in Horsham in 2004. Catherine has been passionate about ensuring RAV employs the best possible processes around its large projects and those that involve small remote communities.

Catherine has shown generous leadership in the regional education sector. She has worked for 22 years as a tertiary arts lecturer at East Gippsland Institute of TAFE, during which time she has developed a number of important partnerships within the broader community that have extended opportunities for students. Catherine's passion for shared experiences and her skills as an exceptional teacher, motivator and communicator have generated many cultural development experiences in her community and encouraged arts education outside of the classroom.

A passionate activist for reconciliation, Catherine has used her arts practice to encourage cross-cultural collaboration between Indigenous and non-Indigenous artists, families and communities across the state. In particular Catherine has worked closely with the Gunai/Kurnai people of East Gippsland on nationally-acclaimed projects and festivals.

RAV Life Members

- > Dianne Paragreen
- > David Madden
- > Eve Brunner
- > Bill Cook
- > John Flowers
- > Barbara Hamer
- > Brian Hewitt
- > Garry Larmour
- > John Riordan
- > Bryan Small
- > Gwen Stainton
- > Barry Weir
- > Gwen Williams
- > Heather Broadfoot



Image: Uncle Bruce Baxter
photographed by Linda Ford during
Come and Have a Look at Yourself a
photography project undertaken by nine
students of the Koori Unit at Sunraysia
TAFE in Swan Hill.
Photo: Linda Ford

financial report

Regional Arts Victoria

(A Company Limited by Guarantee Incorporated in Victoria)

A.B.N 24 005 556 025

Financial Report

For the Year Ended 31 December 2007

directors' report - statutory information

The directors submit herewith the organisation's balance sheet as at 31 December 2007 and the income statement for the year ended 31 December 2007 and report as follows:

1. The names of the directors, their qualifications, experience and special responsibilities in office at the date of this report are

Mr Mike Zafiroopoulos – Chair

Qualifications: Associate Diploma Computer Science, Bachelor of Applied Science, Diploma in Television Production

Experience: Management; Community Arts; Media; Public Service. Co-opted in 1999.

Ms Kaz (Karen) Paton – Vice Chair

Qualifications: Bachelor of Arts, Diploma in Acting

Experience: Actor; Producer; Community Theatre Worker; Culture and Leisure Planner in Local Government; Development of Performing Arts Facilities. Board Member since 2003.

Mr Dennis Goldner – Treasurer

Qualifications: Bachelor of Economics (Hons), Affiliate of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia

Experience: Nineteen years with Deloitte; currently leads three major government account teams. Twenty years with Federal and Victorian public sectors. Co-opted in 2005.

Mr Malcolm McKinnon - Secretary

Qualifications: Bachelor of Arts (Fine Arts)

Experience: Practising Artist; Arts Administration and Management; Policy Development. Co-opted in 2005.

Mr Mark Selkrig

Qualifications: Bachelor of Education (Visual Arts), Master of Arts (Visual and Performing Arts)

Experience: Visual Arts Educator at Secondary, TAFE and University in NE Victoria; Member of Beechworth Arts Council since 1988; Member of Arts Board Albury Wodonga since 1993; Member of Artistic Directorate Hot House Theatre (2000-2001); Practising Sculptor. Board Member since 2002.

Mr Rob Robson – Executive Officer

Qualifications: Bachelor of Arts, Trained Secondary Teacher's Certificate, Graduate Certificate Arts and Entertainment Management

Experience: Arts Centre Manager; Theatre Director; Secondary Teacher; Chair of the Victorian Association of Performing Arts Centres; Board Member of the Arts Management Advisory Group; Member Multicultural Arts Policy Advisory Committee (Arts Victoria). Board Member since 2004.

Ms Andrea Lane

Qualifications: Bachelor of Commerce, Graduate Diploma in Information Management

Experience: Online Manager for Fairfax Business Media; Member of the Nowa Nowa Community Development Group. Board Member since 2003.

Mr Ross Lake

Qualifications: LLB, Bachelor of Economics, Diploma of Education

Experience: Current Chair of the Mildura Wentworth Arts Festival Board; Former Board Member of the Murray Outback Tourism; Current Chair of SunRISE 21 and Chair of the SunRISE 21 Artists in Industry Project; Former Board Member of Mallee Family Care; Treasurer of the Christie Centre of Intellectually Disabled Persons; Member of the Rotary Club of Irymple; Director Tasco Inland Australia Pty Ltd and Fruitvale Pty Ltd. Board Member since 2005.

