

ARMIDALE REGIONAL - GLEN INNES SEVERN - GUNNEDAH - GWYDIR - INVERELL - LIVERPOOL PLAINS - MOREE PLAINS - NARRABRI - TENTERFIELD - TAMWORTH REGIONAL - URALLA - WALCHA

WELCOME

ARTSTATE AND LOTS MORE CREATIVE OPPORTUNITIES

We have certainly been criss-crossing the New England North West this quarter- from artist residencies in **Wallabadah** to family arts festivals in **Glen Innes**. While some of our focus has naturally been on **Tamworth** (and artstate) we have been very conscious of making sure that our whole region has been represented. Read up on our projects - *Art Connections* and *Art Word Place* which were part of the artstate program.

Arts North West continues to provide advice and support to artists and arts organisations across the region. We are also fortunate to be part of a key network of regional arts development organisations, who meet three times a year for high level strategic discussions and networking sessions with metropolitan arts organisations and funding bodies.

Our Board meeting was held in August in **Tamworth**, and we look forward to our November meeting in **Narrabri**.

Caroline Downer
Executive Director



COMMUNITY EVENT

BUILDING CREATIVE EXPERIENCES



Lift Off! The Festival of Wind was a huge success on 1 September with 500 people visiting King Edward Park, **Glen Innes** and joining in the festivities that included the High Country Hand Made Showcase, artist run art activities, bubbles and live music from musicians from across the region. The day finished with a performance by Linsey Pollak, at the Glen Innes Chapel Theatre. This event was funded by White Rock Wind Farm. Check it out here: <https://issuu.com/artsnw/docs/finalreport>

ARTSTATE TAMWORTH

JOIN THE CONVERSATION AND CELEBRATE THE ARTS IN REGIONAL NSW



WOW!! Artstate **Tamworth** - what a great event for our region! Arts North West was front of stage in the arts program, and many of our artists and artsworkers were part of panels in the Speaker's Program. Arts North West will send out an overview document shortly with more information.

The highlight for Arts North West was the exhibition *Art Word Place* which celebrated the writers and artists from our region.



The Art Connections Arts Trail and Open Weekend was a great weekend of arts, community and connection held over 31 October to 4 November. Over 60 venues from small studios, shop fronts and regional galleries registered to take part in this creative journey through our region. 20,000 copies of the directory were distributed throughout the region and to all **12 LGAs**. This project was funded by the Federal Government's Building Better Regions fund.

Arts North West is assisted by the NSW Government through Create NSW and the partnership of twelve local government authorities in the New England North West.

Arts North West acknowledges Aboriginal people as the traditional custodians of the lands we work on; we recognise the strength, resilience and capacity of Aboriginal people and respect the Aboriginal Elders past and present.

ABORIGINAL CULTURAL SUPPORT PROGRAM

SUPPORT, ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE FOR ABORIGINAL ARTISTS AND COMMUNITIES



It has been a very busy quarter in the Aboriginal Cultural Support Program, with some projects finishing, and others starting.

Participants in *Create the Curator* (professional development program for emerging regional Aboriginal curators in **Tamworth** and **Moree**) travelled to Sydney for workshops with Arts Law, Regional Arts NSW and exclusive tours at the Australian Museum and Museum of Contemporary Art. (Funded by Create NSW)

The *Yesterday Today Tomorrow* project moved to **Moree**, with filming of Auntie Noeline Briggs-Smith as the lead Elder and dancer Paul Spearim. A small display was held at UNE Peel House during Artstate **Tamworth**.



Major exhibitions will take place at the **Moree** Dhiiyaan Centre in December, **Inverell** Art Gallery in February 2020 and Ray Walsh House **Tamworth** in May 2020. (Funded by Federal Government Indigenous Language and the Arts Program)

We were successful with the submission to the Australia Council for the Arts: *Yinaar: A Creative Exploration of Aboriginal Women's Business in the New England North West*. The project has a strong foundation of cultural protocols and consultation and is informed by documented research into traditional women's business and storytelling. Under the guidance of Auntie Yvonne Kent, Lorraine Riggs will travel throughout our region, to all **12 LGAs**.



In August, the artists for *Miyay Miyay* (7 Sisters) met at **Wallabadah** for a three-day residency. The work – a production based on the Gomerioi version of the Seven Sisters Songline – is being developed for a small regional tour next year to **Moree, Narrabri, Tamworth** and **Armidale**. There was also a work in progress presentation as part of Artstate **Tamworth** in October. (Funded by Creative Koori and Regional Arts Fund).



ARTS NW ON TOUR

PERFORMING ARTS NETWORK



Mike Burge attended the Performing Arts Exchange in Caloundra to source productions for 2020 and beyond. He also attended Theatre Network NSW's Indy Theatre Forum and presented at SALON for Arts on Tour, both as part of artstate **Tamworth**.

Productions around the region this quarter included:
Roald Dahl's The Twits toured to **Narrabri, Glen Innes, Bingara, Armidale, Gunnedah, Quirindi**, and **Tamworth** in August. *Sunset Strip* played at **Quirindi, Gunnedah** and **Inverell** in October, and *You'll never guess where I hid the Cheese* toured to **Quirindi, Gunnedah** and **Bingara** also in October.

OUT AND ABOUT

CONVERSATIONS, NEWS, NETWORKING, SKILLS

Caroline, with Elizabeth Rogers CEO Regional Arts NSW met with General Managers and Mayors of **Liverpool Plains Shire Council, Narrabri Shire Council** and **Armidale Regional Council**.

Caroline has been working with **Walcha Council** on developing their Public Art Policy and has also been appointed to the **Inverell Arts in Health Working Group**.

Caroline attended the Destination Network Country and Outback Fossil Experience Development Master Plan Workshop and UNE Stakeholder Event in **Armidale**. She was also the judge for the Arts **Gunnedah Art Prize** in August.

Mike Burge delivered social media workshops in **Narrabri, Wee Waa** and **Boggabri** in September.

MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS

TO STATE ARTFORM ADVISORY BOARDS

Create NSW has undergone a review of its funding programs, and all applications will now be assessed by an artform-specific Advisory Board rather than a cross-sector panel of peers. Artform Advisory Boards have been made up of artform leaders and representatives from the broader sector to improve transparency and ensure greater confidence in decision-making processes.

Caroline has been appointed by the Minister for the Arts, Don Harwin, to the Classical Music Assessment Board. Sally Blackwood, Treasurer of Arts North West was appointed to the Opera, Musical Theatre and Chorus Board.

