

ANNUAL REPORT

2019

Arts
north
west

connections • creativity • communities

Arts north west

PO Box 801 Glen Innes NSW 2370
16 East Avenue, Glen Innes 2370

t: 02 6732 4988 • m: 0428 042 622

• e: office@artsnw.com.au • artsnw.com.au • fb.com/artsnw • @artsnorthwest

ABN 13 294 582 557



Cover: Sculptor James Rogers

*Photography: Christine Davis, Caroline Downer, Lorraine Fishenden and Stephanie McIntosh
Suzie Wicks (pp.7, 16, 19) Critical Stages (p.21), Glen Innes from Above (pp.26-31),
Tamworth Regional Gallery (pp.33-35), Anthony Hand (pp.38-40)*

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 Aboriginal Elders past and present.

VISION

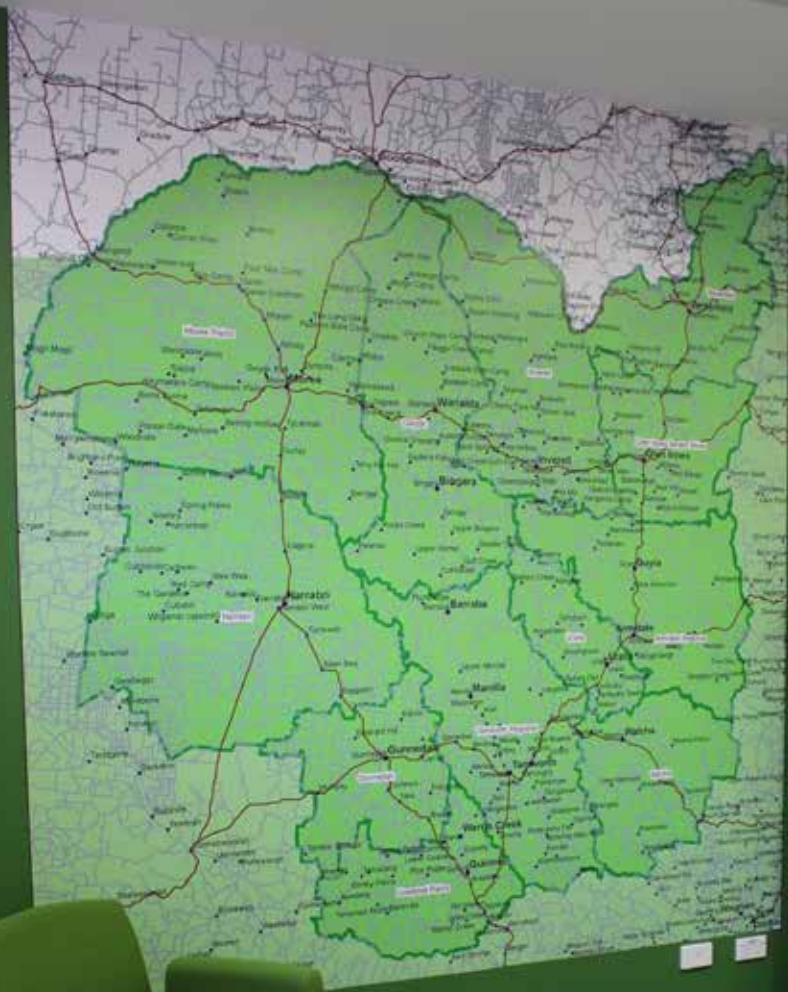
**A rich cultural landscape in the
New England North West of NSW.**

MISSION

**To generate creative opportunities in the
New England North West of NSW.**

connections • creativity • communities





connections
creativity
communities

Arts n^{orth} west

artswm.com.au
fb.com/artswm
radio@artswm.com.au
(02) 6732 4988



FROM THE CHAIR

2019! An eventful twelve months for Arts North West. We have delivered a host of activities, programs and projects while continuing to provide advice, advocacy and assistance to councils, arts and cultural organisations and artists. Our annual program was achieved in conjunction with planning for, organising and co-hosting Artstate 2019, the NSW regional arts conference, which was held in Tamworth from 31 October to 3 November 2019. This was a remarkable cultural and arts event that drew many people from various NSW cities and other regions to the rural region covered by ANW and where ANW showcased our region, artists and experiences to be enjoyed when visiting. After attending Artstate 2019 the Honourable Ben Franklin MLC spoke to the NSW Parliament about the event and congratulated those involved. He detailed Artstate 2019 in the 21 November 2019 Legislative Hansard which can be read at: <https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/Hansard/Pages/HansardResult.aspx#/docid/HANSARD-1820781676-81252>

One of my favourite projects during the year was “Arts North West Connect”. To coincide with Artstate, the Art Connections Open Weekend was held on 31 October to 4 November 2019. It was fantastic that 62 venues participated across all of our local government areas. A creative directory was also developed to assist visitors in exploring artist studios, galleries, museums and other cultural venues and experiences of our region with 20,000 copies distributed. Hopefully after the passing of the current COVID-19 pandemic we will have visitors to our area to experience all we have to offer. This project will certainly cement Arts North West Connect as a permanent fixture driving cultural tourism to the NENW.