Ms Carolynne Hamdorf

Qualifications: Bachelor of Education

Experience: Artist; Festival Director (Art Is... Festival); Manager of Indigenous Visual Arts Enterprises. Board Member since 2006.

Ms Esmail Manahan

Qualifications: Bachelor of Arts, Diploma Youth Work

Experience: Nine years General Manager of Koori Business Network; Arts Officer Tourism Victoria; Youth Officer Social Justice Aboriginal Community. Co-opted in 2006.

Ms Jude Anderson

Qualifications: Bachelor of Education, Graduate – Ecolé Internationale (Phillip Gaulier – France)

Experience: Produced, directed and taught contemporary theatre and dance in Australia, Chile, USA, Italy and France. Art works have been commissioned by the National Gallery of Victoria, Gasworks Arts Park, Next Wave, SheppARTon Festival, Castlemaine State Festival, Melbourne University and the 2006 Commonwealth Games. Board Member since 2007.

2. Principal Activities

The organisation's principal activity since incorporation has been to stage and conduct artistic and theatrical entrepreneurial activities. No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

3. Operating Results

The surplus for the year is \$14,242 (2006 \$14,318). The organisation is exempt from income tax.

4. Dividends

No dividends have been paid, declared or recommended since incorporation.

5. Review of Operations

The operations of the organisation during the year are detailed in the various accompanying reports and the results thereof are shown in paragraph 3 above.

6. Significant Changes in the State of Affairs

No significant changes in the state of affairs of the organisation.

7. Likely Developments and Expected Results

The organisation is receiving the same level of funding from the State Government and expects to result in a breakeven position for 2008.

8. Director's Shareholdings

The organisation is a company limited by guarantee and consequently there is no share capital.

9. Directors' Meetings

During the year, seven directors' meetings were held. Directors holding office during the year and the number of meetings attended are listed below. The Board's audit sub-committee met on two occasions during 2007. The number of meetings attended by each director is listed below.

Director	Board Meeting	Term Expires	Audit Sub-Committee meetings
Andrea Lane	7/7	2009	
Mike Zafirooulos	6/7	2009	
Dennis Goldner	6/7	2009	2
Mark Selkrig	6/7	2008	
Rob Robson	5/7	2009	
Malcolm McKinnon	5/7	2009	
Kaz Paton	4/7	2008	
Carolynne Hamdorf	3/7	2009	
Ross Lake	2/7	2009	2
Jude Anderson	3/4	Since 5.5.2007	2009
Esmail Manahan	1/7		2008
Gizelle Regan	2/3	From 5.5.2007 to 11.8.2007	
Catherine Larkins	2/2	Until 5.5.2007	
Tamara Marwood	0/2	Until 5.5.2007	

10. Disclosure of Directors' Benefits

During or since the financial year some directors of the company received benefits, other than a benefit included in the aggregate amount of emoluments. These are listed below.

Directors who individually received benefits were:

Director	2007	2006
Andrea Lane	\$ -	\$ 2,000
Mark Selkrig	\$ -	\$ 300

The Board has delegated to the Regional Arts Fund Assessment Committee the authority to decide all project and professional grants awarded by the Federal Government under the Regional Arts Fund. Directors or members of Director's immediate family who are employees or associates of individuals or groups that have received grants in 2007 are listed below:

Regional Arts Fund Grants

Director	Grant Recipient	2007	2006
Andrea Lane	Nowa Nowa Community Dev Group	\$ 15,000	\$ -
Carolynne Hamdorf	Horsham Regional Arts Association	\$ 10,000	\$ -
Rob Robson	Shepparton Art Gallery	\$ 5,000	\$ -
Catherine Larkins	Catherine Larkins	\$ -	\$ 15,000
Ross Lake	Mildura Wentworth Festival	\$ -	\$ 15,000

The Board has delegated to the Chief Executive Officer the authority to decide all Quick Response Grants awarded under the Regional Arts Fund. Directors or members of Director's immediate family who are employees or associates of groups that have received grants in 2007 are listed below:

