



## New Local Giants program invests majorly in regional arts creative capital

Performing Arts Connections (PAC) Australia, Performing Lines and Regional Arts Australia are thrilled to announce the launch of **Local Giants**; an ambitious new capacity building program which seeks to unlock the cultural ambition and potential of regional Australia.

With support from the Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand (RISE) Fund—an Australian Government initiative, the Australian Government through the Regional Arts Fund, and the NSW Government through Create NSW, **Local Giants** will be delivered across 2021 – 2023 in partnership with regional partner venues in South Australia, New South Wales and Queensland.

Speaking to the inception of the program the partnership of Performing Lines, Regional Arts Australia and PAC Australia have said that **Local Giants** is responding directly to consultation with regional colleagues and seeks to create the foundations for new models of working that elevate the work of regional artists and artworkers.

“**Local Giants** has been modelled so as to respond to the needs of the regional arts sector, ensuring long term cultural and economic sustainability, boosting local capacity and reducing reliance on conventional import models.

Recognising the cultural leadership of regional performing arts centres, Local Giants aims to resource these centres; allowing them to realise their ambitions of nurturing local arts, commissioning new works, investigating ambitious presentation models and promoting social cohesion through a thriving local sector. This multi-year, multivalent program is flexible and adaptable to local context and designed with a view to expand in future years into regional communities across the whole of Australia, creating opportunities for large numbers of independent artists, arts workers and producers who may otherwise not have access to such resources.”

Minister for Communications, Urban Infrastructure, Cities and the Arts, the Hon Paul Fletcher MP said this collaborative investment is invaluable for the sector and is supporting a sustainable future for regional artists:

“I am pleased that with \$400,000 under the Morrison Government’s Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand (RISE) Fund, and \$336,672 through the Regional Arts Fund Strategic Recovery Program, Local Giants will support regional artists, arts workers and organisations to develop pathways, build partnerships and strengthen skills.

Funding through RISE alone will support the creation of more than 270 jobs in the regions.”

The Program consists of several intersecting parts including a Regional Producers Career Development Program, Regional Artist Residencies, and New Regional Work Co-Commissions, kicked off this weekend with the first of three Regional Artist Residencies; this time hosted in partnership with Country Arts SA, at Pichi Richi Park, Quorn.

Between Performing Lines, Regional Arts Australia and PAC Australia, the organisations bring a breadth of experience in artist development and capacity building for local communities. As such the **Local Giants** program has been developed after extensive consultation with regional artists and arts communities to seize opportunities for growth and innovation in the regional arts sector.

In its first phase Local Giants will provide opportunities for 72 artists, arts workers and producers, across the three residencies and producer platform, resulting in the development of up to three new regional works.

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For more information click [here](#).

EOIs for the Regional Producers platform will open on **17 January 2022**.

## Partners and Acknowledgements



Local Giants is supported by the Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand (RISE) Fund—an Australian Government initiative, the Australian Government through the Regional Arts Fund, and the NSW Government through Create NSW.

## Performing Lines

Performing Lines produces provocative contemporary performance by Australia's most audacious independent artists.

We curate a portfolio of work that is propelled by pressing questions and new ways of seeing the world. We champion the unconventional, the marginal, the rebellious and the new. Our purpose is to embrace risk and to ensure that the breadth and plurality of Australia's creative potential is represented and celebrated. Performing Lines is led by Executive Producer Marion Potts, and manages teams in Sydney, Perth and Hobart, with a network of producers and presenters around the country and the world.



Department of  
Local Government, Sport  
and Cultural Industries



Performing Lines is supported by the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, its arts funding and advisory body, the NSW Government through Create NSW, the WA Government through the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, and the Tasmanian Government through Arts Tasmania.

## Regional Arts Australia

Regional Arts Australia is a not for profit independent body that enables the national voice for arts in regional Australia.

With an aim to raise the profile of regional artists nationally we seek to ensure arts in regional Australia are recognised as essential.

Our work is cross-disciplinary and inter-generational to ensure we can facilitate significant outcomes through partnerships, engagement, practice and research. Our strategic approach is deeply collaborative, ethically positioned and unapologetically ambitious. Our priorities are to facilitate partnerships that support a creative ecosystem that is interconnected and integrated across art form, across communities and across landscapes.

Our programming supports high quality practice through professional development opportunities and cross sector projects to improve opportunities for the presentation of regional artists, organisations and regional communities.



**Australian Government**  
**Regional Arts Fund**

The Regional Arts Fund is an Australian sustainable cultural development in regional and

Government program that supports remote communities in Australia.

## **Performing Arts Connections Australia**

Performing Arts Connections (PAC) Australia is the national peak body representing and supporting performing arts venues, presenters and creators in Australia by providing leadership, building capacity and facilitating relationships that strengthen the connection between the art and the audience. Our 200+ members include arts centres, independent producers and producing companies, festivals and performing arts consultants, agencies and funding bodies. Annually PAC Australia members present in excess of 64,000 events, with over 12 million attendances. Our members have the lobbying and advocacy power of their national performing arts peak body behind them when needed and in front of them leading the way with national strategic initiatives.