

National Regional Arts Fellowship Program

The Australian Government has announced a National Regional Arts Fellowship Program for 2020. The program is designed to elevate the practice of artists and practitioners across regional, rural and remote Australia, raise their profile and provide professional development opportunities.

Fellowships will be offered across a range of artforms, stages of career, duration and categories, and applicants will be asked to address the theme of drought and/or bushfire. Three fellowships of up to \$20,000 and two up to \$10,000 are available to provide a secure, short-term wage for artists or arts workers that allows them to develop their individual practice and career in regional Australia.

The Categories include:

Creative Development (International / National)
First Nations Creative Development (International / National)
Arts Worker Professional Development (International / National)
First Timer - Creative Development (have not received a fellowship before)

Designed to be practice led, the applicant can design a program to meet their geographic and locational needs and by this nature it is fully inclusive and dissolves any regional, rural or remote boundaries.

“Each applicant will be supported to design their fellowship to the needs of their contemporary practice and be provided the opportunity for professional development that values the local, alongside national and international experience.” Ros Abercrombie, Executive Director RAA said.

There has been an identified gap in career pathways, income security and professional development opportunities for emerging and established artists in regional Australia and these Fellowships aim to begin to address this challenge.

Overall, the demand for professional development and career support is increasing nationally. Regional Arts Victoria delivered an inaugural fellowship program in 2019 and received seventeen high quality applications, for the one position. Following the success of this program Regional Arts Victoria have a new fellowship currently open.

While the Regional Arts Fund provides exceptional access and support to the artists and creative industries in rural, regional and remote Australia the fund is also highly competitive with demand often far greater than the resources available. We anticipate the National Regional Arts Fellowship program to be highly competitive and look forward to receiving a range of applications.

National Regional Arts Fellowships are offered by Regional Arts Australia and is made possible by the Australian Government’s Regional Arts Fund, which supports the arts in regional and remote Australia.

The program will open for applications on 20 January 2020.

For more information and to apply visit: www.regionalarts.com.au

For media comment please contact:

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