Regional Arts Fund Quick Response Grants

Director	Grant Recipient	2007	2006
Mark Selkrig	Beechworth Arts Council	\$ 1,000	\$ -
Ross Lake	Mildura Arts Festival	\$ 1,000	\$ -
Carolynne Hamdorf	Art Is... Festival	\$ 1,500	\$ -
Carolynne Hamdorf	Horsham Dance Studio	\$ -	\$ 1,200
Andrea Lane	Nowa Nowa Com Development Group	\$ -	\$ 1,500
Karen Paton	Arts Colac Inc	\$ -	\$ 1,500
Mark Selkrig	Murray Arts	\$ -	\$ 1,000

The Board has delegated to the Chief Executive Officer the authority to decide all Guarantee Against Loss Grants, the funds for which are provided by the Victorian Government through Arts Victoria. Directors or members of Director's immediate family who are employees or associates of groups that have received grants in 2007 are listed below:

Guarantee Against Loss Grants

Director	Grant Recipient	2007	2006
Carolynne Hamdorf	Horsham Regional Arts Assoc	\$ 5,315	\$ 1,500
Carolynne Hamdorf	Wesley Performing Arts Centre	\$ 2,395	\$ -
Rob Robson	Aust. National Piano Awards	\$ 1,165	\$ -
Carolynne Hamdorf	Art Is... Festival	\$ -	\$ - 1,000

The Board ratifies these benefits at the first Board meeting after the benefits have been determined. The Directors receiving these benefits took no part in any Board decision that related to the determination of the benefits.

No other director received benefits other than a benefit included in the aggregate amount of emoluments or is due and receivable by the directors shown in the accounts, by reason of a contract entered into by the company or an entity that the company controlled or a body corporate that was related to the company when the contract was made or when the director received, or became entitled to receive, the benefit with:

- > a director; or
- > a firm of which a director is a member; or
- > an entity in which a director has a substantial financial interest.

The Board ratifies these benefits at the first Board meeting after the benefits have been determined. The Directors receiving these benefits took no part in any Board decision that related to the determination of the benefits.

No other director received benefits other than a benefit included in the aggregate amount of emoluments or is due and receivable by the directors shown in the accounts, by reason of a contract entered into by the company or an entity that the company controlled or a body corporate that was related to the company when the contract was made or when the director received, or became entitled to receive the benefit, with:

- > a director; or
- > a firm of which a director is a member; or
- > an entity in which a director has a substantial financial interest.

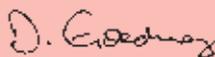
11. Auditor's Independence Declaration to the Directors of Regional Arts Victoria

The directors received an independent auditor's declaration from the auditor of Regional Arts Victoria. Refer to page 59.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board.



Mike Zafiroopoulos
Chair



Dennis Goldner
Treasurer

MELBOURNE
Dated 8 April 2008

Independent auditor's report to the members of Regional Arts Victoria

We have audited the accompanying special purpose financial report of Regional Arts Victoria (the organisation), which comprises the balance sheet as at 31 December 2007, and the income statement, statement of changes in equity and cash flow statement for the year ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the directors' declaration.

Directors' Responsibility for the Financial Report

The directors of the organisation are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies described in Note 2 to the financial statements, which form part of the financial report, are appropriate to meet the financial reporting requirements of the organisation's constitution and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances. These policies do not require the application of all Accounting Standards and other mandatory financial reporting requirements in Australia.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used are appropriate to the needs of the members.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on our judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, we consider internal controls relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal controls. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to the members for the purpose of fulfilling the directors' financial reporting requirements under the organisation's constitution. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion

Independence

In conducting our audit we have met the independence requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies. In addition to our audit of the financial report, we were engaged to undertake the services disclosed in the notes to the financial statements. The provision of these services has not impaired our independence.

Auditor's Opinion

In our opinion the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Regional Arts Victoria as of 31 December 2007 and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 2 to the financial statements.