I would like to acknowledge and give thanks to our dedicated and passionate Executive Director Caroline Downer as well as staff members, Stephanie McIntosh, Lorraine Fishenden, Christine Davis, Michael Burge and Hayley Clark for their expertise, passion and innovative manner with which they delivered their contributions throughout the year.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and express my appreciation to my fellow Board and Strategic Advisory Council members for their participation and support, and I am sure I echo their sentiments in saying what a pleasure it is to work with Caroline and her team.

We appreciate the support from our major funding organisation Create NSW and our partner Regional Arts NSW. We also acknowledge the contributions made by our participating councils and look forward to working with you again during 2020 to further enrich the cultural landscapes of your communities.

I suggest that you get a glass of your favourite infusion, sit back, and enjoy reading everything achieved by Arts North West during 2019.



Anna Watt
Chair, Arts North West

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It seems a little strange writing this during the COVID-19 pandemic when so much of our arts sector has been devastated by the new health requirements of social distancing.

It makes looking back on 2019 all the more poignant when you can see the kilometres travelled and the face-to-face engagement with artists in our region. 2019 was a year when Arts North West was out and about in communities across our region – delivering workshops, running projects and providing networking opportunities for our artists and arts organisations.

It was year of large-scale projects:

- 500 people participated in *Lift Off! The Festival of the Wind* which celebrated our new office in King Edward Park.
- *Rivers to Ridges* was a two-year project finished with a stunning exhibition at Tamworth Regional Gallery following consultation with over twenty Elders, and in ten Aboriginal communities.
- *Miyay Miyay* was a region-wide creative development on the Gamilaroi version Seven Sisters Songline which saw young Aboriginal women empowered through culture.
- *Art Connections: Creative Journeys across the New England North West* was a compilation of four tourist trails in one and across almost 100,000 km². Sixty-two venues took part in an open weekend as part of Artstate Tamworth.
- *Artstate Tamworth* was the culmination of the year, with Arts North West was the local RADO partner for Regional Arts NSW who delivered the state regional arts conference. Arts North West provided six key activities as part of this event, representing over 150 artists in our region. My highlight was curating Art Word Place, an exhibition at the Tamworth Regional Gallery which focused on the interplay between text and image. Eighteen writers from the Arts North West region were commissioned to create a short poem based on their home landscape. Eighteen selected visual artists have then drawn on this composition as the basis and inspiration of a new work capturing the identity and sense of place of the New England North West. This exhibition captured the themes of the time - of rivers, plains and sky, of drought, of adversity but also of optimism.

It is this optimism and positivity that continues to inspire us to work for our artists in the New England North West. I would like to thank our team – Stephanie McIntosh, Christine Davis, Michael Burge, Lorraine Fishenden and Hayley Clark who have all put in above and beyond to make 2019 such a success.

Caroline Downer
Executive Director, Arts North West



OBJECTIVE 1: CREATIVITY

Develop, broaden and diversify our audiences and their participation in arts and cultural activities

ABORIGINAL CULTURAL SUPPORT

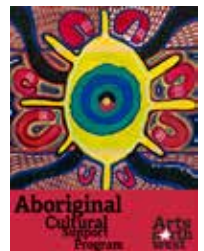
Arts North West, through extensive community consultation and strategic partnerships, is working with numerous individuals and organisations to build and improve opportunities for Aboriginal arts and communities in our region.

Arts North West contracts 2 Rivers Pty Ltd to manage projects in its Aboriginal Cultural Support Program.

Lorraine Fishenden provides advice and assistance for Aboriginal artists within our region and regularly offers professional development opportunities through project funding. We also thank Pene Riggs for all her work behind-the-scenes at 2 Rivers keeping track of our many Aboriginal projects.

A grant from Create NSW (Creative Koori) has allowed Arts North West to continue Lorraine's employment to 30 June 2019 to drive the Arts North West Aboriginal Cultural Support Program. **Capacity-building, Networking and Sustainability: ANW Aboriginal Cultural Support Program** provided a dedicated, cohesive, and regionally-based support for Aboriginal arts and cultural development in the NENW allowing our community greater access to opportunities to strengthen their culture through their arts practice and career development.

