

## South East Arts Media Release

### CASP recipients for 2015

More than \$290,000 will be provided by the NSW Government through the Country Arts Support Program (CASP) to fund 99 projects in regional, rural and remote NSW. In the South East Arts region, 9 projects were supported with total funding of \$19,420. The projects cover film making, dance, theatre, literature and craft.

“We received a record number of applications for 2015 projects” explained Andrew Gray from South East Arts (SEA). “The quality of projects and applications from across the region are testament to the vibrant arts and cultural life of the area.”

The successful CASP projects in the South East Arts region include:

- **Cooma Little Theatre Inc.** (\$3,000) to engage a guest director to develop a production to mark the 60th anniversary of Cooma Little Theatre in the Monaro region. The guest director will also mentor a local, less experienced director. The production will be performed in Cooma in October/November 2015.
- **Merrimans Local Aboriginal Lands Council** (\$3,000) for the Ngardi Women’s Group to create textiles/fibre art/craft works that represent the Wallaga Lake Yuin community, environment and stories. The project will culminate in an exhibition at the Alice Springs Beanie Festival in the Northern Territory in June this year.
- **Fling Physical Theatre** (\$2,495) support the redevelopment process and production of *Socialsize Me*, a dynamic multi-media performance about social media, technology and communication. First performed in 2013, *Socialsize Me* is a relevant and important showcase of young people's perspectives on technology and culture.
- **Candelo Arts Society** (\$1,000) Candelo Village Festival Opening Concert, on Friday 27 March at the Candelo Town Hall. A free-to-the-public concert featuring local and indigenous dance and music to welcome the Bega Valley community to the Candelo Arts Society's biennial Candelo Village Festival.
- **Eurobodalla Shire Council** (\$1,825) To present a literary program with award winning, best seller, Kate Forsyth in Batemans Bay and Moruya Libraries. A workshop will stimulate and cultivate the capabilities of writers in their craft, and a seminar will engage broader community participation.
- **Bega Valley Regional Gallery** (\$3,000) Working with an experienced filmmaker from the Australian Television and Radio School (AFTRS), participants will devise their own short film using an Ipad or Iphone. Participants will work in small teams to develop scripts, capture shoots, do cut-aways and stills and edit to create their own dynamic short film.
- **Biamanga Percussion** (\$2,500) Provide a series of five day long workshops for youth throughout 2015, to develop a collaboration between live percussion performance and digital sound technologies. Occurring in Bega, Manga Drum will be directed by David Hewitt (Percussion) and Sam Martin (Digital Audio).
- **Batemans Bay Writers Festival** (\$1,600) to support an enjoyable cultural and literary experience at the 2015 Festival to be held 5-7 June long weekend in the Coach House Marina Resort, Batemans Bay.

- **Arts Council of Eurobodalla** (\$1,000) Support to cover artist fees for Term 1 program at Art Central in Moruya for the Arts Council of Eurobodalla, with a focus on Aboriginal Art programs.

Announcing the grants, Acting Premier and Minister for the Arts, Troy Grant, said the projects celebrate local arts and culture, and build community spirit by encouraging people to participate in as well as create art.

Mr Grant said the funding is part of the NSW Liberals and Nationals commitment to providing continuing support to the state's arts and cultural sector.

'The NSW Government has set a target under the NSW 2021 strategic plan to increase participation in arts and cultural activities in rural and regional NSW by ten per cent from 2010 to 2016,' Mr Grant said.

CASP is an Arts NSW devolved funding program administered by Regional Arts NSW on behalf of the NSW Government.