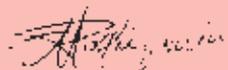
R Bruce Dungey
Partner, Ernst & Young
MELBOURNE
Dated 8 April 2008

Directors' Declaration

In the opinion of the directors of Regional Arts Victoria:

- the income statement is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the results of the organisation for the year ended 31 December 2007.
- the balance sheet is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the organisation as at 31 December 2007.
- the statement of cash flows is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the cash flows of the organisation for the year ended 31 December 2007.
- the statement of changes in equity is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the accumulated funds of the organisation for the year ended 31 December 2007.
- at the date of this statement there are reasonable grounds to believe that the organisation will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the directors.



Mike Zafiroopoulos
Chair



Dennis Goldner
Treasurer

MELBOURNE
Dated 8 April 2008

Income Statement

For the year ended 31 December 2007

	Note	2007	2006
		\$	\$
Operating Revenue			
Grants and sponsorship	4	1,085,822	964,612
Philanthropic support	5	60,686	50,615
Tour programs		835,583	664,592
Gifts received	6	22,500	-
Interest received		39,453	24,835
Membership fees		16,549	16,160
Other		202,943	151,012
Special projects	7	1,365,618	1,341,502
		3,629,154	3,213,328
Operating Expenses			
Loss from sale of assets	8	5,873	14,251
Tour programs		1,120,775	819,722
Depreciation plant and equipment		87,657	91,648
Salary and employee related expenses		973,695	862,834
Other operating costs		61,294	69,053
Special projects		1,365,618	1,341,502
		3,614,912	3,199,010
Net operating profit		14,242	14,318
Retained earnings at the beginning of the year		238,414	224,096
Retained earnings at the end of the year		252,656	238,414

The income statement should be read in conjunction with the following notes.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 December 2007

	Note	2007	2006
		\$	\$
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	9	916,452	716,239
Trade and other receivables	10	153,866	156,089
Total Current Assets		1,070,318	872,328
Non Current Assets			
Property, plant and equipment	11	260,565	256,866
Total Non Current Assets		260,565	256,866
Total Assets		1,330,883	1,129,194
Current Liabilities			
Trade and other payables	12	1,001,651	832,834
Provisions	13	43,521	35,808
Funds administered for others	14	13,882	6,891
Total Current Liabilities		1,059,054	875,533
Non Current Liabilities			
Provisions	15	19,173	15,247
Total Non Current Liabilities		19,173	15,247
Total Liabilities		1,078,227	890,780
Net Assets		252,656	238,414
Accumulated Equity			
Retained Earnings		252,656	238,414
Total Equity		252,656	238,414

The balance sheet should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Cash Flow Statement

For the year ended 31 December 2007

	Note	2007	2006
		\$	\$
Cash Flows from Operating Activities			
Receipts from customers		3,591,928	3,269,218
Payments to suppliers and employees		(3,333,937)	(2,822,117)
Interest received		39,453	24,835
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities	A	297,444	471,936
Cash Flows from Investing Activities			
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment		(197,418)	(219,605)
Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment		100,187	103,343
Net Cash Flows Used in Investing Activities		(97,231)	(116,262)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		200,213	355,674
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		716,239	360,565
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year		916,452	716,239

Note A

Reconciliation of Net Cash (used in)/provided by Operating Activities to Operating Profit/(Loss).

	2007	2006
	\$	\$
Operating Surplus	14,242	14,318
Depreciation	87,657	91,648
Net loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment	5,873	14,251
Changes in assets and liabilities		
Decrease in trade and other receivables	2,223	80,725
Increase in trade and other payables	168,819	268,503
Increase in funds administered by others	6,991	-
Increase in provisions	11,639	2,491
Net Cash surplus from operating activities	297,444	471,936

Statement of Changes in Equity

For the year ended 31 December 2007

	Retained Earnings	Total Equity
	\$	\$
At 1 January 2006	224,096	224,096
Profit for year	14,318	14,318
At 31 December 2006	238,414	238,414
Profit for year	14,242	14,242
At 31 December 2007	252,656	252,656

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2007

Note 1: Corporate Information

The financial report of Regional Arts Victoria (the Company) for the year ended 31 December 2007 was authorised for issue in accordance with a resolution of the directors on 23 February 2007.

The nature of the operations and principal activities of the Company are described in the Directors' Report.

Note 2: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Preparation

This special purpose financial report has been prepared for distribution to members and directors of Regional Arts Victoria for internal management information purposes. The accounting policies used in the preparation of this report, as described below, are consistent with previous years, and are, in the opinion of the directors appropriate to meet the needs of members and directors.