In 2019 Lorraine delivered community consultations and professional development workshops across the region. She developed the ANW Aboriginal Arts and Cultural Strategy which will inform our Aboriginal program into the future.





Creative Projects in the Aboriginal Cultural Support Program included:

Rivers to Ridges and the stories in between was an innovative project that used the traditional concept of songlines in a contemporary form of multimedia to share and document stories of Elders, artists and areas of Aboriginal significance in our region. Lead artists Dolly Jerome, Loren Ryan, Jack Conlan and Jade Porter accompanied Lorraine Fishenden (Project Manager) and Tim Leha (film maker) to collect and capture some wonderful stories from over 20 Aboriginal Elders from across our region: Tingha, Toomelah, Moree, Narrabri, Terry Hie Hie, Tamworth, Walhallow, Tenterfield, Gunnedah and Wee Waa. This culminated in an exhibition at the Tamworth Regional Gallery in February. Supported by the Federal Government through Indigenous Languages and the Arts.

Yinaar (Kamilaroi for woman) is a creative exploration of Women's Business in the New England North West. The project is informed by documented research into traditional Songlines and story-telling of women's practices, and with key engagement with our Aboriginal Elders, Knowledge Holders and Community. This two year project will finish in 2021 with an Aboriginal-curated exhibition at two regional galleries in the New England North West. Funded by the Australia Council for the Arts.







Create the Curator was a professional development program for emerging regional Aboriginal curators to gain the skills and networks required to establish themselves as curators living and working in regional NSW. In 2019, participants attended professional development workshops with Sharni Jones, Manager, Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Collection at the Australian Museum, and Sandra McMahon, Director of Weswal Gallery. They also travelled to Sydney with exclusive guided tours at the Australian Museum and the Museum of Contemporary Art as well as discussions with Arts Law and Regional Arts NSW. The exhibition opened at Weswal Gallery in February in Tamworth with excellent attendance and much positive feedback. Supported by Create NSW through the Aboriginal Regional Arts Fund.



Yesterday Today Tomorrow documents stories from key sites in the North West of NSW. Six emerging Kamilaroi artists are being mentored to develop works inspired by Country, culminating in public exhibitions across the region in 2020. Filming was completed in Ashford (Liza Duncan, Vicky Duncan, Brent Emerson), Manilla (Len Waters, Quarralia Knox, Paris Knox) and Moree (Noeline Briggs-Smith, Paul Spearim, Elizabeth Munro). A small display was held at UNE Peel House during Artstate Tamworth before it goes on a regional tour next year. Supported by the Federal Government through Indigenous Languages and the Arts.







Miyay Miyay is the creative development of a performing arts piece based on the Gamilaroi version of the Seven Sisters songline, and inspired by Country and the landscape of the New England North West. This project is focused on the central artistic collaboration between two key Gamilaroi artists – writer Cathy Craigie and dancer/choreographer Katie Leslie. *Miyay Miyay* comprises research and development, a creative residency, mentorships, presentation and documentation components.

In 2019, there were a number of visits to significant Aboriginal sites in our region - Boobera Lagoon and Mt Kaputar. In August, artists came together at Wallabadah for a three-day residency to develop the work for a initial viewing as part of Artstate Tamworth in October. This project has been an important empowerment for Aboriginal women with a number of young Aboriginal girls mentored as part of the creative process. A production is being developed for a small regional tour in 2020. Funded by NSW Government Creative Koori and Federal Government Regional Arts Fund.







ARTS NORTH WEST ON TOUR



Arts North West On Tour (ANWOT) is a regional network of small-to-medium performing arts venues in the New England North West coordinated by Arts North West. It promotes and negotiates touring productions for its venues and provides touring resources.

The following tours were negotiated for the network in 2019 during challenging times that included ongoing drought and unseasonal bushfires:

- *Dolores* an original production based around themes of surviving domestic violence by Sam Productions included Gunnedah Civic Theatre on its tour for International Women's Day in March.
- A Critical Stages production, *Kaput* performed by Tom Flanagan, toured to Chapel Theatre, Glen Innes; School of Arts, Tenterfield; Roxy Theatre, Bingara; Royal Theatre, Quirindi; and Inverell Cultural Group during late March. Audience numbers averaged 37% capacity.
- The *Melbourne International Comedy Festival Roadshow* toured during June to School of Arts, Tenterfield; Chapel Theatre, Glen Innes; TAS Hoskins Centre, Armidale; Gunnedah Civic Theatre; Royal Theatre, Quirindi; Inverell Cultural Group, and Capitol Theatre, Tamworth, averaging 76% capacity.
- Spare Parts Puppet Theatre's *The Twits* (based on the book by Roald Dahl) toured in August to Gunnedah Civic Theatre; Royal Theatre, Quirindi; Roxy Theatre, Bingara; Capitol Theatre, Tamworth; TAS Hoskins Centre, Armidale; Crossing Theatre, Narrabri; and Chapel Theatre, Glen Innes. Audience numbers averaged 61% capacity.
- *You'll Never Guess Where I Hid The Cheese* a well-reviewed production for young people from Choo Choo Troupe toured in early October to Gunnedah Civic Theatre; Royal Theatre, Quirindi, and Roxy Theatre, Bingara, just as the drought and unseasonal bushfires impacted the region. Audiences numbers consequently averaged just 9% capacity.
- Critical Stages sent *Sunset Strip* in late October Gunnedah Civic Theatre; Royal Theatre, Quirindi and Inverell Cultural Group. Audiences averaged 30%.

