

**Arts North West Quarterly** 

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

#### WELCOME AN ONLINE WORLD

The arts sector is still very much affected by COVID-19 and the NSW Health Orders that are in place. While museums and galleries are able to reopen (with conditions), live music and theatre is still very much shut down.

Arts North West continues to provide professional advice and support to arts and arts organisations in our regionincluding resources around reopening. We also launched our first micro grants to assist independent artists to explore options during and post COVID-19.

We are fortunate that we can be very agile and flexible in our approach so our meetings and one-on-one advice are all now online. The RADO network continues to meet fortnightly to gain a strategic overview of what is happening



across NSW, and to inform State government of issues on the ground.

Planning is now underway for a number of 'boutique' workshops that have been requested by our stakeholders. These workshops are supported by the University of New England. We hope to hold these in person, but have contingencies in place if we need to move online.

- 26 August, **Glen Innes** *Develop your Online Marketplace*. Presenter Michael Burge
- 15 September, **Armidale** *Gift of the Gab: how to write an awesome artist statement*. Presenter Rachael Parsons, Director at NERAM.
- 27 October, **Tamworth** AND 30 October **Tenterfield.** *Disaster Planning Workshop for Museums* Presenter Julie McCarthy
- 10 November, **Narrabri** *Art Handling and Installation*. Presenter Caroline Downer
- 8-11 December, **Armidale**, **Tamworth**, **Inverell**. Presenter Monica Davidson

Stay safe and well, together we can look after and support our wonderful creative community.

Caroline Downer, OAM
Executive Director



#### ANW MICRO GRANTS

SUPPORTING OUR CREATIVE COMMUNITIES



In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Arts North West offered Quick Response Micro Grants of up to \$1,000 for independent professional practising artists across all art forms, community groups and arts organisations to support their creative endeavour.

We are delighted to announce the following successful applicants:

1. Natasha Soonchild, **Nundle**To research and develop an at-home

sewing kit which would provide materials and instructions to produce a unique soft sculpture.

2. Sarah Leete, **Baan Baa** 

To take her practice online and compete in the 'virtual world', and to remain connected with her audience.

3. Alex Robson, **Inverell** 

To run an online workshop series for HSC and university students on Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet.

- 4. Stephanie Marshall, **Inverell**To roll out collaborative UnstopAbility performance sessions online through the Zoom Pro platform.
- 5. Dhiiyaan Aboriginal Centre, **Moree** To assist two Aboriginal artists, Chris Roberts and Dorothy Tighe, to adapt to self-isolation whilst also supporting their communities through creative projects.

6. Leah Bullen, Armidale

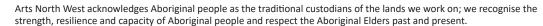
To undertake an at home residency and record the environment and activities of my family home.

- 7. Walcha Handmade, **Walcha**Online art lessons aimed at children.
- 8. Alan Buchan, **Tamworth**To record and release a song in support of the heroes who have been overlooked during the COVID-19 crisis.
- 9. NERAM, Armidale

To offer a NERAM (from home) 5-week Artist Residency.

- 10. Fiona Macdonald, **Armidale**To undertake a home-based residency experimenting with new drawing techniques.
- 11.Helena Pastor, **Armidale**To produce quality digital recordings to share with the New England community and further afield.

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.







## ABORIGINAL CULTURAL SUPPORT PROGRAM

SUPPORT, ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE FOR ABORIGINAL ARTISTS AND COMMUNITIES



Yesterday Today Tomorrow worked with six emerging Kamilaroi artists who developed works inspired by Country.

The exhibition was held at Ray Walsh House in **Tamworth** 1 June – 1 July and is now travelling to **Moree** for showing at the Dhiiyaan Centre 3 August - 30 September.

Films have been distributed to the project participants and are now live on ANW website <a href="www.artsnw.com.au/yesterday-today-tomorrow">www.artsnw.com.au/yesterday-today-tomorrow</a>

#### ANW CONNECT

CULTURAL TOURISM IN THE NENW

A professional development workshop *Develop your Online Marketplace* for ANW Connect members will be held 26 August **Glen Innes**, and ONLINE 2 September. With the uncertainty around COVID-19, this is a great opportunity to utilise the Arts North West Connect website more and to offer an opportunity to our members to upskill for online opportunities.

ANW will be running an online marketplace on the ANW website <a href="https://www.artsnwconnect.com.au">www.artsnwconnect.com.au</a> (in November in place of a physical art trail this year.



#### **ARTS NORTH WEST ON TOUR**

PERFORMING ARTS NETWORK

All ANWOT tours that had to be cancelled due to COVID-19 have been successfully rescheduled to 2021 with thanks to all the venue



managers in our LGAs for their flexible approach to making it happen.

We are working/renegotiating options for our Pocket Productions. *Country Witches Association*, a community-building comedy/music show with comedian Mandy Nolan will tour to **Barraba**, **Quirindi**, **Inverell** and **Deepwater** in November 2020 (with COVID-safe theatre re-openings).

Natasha Soonchild's *Shootin' Sadie*, a home-grown production from **Nundle** will now tour in April/May 2021 (places still available for small halls, etc).



### **OUT AND [NOT] ABOUT**CONVERSATIONS, NEWS, NETWORKING, SKILLS



A series of one-on-one zoom sessions with the ED "Art and not about" were held 15-17 June. Discussions were around reopening post COVID-19, RAF funding, promotion/marketing, and included artists from Inverell, Armidale, Tamworth, Currabubula and Gunnedah.

During this quarter, all meetings went online. Caroline has attended Inverell Arts in Health Working Group for the **Inverell** Hospital, assesssed applications for public art for **Guyra** main street and met with tourism in **Glen Innes**. Caroline also curated an exhibition "Make your Mark" for '100% NERAM' in **Armidale**, opening 31 July.

Caroline judged the Creative New England competition for UNE and has been part of strategic meetings for UNE's Tamworth campus.

Caroline assessed project, annual and multiyear applications to the Classical Music Artform Advisory Board. She has also been asked to assist in developing content for the Create NSW webinar series as part of this Advisory Board.

The RADO network continues to be a valuable resource and brains trust. Check out the RADO network case study e-book that ANW developed: www.artsnw.com.au/s/Ebook\_RADOnetwork\_case-studies\_lowres.pdf

ANW continues to provide data to State and Federal governments around impact of COVID-19 on the sector.



### **ENABLE ARTS**

ARTS AND DISABIILTY PROJECTS

The Panorama Project has been a huge success. 1000 sketchbooks have gone out across the region and we have had a massive traction on social media where participants have been sharing their artwork and showing their progress. Check out the participant videos at <a href="https://www.artsnw.com.au/panorama-project">www.artsnw.com.au/panorama-project</a>

We are now planning a small regional tour through the NENW library network.

As part of this project we were also able to pay an artist fee to 10 artists (including 1 writer) to participate: The successful artists were:

- 1. Nadia Kliendanze, **Inverell**
- 2. Maree Kelly, Gunnedah
- 3. Carmel Higgins, Tenterfield
- 4. Paula Jenkins, Walcha
- 5. James O'Hanlon, Armidale
- 6. Trish Petersen, Armidale
- 7. Jan Clark, Rocky River
- 8. Joanne Stead, Tamworth
- 9. Isabelle Devos, **Armidale**
- 10. Sophie Masson, **Uralla**























