

South East Arts Annual Report 2018



Aboriginal Arts Development

South East Arts proudly supports Aboriginal artists in our region to connect with audiences, build their artistic practice and develop their arts business skills. In 2018 we partnered with Twofold Aboriginal Corporation to present Giiyong Festival in September — the first all Aboriginal arts and cultural festival in the region and a hugely successful event.

Giiyong Festival

Giiyong Festival featured over 100 Aboriginal musicians, dancers, singers, speakers and presenters, ranging from professional acts to community groups. As well as the headline acts from outside the region such as Baker Boy, Benny Walker and No Fixed Address, the festival showcased local creative talent. This free, family-friendly event welcomed 6000 people, one third of whom were Aboriginal. The festival provided an important platform for the Aboriginal community locally and nationally to showcase and share their culture and have their voices heard and respected.

Music and Video Project

Grow the Music and South East Arts worked with Aboriginal students from Bega and Eden Marine High Schools in 2018 to create original songs and music videos. Grow the Music came back to the region prior to Giiyong Festival to help the students prepare live performances of their songs and stayed on after the event to work intensively with local artists Gabadoo and Chelsy Atkins, in collaboration with the Docker River Band.

One Mob Dreaming Choir

South East musicians Corinne Gibbons and Chelsy Atkins worked with Aboriginal students from Pambula, Eden, Bega and Merimbula Primary Schools to create the One Mob Dreaming Choir who performed at Giiyong Festival. The choir performed original songs and were accompanied by stunning visuals on the big screen.

Bundian Way Gallery

For the last five years South East Arts has curated exhibitions for the Bundian Way Gallery in Delegate, promoting the work of Aboriginal visual artists from the region and beyond. Over 11,500 people have visited the gallery during that time, with significant artists sales totaling \$25,500 and gallery commissions supporting the Delegate Progress Association and Eden Local Aboriginal Land Council.



Arts and Health

In 2018 South East Arts delivered a range of projects in partnership with public and community health organisations. Arts and Health is the practice of using the arts to improve health and wellbeing, as well as enhancing health care experiences for staff, patients and their support networks.

Health Welcome Signs

In partnership with Southern NSW Health District, Aboriginal visual artists were featured in a range of welcome signs installed in entry doors for hospitals in the region. Nine artists were featured across six hospitals and community health venues in the region.

Uplift Live Music and Visual Arts

Live music became an unexpected delight at the South East Regional Hospital with six performances across the year, featuring local musicians including Greg Sheehan, Chelsy Atkins, Corinne Gibbons, Andy O'Donnell, Stonewave Taiko, The Friday Choir and Guitarama. A total audience of 265 people attended the concerts and a further 45 people enjoyed ward visits from some of the musicians.

The program included a series of art exhibitions displayed during the year, beginning with Art in the Garage artist Miriam Kidd, as well as showcasing the work of hospital staff photographers and painters. The Uplift Live program was supported by the Mumbulla Foundation.

Health Plays

Six Degrees of Diabetes is a short play written by Alan Hopgood, highlighting the health issue of diabetes for men. With the support of South East Arts, local group Footprint Theatre performed the play at Pambula, Bega and Moruya. Health experts attended each performance to provide advice and answer questions. The program was supported by the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal and the Southern NSW Health District.

Musical Theatre Tour

In November, South East Arts brought Australian cabaret performer Queenie Van de Zandt and her Joni Mitchell show to the region. Accompanied by musical director Max Lambert and local musicians Kate Burke and Robyn Martin, Queenie's show told the story of Joni Mitchell through music and spoken word. The shows were presented in Jindabyne, Wolumla and Batehaven.

Bega Big Groove

This unique show supported by South East Arts brought together a range of music and dance groups from the region, at the Bega Civic Centre in August. The audience grooved to the music of over 85 participants lead by David Hewitt and Stonewave Taiko. Performances featured Bembakan, Far South Flamenco, Bega Valley Cathys, Hip Hop dancers, local professional musicians as well as visiting taiko duo YuNiOn.

Country Arts Support Program

A diverse range of projects were supported in the region through CASP funding totalling \$17.5K. Projects included Pambula Wetlands - Ephemeral Festival, Cooma Little Theatre — youth music workshops, Fling — Black Dog project, Eurobodalla Shire — School of Possibilities Beat Garden project and Stonewave Taiko - drumming workshops.

Screen Industry Development

The SEA Screen strategy helped to develop skills and opportunities for local screen industry practitioners in 2018. Highlights included SEA Screen Day held in Bega, a professional development and networking day specifically for the region which included presenters from around Australia.

With support from South East Arts, several of our regional screen industry professionals and emerging professionals successfully applied for and attended exclusive, intensive directing, producing and screenwriting programs with Screenworks and AFTRS.

South East Arts assisted Destination NSW in the assembly of crew and location scouting for Tathra and Sapphire Coast advertisements. 90% local crew was utilised and has led to ongoing work for the South East screen professionals involved. South East Arts also provided location scouting and cast and crew sourcing services to various agencies throughout the year.