POCKET PRODUCTIONS continues to address the need in our region for small-scale, bespoke productions and musical acts to tour to regional venues that do not have a dedicated performing arts venue. A successful tour of Tamworth Dramatic Society's production of *I Am My Own Wife* was mounted in April 2019 and played Tamworth, Breeza, Ben Lomond, Uralla, Walcha, Deepwater and Gunnedah.

A network meeting for Arts North West ON TOUR was hosted by Inverell Cultural Group at Inverell Library on March 22; and an online meeting was held on December 11, giving representatives an opportunity to interact with their regional colleagues and discuss pertinent issues, share successes and assess failures.



2019 NETWORK MEMBERS

- Armidale - TAS Hoskins Centre
- Bingara - Roxy Theatre
- Glen Innes - Chapel Theatre
- Gunnedah - Civic Centre
- Inverell - Inverell Cultural Group
- Narrabri - Crossing Theatre
- Quirindi - Royal Theatre
- Tamworth - Capitol Theatre
- Tenterfield - School of Arts

WARIALDA CULTURAL COMMUNITY CENTRE

Carinda House

ART & CRAFT GALLERY

MON - FRI 10 - 2

SAT: 9 - 12

STUMP ROOM AVAILABLE FOR HIRE

Carinda
CIRCA 1880



**north
west
arts
trail**

**Arts
north
west**

**venue
here**

www.artsnwconnect.com





ARTS NORTH WEST CONNECT

Arts North West Connect is an online membership-based creative directory and interactive arts trail developed in partnership with arts and cultural workers of the New England North West to better promote their interests in the region's cultural tourism.

In 2019 we were successful in applying to the Building Better Regions Fund through the Australian Government, to bolster the Arts North West Connect program and deliver the Art Connections Open Weekend.

The Art Connections Open Weekend was held from 31 October to 4 November 2019. Sixty-two venues participated across all twelve local government authority areas in the New England North West. A creative directory was published to assist visitors in exploring artist studios, galleries, museums and other cultural venues and experiences of our region with 20,000 copies distributed.

Nicci Parry-Jones assisted with the gathering of information and delivered 12 networking sessions in Tourist Information Centres in Armidale Regional, Glen Innes Severn, Gunnedah Shire, Gwydir Shire, Inverell Shire, Liverpool Plains Shire, Moree Plains Shire, Narrabri Shire, Tamworth Regional, Tenterfield Shire, Uralla Shire, Walcha Council areas. A further key professional development workshop was delivered by Michael Burge in Bingara on social media.

This project will cement Arts North West Connect as a permanent fixture driving cultural tourism to the New England North West.

FILM NEW ENGLAND NORTH WEST

Film NENW is the Regional Film Office which links organisations in the region and is a contact point for filming, providing support and referrals to assist with filming requirements.

In 2019 we partnered with Screenwave in Coffs Harbour to provide support for youth filmmaking workshops in Uralla and Quirindi.







STRATEGIC PROJECTS

ANW strategic projects in 2019 focused on community participation, as well as highlighting our region's creativity as part of the state regional arts conference held in Tamworth in November:

Lift Off! The Festival of Wind was a celebration of Glen Innes Severn Community newest icon and Spring's return with 500 people enjoying a day of arts activities and music in King Edward Park, Glen Innes on 1 September 2019.

Funded by the White Rock Wind Farm, the focus was on community participation for all – with creativity at the fore. Local artists ran a number of wind-related arts activities:

- Kite Making
- Wind Socks
- Paper Planes
- Pinwheels
- Butterfly Mobiles
- Eco Dream Catchers
- Clay Birds
- Umbrella Art
- Bubble making

Live music from musicians across the region:

- UNE Recorder Ensemble
- Glen Innes Pipe Band
- New England Bassoon Quartet
- Armidale Youth Wind Ensemble
- Ventus Wind Quintet
- Cool Choir from Deepwater

The Makers Shed collaborated with Arts North West to temporarily host the artisan market, High Country Handmade Showcase at Lift Off! The day finished with a performance by Linsey Pollak, at the Glen Innes Chapel Theatre. More information here: <https://issuu.com/artsnw/docs/finalreport>.







