



Australian Government

Regional Arts Fund



**MEDIA RELEASE**  
For Immediate Release

**\$88,500 IN REGIONAL ARTS FUNDING ANNOUNCED FOR VICTORIA**

The Minister for the Arts, the Hon Peter Garrett AM, has announced that funding for 9 projects totalling \$88,500 will go to regional and rural communities across Victoria through the Regional Arts Fund, an Australian Government program delivered on behalf of the Australian Government in Victoria by Regional Arts Victoria.

Chair of Regional Arts Victoria, Dennis Goldner, commented on the increase in grant applicants with innovative art outcomes for regional Victoria.

“There were some very dynamic art project applications submitted in this round, with nine very exciting collaborations recommended by the panel,” says Goldner. “The ‘Toe in the Water’ Category has enabled funding for projects for the very first time which will engage many different groups in the community. We are also delighted that funding will be going to projects that celebrate local identity and diverse cultures in communities across Victoria.”

Successful applicants in Round 1, 2010 include:

- Based in **Hamilton**, the Southern Grampians & Glenelg Primary Care Partnership will be launching the ‘inSpire’ project involving young people from the Southern Grampians region to create multi-media art works to be projected onto local historical buildings
- In **Lakes Entrance**, a permanent sculpture will be created in the heart of Lakes Entrance entitled ‘campFIRE-WATERhole’, facilitated by Gippsland Lakes Community Health
- In the **Mallee** Region, a new project by Kerry Finck ‘Married to a Blockie’ depicting the history of the Women of Robinvale, delves in to the rich stories of women living in this area during the post WW2 era of the Soldier Settlement Blocks
- From **Portland**, artists Phil Cousins and Heather Richardson will take their alter egos on the road with ‘Norm and Elsie’s Art Safari’, an engagement tour across Victoria promoting local art from the South-West

A complete list of the funded projects is attached and available from [www.rav.net.au](http://www.rav.net.au).

The Regional Arts Fund was established to give all Australians in regional and remote areas better access to opportunities to practice and experience the arts. The Regional Arts Fund also aims to increase opportunities for isolated Indigenous and/or smaller regional communities. The Regional Arts Fund aims to achieve sustainable cultural development in communities across regional, remote and very remote Australia by facilitating cultural partnerships and networks, supporting the professional development and employment of regional artists, and by funding community arts projects.

Applications for Round 2 are now open and will close 9 August 2010 for projects commencing after 1 January 2011. For more information, including guidelines and applications form, go to [www.rav.net.au](http://www.rav.net.au)

**For more information, please contact:**

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## REGIONAL ARTS FUND PROJECTS Round 1, 2010 VICTORIA

9 projects totalling \$88,500



Applicant	Project Title	Project Summary	Project Location/Electorate	Amount Approved
Phil Cousins and Heather Richardson	Norm and Elsie's Art Safari	A performance piece starring alter egos Norm and Elsie Miller using their old caravan to tour local art and artefacts around the South-West and beyond.	Portland/Wannon	\$5,000
The Zingaro Festival Working Group	The Zingaro Music Festival	This project consists of workshops in Klezmer, Gypsy and regional Eastern European Music at the Zingaro Festival at Malmsbury. Leading musicians in these forms will be engaged.	Malmsbury/Ballarat	\$4,800
Groundwork Youth Theatre	Groundwork Youth Theatre	To establish a youth theatre company to provide opportunities to all youth to develop theatre skills and performance opportunities in the Wellington region.	Stratford/Gippsland	\$5,000
Kerryn Finch	'Married to a Blockie' A history of the women of Robinvale	A look at the social history of the women of Robinvale, the wives of the returned soldiers, the stories of the women of Robinvale in the post WW2 era of the Soldier Settlement Blocks.	Kerang/Mallee	\$5,000
Gippsland Lakes Community Health	campFIRE-WATERhole	'campFIRE-WATERhole' will be a permanent sculpture installation of great cultural and environmental significance. Sited in the heart of Lakes Entrance it will be a meeting place for all.	Lakes Entrance/Gippsland	\$9,000
Swan Hill Aboriginal Health Services	Creation Project (Pondi 2)	The Creation Story is a CCD multi-artform project with the Indigenous Community of Swan Hill culminating in a performance opening the Go North Arts Festival.	Swan Hill/Mallee	\$15,000
Foothills Music Inc.	Foothills Family Music Camp	The Foothills Family Music Camp is a biannual weekend of camping, communal eating, workshops in music and other arts, performances and cultural experiences. Engaging and enriching for the whole family.	Briarolong/Gippsland	\$14,700
YMCA Bass Coast Youth Services	Resourcing regional and remote communities	YMCA Bass Coast, local artist Trevor Wheeler and Visionary Images staff to co-facilitate a workshop program with young people towards a public exhibition.	Cowes/Flinders	\$15,000
Southern Grampians & Glenelg Primary Care Partnership	'inSpire'	For the youth of Southern Grampians to create multi-media art works and images to be projected onto local historical buildings. Local artists mentored by leading multi-media artists.	Hamilton/Wannon	\$15,000

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