Statement of Compliance

The directors have prepared the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and other professional reporting requirements with the following exceptions as certain disclosures have not been made:

AASB 7:	Financial Instruments: Disclosures;
AASB 114:	Segment Reporting;
AASB 124:	Related Party Disclosures; and
AASB 132:	Presentation and Disclosure of Financial Instruments

The accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical costs. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated. The following is a summary of the significant accounting policies adopted by the organisation in the preparation of the accounts.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash includes cash on hand and in bank accounts, and money market investments readily convertible to cash within two working days, net of outstanding bank overdrafts.

Property, Plant and Equipment

Cost and Valuation:

Property, plant and equipment are carried at cost or at independent or directors' valuation. Any surplus on revaluation is credited directly to the asset revaluation reserve and excluded from the profit and loss account.

Any gain or loss on the disposal of revalued assets is determined as the difference between the value of the asset at the time of disposal and the proceeds from disposal, and is included in the result of the entity in the year of disposal.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on all property, plant and equipment, at rates calculated to allocate the cost of the assets against revenue over the estimated useful lives of the assets. Depreciation is calculated on a diminishing value basis as follows:

Motor Vehicles, and Office Equipment	30%
Office Fixtures and Fittings	20%

Income Tax

The organisation is exempt from income tax in terms of section 50-45 of the Income Tax Assessment Act.

Provisions

Provision is made for employee entitlement benefits accumulated as a result of employees rendering services up to reporting date. These benefits include wages and salaries, annual leave and long service leave.

Liabilities arising in respect of wages and salaries, annual leave and any other employee entitlements are measured at their nominal amounts.

Employee entitlement expenses and revenues arising in respect of the following categories:

- wages and salaries, non-monetary benefits, annual leave, long service leave and other leave entitlements; and
- other types of employee entitlement

are charged against surplus on a net basis in their respective categories.

Superannuation

Contributions are made by the organisation to an employee superannuation fund and are charged as expenses when incurred. The organisation has no legal obligation to cover any shortfall in the fund's obligation to provide benefits to employees on retirement.

Leases

Lease payments for operating leases are charged as expenses in the periods in which they are incurred.

Note 3: Member's Liability

The organisation is a company limited by guarantee. Under the Memorandum of Association the liability of the 22 members is limited to \$1,100 in total in terms of Clause 7 which reads -

"Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of its being wound up while he is a member, or within one year afterwards for payment of the debts and liabilities of the company contracted before the time at which he ceases to be a member, and of costs, charges and expenses of winding up and for an adjustment of the rights of the contributors amongst themselves, such amount as may be required not exceeding Fifty Dollars."

	Note	2007	2006
		\$	\$
Note 4: Grants and Sponsorships			
Arts Victoria	(a)	802,059	624,100
Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts	(b)	180,534	238,337
Department of Education and Early Childhood Development	(c)	37,000	52,000
City of Swan Hill	(d)	36,230	35,175
Alcoa Australia Outreach program	(e)	30,000	15,000
		1,085,822	964,612
(a) Arts Victoria			
General Grant		650,000	575,000
Arts Across Victoria		152,059	49,100
		802,059	624,100
(b) Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts			
Playing Australia		180,534	238,337
(c) Department of Education and Early Childhood Development			
arts2GO		37,000	52,000
(d) City of Swan Hill			
Sponsorship - Regional Arts Development Officer		36,230	35,175
(e) Alcoa Australia Outreach program			
arts2GO		30,000	15,000

	Note	2007	2006
		\$	\$

Note 5: Philanthropic support schools' subsidy program for arts2GO

Australian Children's Theatre Foundation	(a)	41,259	21,492
Trust Company of Australia	(b)	12,000	10,000
ANZ Trustees	(c)	7,427	-
Perpetual Trustees	(d)	-	1,336
Equity Trustees Limited	(e)	-	17,787
		60,686	50,615
(a) Australian Children's Theatre Foundation			
Subsidy		20,859	21,492
Commissioning		20,400	-
		41,259	21,492
(b) Trust Company of Australia			
Fred P Archer Charitable Trust		12,000	10,000
(c) ANZ Trustees			
Claire Susan Gardiner Trust		7,427	-
(d) Perpetual Trustees			
LG & JE Brown Charitable Trust		-	1,336
(e) Equity Trustees Limited			
Arthur Gordon Oldham Estate		-	17,787