ARTSTATE TAMWORTH

The state regional arts conference Artstate was held in Tamworth 31 October to 3 November. Artstate is a four-year project by Regional Arts NSW that shines a light on excellence in regional arts practice, and explores exciting possibilities for arts and cultural development across the state. This was a fantastic opportunity to showcase our own region to the rest of the state. A number of speakers from our region were included in panels and afternoon parallel session as part of the Artstate Conference. Artists were also part of the Festival Program: in "Yaama" the Welcome Ceremony, the Festival Club and other performing and visual arts events.

A big thankyou to Miranda Heckenberg, the Artstate Project Officer, who supported the ANW team in putting all of our projects together. These highlighted our creative diversity and included:

Art Word Place

An exhibition exploring the interaction between writers and artists from all 12 LGAs of our region was opened at the Tamworth Regional Gallery to a crowd of 350 people. The exhibition was an outstanding success and was mentioned by The Hon. Benjamin Franklin, MLC in his closing speech as a conference highlight.

Artists: Bernard Alberecht, Gabi Briggs, Leah Bullen, Peter Champion, Jan Clark, Sharon Gilmour, Michelle Hungerford, Nancy Hunt, Paula Jenkins, Maree Kelly, Rowen Matthews, Elizabeth Munro, Angus Nivison, Fay Porter, Liz Powell, Max Powell, Liz Priestley, Jo White.

Writers: Nicole Alexander, Anne Bell, Michael Burge, Esther Gardiner, John Heffernan, E.A. (Lizzie) Horne, Heather Kerridge, Peter Langston, Yvonne Ledingham, Yve Louis, Sophie Masson, Lucy Munro, Bronwyn Parry, Helena Pastor, Virginia Tapscott, Michael Thorley, Nate Weatherall, Suzie Wicks.

Curator: Caroline Downer

Places: Armidale, Curlewis, Deepwater, Glen Innes, Gunnedah, Inverell, Invergowrie, Manilla, Metz, Moree, Narrabri, Pine Ridge, Rocky River, Tamworth, Tenterfield, Uralla, Walcha, Warialda.



Connections
Creativity
Communities

Arts
North
West









ARTSTATE TAMWORTH

“Ngami-li” Come and see (ngami-li)

The stories of Elders, Aboriginal artists and community of the New England North West was presented as a selection of works from the projects *Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow* as well as videos from *Rivers to Ridge* at UNE Peel House. Elders included in the exhibition were Noelene Briggs-Smith, Liza Duncan, Len Waters and artists Vicky Duncan, Brent Emerson, Paris Knox, Quarralia Knox, Elizabeth Munro and Paul Spearim.

Connections Creativity Communities

An exhibition room in UNE Peel House was dedicated to the Art Connections North West Arts Trail Open Weekend for visitors and conference delegates to discover and experience the arts and cultural gems of the Arts North West region. This included a large scale map of our region as well as a short video which took visitors on a journey through the New England North West. The Art Connections directory was placed in all delegates’ bags, and was strongly promoted by Kevin Anderson, Member for Tamworth.

Putting the Pieces Together

Arts North West's arts and disability project was installed in the Atrium Arcade in Tamworth. Works by artists with and without a disability from Moree, Uralla, Armidale, Tamworth and Gunnedah came together to make a fun and bright installation for the public to enjoy.

Engage, a NENW Museum Network Event

Arts North West, in partnership with Tamworth Regional Gallery and the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, presented a workshop for the New England North West volunteer museum sector. Volunteers in attendance represented Saumarez Homestead Armidale, Tamworth Powerstation Museum, Armidale Folk Museum, Armidale Railway Museum, Hillgrove Museum, Bank Art Museum Moree, Tamworth Film and Sound Archive, Australian Country Music Hall of Fame, New England Regional Art Museum and Tamworth Regional Gallery.





APT STATE

- APT State is a leading provider of...
- APT State is a leading provider of...
- APT State is a leading provider of...
- APT State is a leading provider of...





ARTSTATE TAMWORTH

Miyay Miyay

This was a work-in-progress presentation of an exciting collaborative work based on the Gamilaroi version of Miyay Miyay, the Seven Sisters Songline, inspired by Country and the landscape of the New England North West. Stories about the M45 constellation, otherwise known as the Pleiades, or Seven Sisters, exist in cultures across the globe. This exciting contemporary reimagining of the Gamilaroi Songline of the Miyay Miyay explores the emotional journeys of seven different Gamilaroi women and the profound connections that pull them together.

