



Creative Communities Victoria

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

Through a combination of development of relevant resources, initiatives and arts projects, the Creative Communities team works to improve local resources, skills and knowledge in the arts and critically to provide support to local communities to work with regional artists.

The Creative Communities team is the network of RADOs positioned in strategic partnerships across regional Victoria as well as two staff based in the Port Melbourne Office. Together we strive to:

- improve understanding of the issues that affect regional communities access to the arts and working with those communities to implement strategies to overcome those issues
- explore and promote options for regional artists and arts groups to develop skills in contemporary cultural development, to network and communicate with one another.
- increase participation of Indigenous communities, young people and culturally and linguistically diverse groups
- develop resources and skills in event and project management planning, financial management and marketing with regional arts groups



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



The Creative Communities Victoria is guided two broad themes:

- Supporting local ideas - local communities - local artists; and,
- Building local resources, skills and knowledge.

Supporting local ideas - local communities - local artists by:

- Focusing on supporting locally developed contemporary arts and cultural activity.
- Encouraging and supporting regional artists to work directly with their communities.
- Improved awareness of barriers to participation in the arts and developing locally relevant strategies to overcome them.
- Encouraging communities to value and seek the voice of local artists.
- Recognising the professional status of arts workers in regional communities.
- Modelling of contemporary cultural practice through specific projects; eg, Fresh & Salty, Small Stages and Common Ground
- Increased interaction between regional arts sector and other community sectors, through cross sector regional forums, promoting shared information on respective goals/ objectives.
- Integrating with and complimenting local government cultural workers, with a view to establishing a cohesive local mechanism to support local arts activity.
- Recognition of the range of cultural voices in regional Victoria.



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Building local resources, skills and knowledge by:

- Skills development programs for local organizations
- Convening regional forums for: developing networks and promotion of community based arts practice; challenging levels of engagement, critique of community based arts practice; for exploring arts/industry, arts/health, arts/politics connections.
- Contact point for funding advice of the most appropriate sources, forms, tactics and so forth as well as direct support, Regional Arts Fund and other funding programs administered by RAV.
- Management of the Victorian component of the Regional Arts Australia volunteer skills training scheme, SmART in Business.
- Development of project management tool, cultural development models and resource support and services, for example: artist contracts, insurance, event management manual, financial administration, funding information, incorporation processes, strategic planning.
- Provision of information on regional, statewide, and interstate projects, networks and initiatives.
- Access to Melbourne based outreach programs and projects, for example: Melbourne and Fringe Festivals, and the Australian Centre for the Moving Image.



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