The SEA Screen network membership continues to grow. Members are actively undertaking work and collaborating on projects.

YOOFTube Youth Short Film Competition ran again in 2018 for the fifth year in succession, with entries from young people across the region. Two YOOFTube alumni went on to study screen in a tertiary education capacity in 2018.



ABOUT US

South East Arts is the regional development organisation for arts and culture in the Bega Valley, Eurobodalla and Snowy Monaro. We support arts and culture throughout the region working across visual arts, theatre, music, dance, screen and heritage. Our projects connect with individual artists, arts organisations, communities and audiences.

GOVERNANCE

South East Arts is governed by a volunteer board of management, made up of three council representatives and seven skills-based members. In April 2018 our Chair Ian Campbell stepped down from the Board and was replaced by Rose Lyons. Other Board members during the year included Helen O'Neil, Sue Haslingden, Bruce Carmichael, Lindsay Brown, Cathy Griff, Liz McGrath, Shane O'Leary and Shanna Provost.

CLIENT SERVICE DELIVERY

One of our key roles in the region is to support artists, communities and local government in developing arts and culture. This role takes on many forms, from arts business and marketing training to professional skills development. Our artist directory provides a valuable network for individual artists and organisations in the region.

Our communication and promotion of arts events and news helps to build audiences and profile the work of individuals artists and organisations. We provide a valuable link between government and our regional community.

FINANCIAL

2018 was the end of the 2016-18 triennial Strategic Plan for South East Arts and the organisation finished in a much-improved financial position. Total income over the 3 year period was \$1,611,310. Given that the total core funding (Create NSW and Local Councils) over this period was \$575,000, we have secured over \$1million in additional funding, sponsorship and philanthropic support.

STAFF

In 2018, the dynamic and experienced team of South East Arts comprised Andrew Gray — General Manager, Kate Howarth — Communications and Screen Industry Officer, Avi Amesbury — Finance and Administration Officer, Jasmin Williams — Aboriginal Creative and Cultural Engagement Officer and Gabrielle Powell — Arts and Health Project Officer.

REGIONAL ARTISTS

ENGAGED BY
SE ARTS: 36

AUDIENCE:

10,540 @35
SE ARTS EVENTS

PARTICIPANTS:

1221 @41
SE ARTS WORKSHOPS

DIGITAL MARKETING:

e-news SUBS: 1334
Facebook REACH: 431,589
Facebook LIKERS: 3559
Instagram FOLLOWERS: 1680

Supported by:

This organisation is supported by the NSW Government through Create NSW.



Candelo Books
Creative Plus Business
Delegate Progress Association
Dept of Communication & the Arts
Eden Fishermen's Recreation Club
Eden Local Aboriginal Land Council



REGIONAL ARTS
NSW



Australian Government
Indigenous Languages and Arts

Excell Printing
Festivals Australia
Grow the Music
Honorbread
JD Shaw
Katungul
The Kinema, Narooma
Magpie Music
Merrigong Theatre
Merrimans Local Aboriginal Land Council
Mumbulla Foundation
Regional Express
The Picture Show Man Cinema
Sapphire Coast Arts & Sports Youth Development Fund
Snowy Hydro
Social Justice Advocates of the Sapphire Coast Inc.
Southern NSW Local Health District
South East Regional Hospital
STP Productions
Tilba Real Dairy
Tulgeen Disability Services
Twofold Aboriginal Corporation
University of Wollongong
Waterway Constructions
Yuin Folk Club



SNOWY MONARO
REGIONAL COUNCIL



beqa valley
shire council



eurobodalla
shire council

South East Arts would like to acknowledge the following organisations and businesses who helped make 2018 such a successful year:

ABC South East
Bega Valley Regional Gallery
Bega Valley Shire Libraries
Bendigo Bank
Campbell Page

South East Arts sincerely thanks to all our individual donors who have supported us in 2018.

- Cover Photo: Giiyong Festival crowd. Image: David Rogers.
Images: 1) Didgeridoo legend Mark Atkins performed and held workshops at Giiyong Festival. Image: David Rogers
2) One Mob Dreaming Choir included kids from several Bega Valley schools, performed original songs at Giiyong Festival. Image: David Rogers.
3) Poet Meaghan Holt made her stage debut at Giiyong Festival. Image: David Rogers.
4) Alison Simpson's artwork now graces the doors of South East Regional Hospital, welcoming with art and language.
5) Music came to the hospital too, with regular live performances, including The String Contingent, and one-on-one and group workshops for patients, staff and visitors.
6) Queenie Van De Zandt's show BLUE toured the region.
7) Bega Big Groove featured regional musicians showcasing rhythm and dance from around the globe.
8) Local film crews worked on national advertising campaigns. Image: Chris Sheedy.
9) Obediah Hooker plays Henry in YOOFtube short film by Luca Yi.

All donations of \$2 or more to the South East Arts Public Innovation Fund are tax deductible.

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