Writer Cathy Craigie (Moree) and choreographer Katie Leslie (Moree), led Shae Duncan (Moree), Cindy Foley (Gunnedah), Monica Foley (Gunnedah), Lorelle Munro (Tamworth), Shakayla Spearim (Tamworth) and Tania Hartigan (Wallabadah) through the draft script. Images of the New England North West landscape were developed by digital storyteller Suzie Wicks and provided a backdrop to the performance. This event was also mentioned by the Hon. Benjamin Franklin, MLC in his closing speech as a conference highlight.

As a result of the performance, Arts North West has been approached by metropolitan touring companies to assist in delivering Miyay Miyay to wider audiences. It will be touring to four venues in the New England North West in late 2020.





OBJECTIVE 2: COMMUNITIES

Encourage and build community cultural capacity

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS

In partnership with Arts North West, Monica Davidson from Creative Business Plus ran four workshops in March in Gunnedah, Tamworth, Armidale and Glen Innes. She also facilitated a workshop for the NENW Cultural Leaders Network (an ANW initiated group), as well as a Creative Catch-up (Creative Industries Networking Event), both held in Tamworth.

Caroline Downer, in partnership with Tamworth Regional Gallery, developed a Museums Professional Development Workshop *Making the Most of your Collection* that was held in March in Tamworth. Margot Jolly and Ros Russell presented on collection management and on significance. This was a well-attended event with over 30 people with much positive feedback. Caroline also developed and facilitated a workshop on *Art Handling and Installation* to Narrabri Shire Council in November and Michael Burge, ANW Tour Coordinator delivered four *Social Media Savvy* workshops in Bingara, Boggabri, Narrabri and Wee Waa in the second half of the year.

A new initiative this year was *Art and About* which rolled out in June and July to venues Gunnedah, Tamworth, Walcha, Tenterfield, Uralla, Glen Innes, Armidale, Inverell and Bingara. These were one-on-one sessions with artists and arts organisations to discuss ideas and offer advice on a range of topics including project management, planning, budget, insurance, promotion and marketing, funding sources and opportunities, as well as feedback on Country Art Support Program applications.





ADVICE AND ADVOCACY

The Executive Director continues to work with a number of individuals and organisations throughout the region on funding applications, general enquiries, project development, resource referrals as well as numerous letters of support.

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

Caroline is a member of the Tamworth Regional Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee, Armidale Regional Council Arts, Cultural and Heritage Advisory Committee, the Inverell Arts and Health Working Group and the Glen Innes Public Art Panel.

CASP GRANTS

A number of applications were received for the 2019 Country Arts Support Program (CASP) which is funded through Create NSW and managed locally by Arts North West. The successful CASP projects in 2019 were:

- **Armidale Aboriginal Community Garden: *Matriarchal Image Reclamation Workshop***

A one day workshop delivered by Anaiwan and Gumbaynggirr artist Gabi Briggs where Aboriginal matriarchs and family worked together using techniques of re-colouring and collage.

- **Batiba Guwiyal Inc.: *Our Culture, Women's Ways***

A series of five workshops for young Aboriginal women from Armidale who were mentored by older women while learning new arts and cultural skills.

- **Connect Effect: *In Tune***

Local HipHop artist Nate Weatherall and Sydney-based producer Daniel Neurath conducted a two-day workshop teaching production and writing skills to young people from the local tribes of Armidale.

- **Gunnedah Shire Council: *Nagami-Li Nugurrugu (To See Tomorrow)***

A street art and mural project in Gunnedah's CBD that explored contemporary and traditional Indigenous arts practices, stories and symbols.

- **Inverell Art Society Inc.: *Sapphire City Festival Public Art Project***

Young people, invited from local schools, youth groups and diverse communities, constructed sculptures of Black Swans from paper and cane as part of the 2019 Sapphire City Festival Parade.

- **New England Writers' Centre: *Stories Connect***

Community storytelling sessions engaged with the newly-resettled Yazidi refugee community to support community relationship building.



OBJECTIVE 3: CONNECTIONS

Forge strong partnerships and networks across the region through a strong communication platform

WEBSITE

The Arts North West website provides a central resource for all things arts and culture in the New England North West and includes an integrated Arts Calendar where our stakeholders can submit their own events.

