Media Release

Mr Danny Pearson MP
Minister for Economic Growth and Jobs
Minister for Finance
Acting Minister for Creative Industries

Wednesday, 17 September 2025

BRINGING EVEN MORE ARTS AND CULTURE TO VICTORIA'S REGIONS

Next year, towns across regional Victoria will be buzzing with theatre, dance, music and comedy shows thanks to the Allan Labor Government.

Acting Minister for Creative Industries Danny Pearson today announced a new round of the Small Regional Presenters program, which helps not-for-profits and community groups attract performances to their local area.

Grants up to $15,000 are available to support the presentation of events, as well as enabling local venues and presenters to build their skills and capacity, develop long term plans for their businesses and reach new audiences.

Previous rounds of the program have supported a comedy show and mentoring workshop for young people in Tallarook, a series of acoustic performances in Warragul, a children's music concert and dance party at Castlemaine Community House, and cabaret and circus performances in Mansfield and South Gippsland.

The Small Regional Presenters program is a Victorian Government initiative delivered by Regional Arts Victoria.

Victoria's creative economy provides employment to more than 327,000 workers – from performers and producers to designers, editors, technicians and beyond. Behind every worker is a family – and that's why we're backing the people who power our creative state.

For further details about the program and to apply, visit the Regional Arts Victoria website.

Quotes attributable to Acting Minister for Creative Industries Danny Pearson

"We are the creative capital of Australia and all Victorians should have the opportunity to enjoy and support what's on offer."

"Small Regional Presenters has a big impact on local communities, drawing in bigger crowds at local venues, filling cafes, hotels, and local businesses."

Quotes attributable to Regional Arts Victoria CEO, Jo Porter

"The wonderful thing about the Small Regional Presenters Program is that it resources Victoria's small venues to create experiences in the halls at the heart of their communities."

"From Mildura to Mallacoota and beyond, if you're thinking of offering performances, I encourage you to apply."

Media contact: Liam Mcallister | 0488 771 334| liam.mcallister@minstaff.vic.gov.au