Note 6: Gifts Received

Harold Mitchell Foundation	15,000	-
Community Foundation Network	7,500	-
	22,500	-

Note 7: Special Projects

(a) Regional Arts Fund		
Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts	805,775	675,905
(b) Regional Cultural Partnerships		
Regional Arts Fund	200,000	200,000
Arts Victoria	50,000	50,000
City of Ballarat	22,500	30,000
Glenelg Shire	3,750	3,750
Golden Plains Shire	10,000	15,000
Hindmarsh Shire	3,750	5,000
Horsham City Council	7,500	10,000
Moyne Shire	3,750	3,750
Northern Grampians Shire	7,500	10,000
Surf Coast Shire	5,000	10,000
Wellington Shire	22,500	30,000
Yarriambiack Shire	3,750	5,000
	340,000	372,500

	Note	2007	2006
		\$	\$
(c) Groundwork			
Regional Arts Fund		40,000	47,000
(d) Industry Development			
Regional Arts Fund		3,000	-
(e) Evaluation Regional Cultural Partnership		10,000	-
(f) Common Ground			
Regional Arts Fund		18,000	20,000
Arts Victoria		46,063	13,937
Australian Indonesia Institute		-	11,000
Asialink		-	4,000
		64,063	48,937
(g) Fresh & Salty			
Arts Victoria		2,000	-
RAF		60,000	-
Gippsland Water		500	-
SW Major Events		2,000	-
Winda Mara		2,000	-
		66,500	-
(h) Creative Volunteering – no limits			
Regional Arts Australia		9,000	-
(i) Guarantee Against Loss			
Arts Victoria		27,280	19,160
(j) Creative Businesses Project			
Regional Arts Fund		-	3,000
(k) Cubbies			
Regional Arts Fund		-	5,000
(l) Possum Skin Cloak			
Melbourne 2006		-	120,000
Arts Victoria		-	30,000
		-	150,000
(m) Pacific Edge Conference Travel Assistance			
Regional Arts Australia		-	10,000
Arts Victoria		-	10,000
		-	20,000
TOTAL SPECIAL PROJECTS		1,365,618	1,341,502

	Note	2007	2006
		\$	\$
Note 8: Sale/Disposal of Assets			
Original Cost		(167,262)	(167,528)
Less Accumulated Depreciation		61,202	49,942
		(106,060)	(117,586)
Income from Sale of Asset		100,187	103,335
(Loss) on Sale of Asset		(5,873)	(14,251)
Note 9: Cash and cash equivalents reconciliation			
Cash at year end consists of:			
Cheque account		114,701	37,823
Regional Arts Fund		177,835	90,885
Term Deposit		623,216	586,831
Petty Cash		700	700
		916,452	716,239
Note 10: Trade and other receivables			
Trade Debtors		50,412	78,842
Other Debtors and Prepayments		103,454	77,247
		153,866	156,089
Note 11: Property, Plant and Equipment			
Property, plant and equipment at cost		443,425	444,452
Less accumulated depreciation		(182,860)	(187,586)
		260,565	256,866
Note 12: Trade and other payables			
Creditors		195,322	129,751
Accrued expenses		39,693	62,454
Revenue in advance		97,230	93,345
Grants in advance		669,406	547,284
		1,001,651	832,834
Note 13: Provisions (Current)			
Annual leave		43,521	35,808
		43,521	35,808
Note 14: Other			
Funds administered for others		13,882	6,891
Regional Arts Victoria holds in trust monies on behalf of Members who have gone into recess and for administration services performed on their behalf.		13,882	6,891

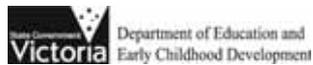
thankyou

Regional Arts Victoria's 2007 Supporters



arts2GO Supporters

Government Partner



Program Partner



Primary Subsidy Program Supporter



Secondary Subsidy Program Supporters



Arts Across Victoria Touring Supporters

Program Supporters



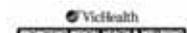
Program Partners



Regional Cultural Partners



Creative Community Project Supporters



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- > **community connection**
- > **regional partnerships**

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