MEDIA

Arts North West publishes a fortnightly enews highlighting events around our region and funding opportunities. A quarterly newsletter is distributed to our 12 contributing local Councils. We are also active on a number of social media platforms including Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

NETWORKS AND PARTNERSHIPS

ANW continues to manage a number of networks including Visual Arts, Writers, Enable Arts, Film NENW, ANW Connect, Museums New England North West, Aboriginal Artists and Arts North West ON TOUR. Partnerships in 2019 focused on strategic initiatives and included project delivery with organisations such as Regional Arts NSW, Aboriginal Regional Arts Alliance, Tamworth Regional Gallery, The Makers Shed, Weswal Gallery, The Australian Museum, Screenwave and the Kainga Project. A new partnership with the University of New England is being developed to deliver professional development and networking opportunities in our region.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

ANW remains a strong advocate for arts and cultural development in regional NSW, working in partnership with all three levels of government. The Executive Director provides advice and input into strategies and initiatives across a number of portfolios. Caroline is proactive in the region, presenting to local Councils as well as judging various community art shows and competitions. This year, ANW has provided feedback and advice to consultants engaged for the Liverpool Shire Council Arts and Cultural Plan, and the Inverell Shire Council Arts and Cultural Plan.





OBJECTIVE 4: GOVERN

Provide sound and effective corporate governance to ensure a sustainable organisation

BOARD MEETINGS

Arts North West Regional Arts Board met four times in Glen Innes, Inverell, Tamworth and Narrabri, providing oversight of the organisation's finances, policies and strategic direction. At the AGM in May, we farewelled Sue Price, Treasurer of ANW who has been on the Board since 2013. Her contributions have been valuable and we wish her all the best in her future endeavours. We welcomed Lauren Mackley to the ANW Board.

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

ANW 2020-2022 Strategic Plan was developed and is published on the ANW website. The ANW Aboriginal Arts and Cultural Strategy was also developed by 2 Rivers. A full policy and procedures audit was undertaken with the following policies updated: Acceptable Use of ANW Equipment, ANW Board Code of Conduct, ANW Board and ED Delegations, ANW Board Conflict of Interest and Declaration, ANW Board Duty Statement, Disability Action Plan, Financial Management, Fraud and Risk Management, Governance Policy, Privacy Policy, Risk Management Policy and Plan, Staff Expense Reimbursement, Staff Flexible Work Arrangements, Staff Leave, Staff Performance Appraisal, Staff Professional Development, Strategic Advisory Council Policy, Use of Vehicles for ANW Business, Vehicle Changeover Policy, Work Health and Safety Manual.

STAFFING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Executive Director attended the Regional Arts NSW network meetings which are held three times a year. These meetings provide opportunities to engage with other RADOs from across the state and to meet with Federal and State departments and arts organisations. The Communications Officer attended an annual joint RADO meeting, and participated in teleconferences. Lorraine Fishenden also visited Sydney on a professional development trip funded by Create NSW where she met with a number of screen-based organisations including Create NSW, ABC, NITV, Screen Australia, Mod and Dreamr Studios.



Arts
North
West

connections
creativity
communities

2019 BOARD MEMBERS

Anna Watt	<i>Chair</i>
Sandy McNaughton	<i>Vice-Chair</i>
Chris Newbigin	<i>Secretary</i>
Sue Price	<i>Treasurer (to 10 May 2019)</i>
Sally Blackwood	<i>Treasurer (from 10 May 2019)</i>
Vivien Clyne	
Lauren Mackley	(from 10 May 2019)
Peter Ross	
Hayley Ward	
Len Waters	

2019 STRATEGIC ADVISORY COUNCIL

Donna Ausling	Liverpool Plains Shire
Vivien Clyne	Bank Art Museum Moree
Kay Delahunt	Tamworth Regional
Kate Dight	Inverell Shire
Tania Hartigan	Wallaby Group Wallabadah
Jennifer Kealey	Walcha
Natasha Ledger	Uralla Shire
Lauren Mackley	Gunnedah Shire
Sue Price	Moree Plains Shire (to 10 May 2019)
Rebecca Ryan	Gunnedah Conservatorium of Music
John Tramby	Moree Plains Shire (from 10 May 2019)
Louis van Ekert	McCrossins Mill Museum Uralla
Gary Verri	Tenterfield Shire
Hayley Ward	Armidale Regional
Amanda Wales	Narrabri Shire
Anna Watt	Glen Innes Severn
Frances Young	Gwydir Shire

2019 STAFF

Caroline Downer	Executive Director
Stephanie McIntosh	Communications Officer
Christine Davis	Administrative Assistant
Michael Burge	Touring Coordinator
Hayley Clark	Finance Contractor



The delivery of the ANW Aboriginal Cultural Support Program is contracted to 2 Rivers Pty Ltd, and its Managing Director Lorryne Fishenden. Miranda Heckenberg and Nicci Parry-Jones were contracted to assist in the delivery of various projects during the year.



