



Australian Government

Regional Arts Fund



MEDIA RELEASE
For Immediate Release

\$104,855 ANNOUNCED FOR REGIONAL ARTISTS AND COMMUNITIES IN VICTORIA

The Minister for Regional Australia, Regional Development, Local Government and the Arts, the Hon Simon Crean MP has announced a total of \$104,855 of funding for regional and rural communities across Victoria. Ten projects have been funded through the highly competitive Regional Arts Fund, an Australian Government program delivered in Victoria by Regional Arts Victoria.

The Chair of Regional Arts Victoria, Dennis Goldner, spoke about the opportunities that will be provided to the community through this round of funding. "It is a wonderful result to have 50% of the funded projects involving young people across the state, participating in a broad range of artistic disciplines and ideas. Art is a vital element in regional communities and enriches the lives of young people. This result shows that the federal government appreciates their regional constituents and recognizes the role young people and the arts play in community wellbeing." said Goldner.

Successful applicants in Round 1, 2011 include:

- '*52 Flash Mobs in 52 Weeks*' - a concept from Viral Arts Lab that will engage a social media artist to mentor the St Andrews Youth (SAY) in **St Andrews**. Coordinated by the Arts and Culture Division of Nillumbik Shire Council, the group will embark on an ambitious 52 Flash Mobs in 52 Weeks project aiming to teach young people about the creation of strong community outcomes through social media.
- In **Bairnsdale, East Gippsland Art Gallery** will engage local primary school students to work with the Water Watch organisation and local artists on a project entitled H2O Squared. They will create a touring exhibition about regional water catchments while strengthening East Gippsland Art Gallery's ongoing engagement with isolated communities.
- An exciting collaboration between the **City of Ballarat, Platform Youth Theatre** and young people in Ballarat, GRIT is a theatre residency project that works with young single mums from the **Link-Up program & Ballarat's 'Mayte' youth theatre** to create a new piece of theatre.
- In **Portland**, artist **Catherine Bailey** will create a large sea hammock on the foreshore that reflects the experience of being under the sea on the dry land, as part of the Upwelling Festival.

A complete list of the funded projects is attached and available from www.rav.net.au.

The Regional Arts Fund is an Australian Government initiative that provides 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 supports sustainable cultural development in communities across regional, remote and very remote Australia by facilitating cultural partnerships and networks, assisting the professional development and employment of regional artists, and by funding community arts projects.

Applications for Round 2, 2011 will close 15 August for projects commencing after 1 January 2012. For more information, including guidelines and applications form, go to www.rav.net.au

For more information on Round 1 2011 funded projects, please contact:

Maria O'Dwyer
Marketing and Publicity Manager, Regional Arts Victoria
M: 0433 905 581
P: (03) 9644 1802
E: modwyer@rav.net.au



Australian Government

Regional Arts Fund



REGIONAL ARTS FUND PROJECTS Round 1, 2011 – VICTORIA 10 projects totalling \$104,855

Applicant	Project Title	Project Summary	Project Location	Amount Approved
East Gippsland Art Gallery	H2O Squared	With primary school students, Water Watch and local artists will create a touring exhibition about regional water catchments. The project will strengthen East Gippsland Art Gallery's ongoing engagement with isolated communities.	East Gippsland Shire	\$5,000
Swan Hill Rural City Council	The Fairfax Festival (George Fairfax Memorial Regional Youth Theatre)	The festival provides youth from regional and remote communities with the opportunity to engage in performance development in a non-competitive, creative environment.	Swan Hill	\$15,000
Right Click Records	All Things Music (ATM) project	Workshops by industry professionals with young musicians which cover many aspects of the music industry. The workshops will build skills and capacity for regional youth musicians.	Ballarat	\$4,625
Newstead 2021 Inc.	Newstead Community Garden: The heART Garden	The Newstead Community Garden, one of the only permaculture-designed, biodynamic community gardens in Australia, had its genesis in 2008 and this project, <i>The HeART Garden</i> , will now bring contemporary art into the very centre of this beautiful and productive community space. The funding will allow the community to work alongside practicing artists in the design, creation and installation of a variety of practical and aesthetic pieces including tables and seating, arbours, noticeboards, a sundial, a pizza oven and a sculptural central garden feature.	Newstead	\$4,960
Catherine Bailey	What Lies Beneath - an upwelling experience	'What Lies Beneath' is a community project for the Upwelling Festival Portland to construct a large 'sea hammock' on the foreshore that reflects the experience of being under the sea on the dry land.	Portland	\$4,600
The Artisan Promotions	Feeling the Ceiling-Fashion for Rock Climbing	'Feeling the Ceiling - Fashion for Rock Climbers' will be a theatrical fashion parade inspired by Rock Climbing. The parade will showcase wearable art and include physical theatre using a climbing wall and a runway.	Natimuk	\$15,000
Arts and Culture Division, Nillumbik Shire Council	52 Flash Mobs in 52 Weeks, youth media (VIRAL ARTS LAB)	VIRAL ARTS LAB, an integral component of '52 Flash Mobs in 52 Weeks', will engage a social media artist to mentor the St Andrews Youth Group (SAY).	St Andrews	\$15,000
City of Ballarat	GRIT - Youth Theatre Project	GRIT is a theatre residency project with Platform Youth Theatre to work with young single mothers from the Link-Up program and Ballarat's 'Mayte' Youth Theatre to create a piece using Platform Youth Theatre's <i>Tenderness</i> as a catalyst. <i>Tenderness</i> is an award winning show comprising of two gritty half hour pieces written by Patricia Cornelius and Christos Tsiolkas about the concerns of youth.	Ballarat	\$12,500
Nowa Nowa Arts Melange	BLOW UP	Blow Up will bring to the already fabulous <i>Nowa Nowa Nudes</i> (nowanowa.com) a new and fresh angle with the creation and installation of inflatable, transportable, intimate venues for story-telling, puppetry, organic sound recordings and light reflection. The funding provides these inflatable spaces to the community as not only the venues in which these arts activities can occur but also as a new piece of art in themselves.	Nowa Nowa	\$13,170

Patron: Professor Alex Chernov AO QC, Governor of Victoria

Regional Arts Victoria connects artists with communities