OVERVIEW

TOTAL VALUE ANW ACTIVITIES

\$785,889

Creative Projects **\$654,216**

Marketing **\$63,773**

Professional Development/
Advice/Advocacy **\$67,900**



PARTICIPATION IN ANW ACTIVITIES

8,562

Creative projects **9,222**

Advice/Professional Development **1,316**



ANW REGION

Area **98,574 km²**

Population **186,935**

Kms travelled **52,000 km**



DIGITAL ENGAGEMENT

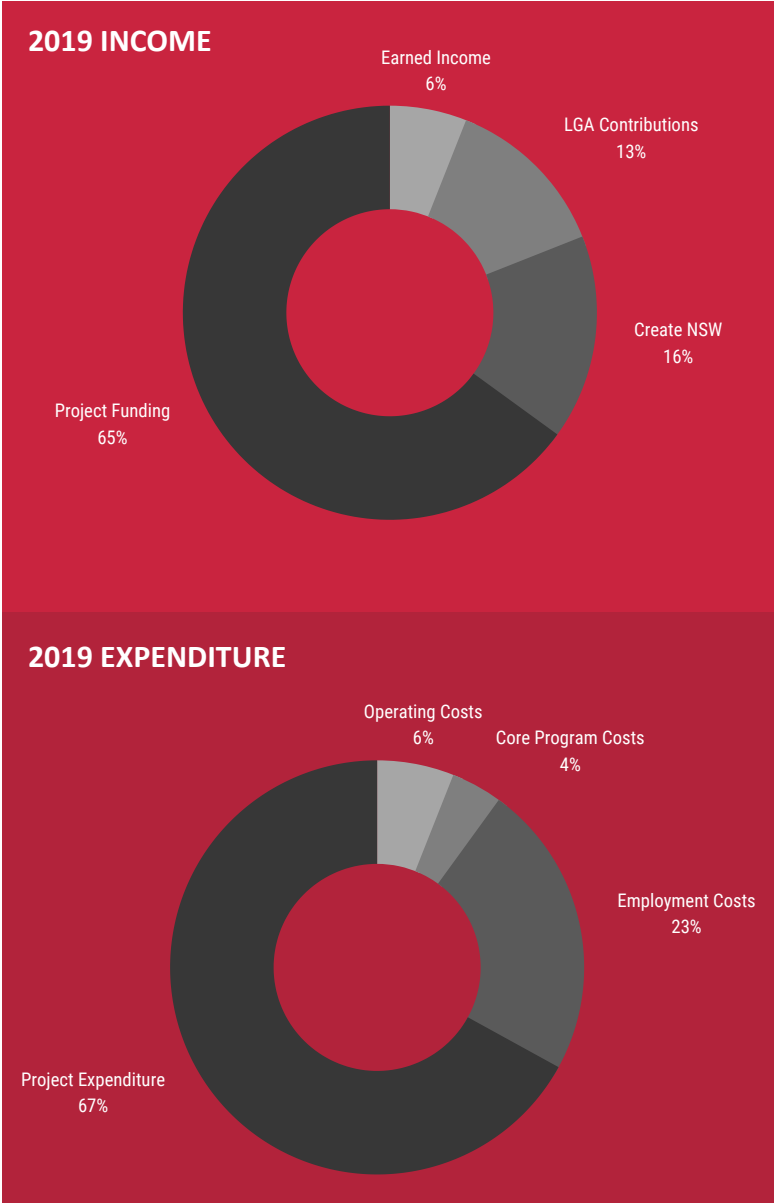
28,112

Social Media followers **4,219**

Number of responses **12,126**

Number of website visitors **4,592**

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



Audited Financial Statements are available on Arts North West website www.artsnw.com.au



FUNDING PARTNERS

CORE FUNDING

Arts North West is supported by the **NSW Government** through Create NSW



Arts North West is a member of



**REGIONAL ARTS
NSW**

Arts North West acknowledges the contribution from our 12 **Local Government Authorities** partners in the New England North West



PROJECT FUNDING

The **Rivers to Ridges** and **Yesterday Today Tomorrow** projects are funded by the Federal Government through the Ministry for the Arts and the Indigenous Language and Arts Program



Australian Government
Department of Communications and the Arts

The following projects were funded by Create NSW: **Create the Curator** (Aboriginal Regional Arts Fund) **Capacity-building, Networking and Sustainability** (Creative Koori)



Yinaar is funded by the Australia Council for the Arts



Miyay Miyay was funded by Create NSW (Creative Koori) and was also made possible by the Australian Government's Regional Arts Fund, which supports the arts in regional and remote Australia

Art Connections was funded by the Australian Government's Building Better Regions Fund



Lift Off! The Festival of Wind was funded by White Rock Wind Farm

Arts north west

 connections
creativity
communities

www.artsnw.com.au

2019