



ANNUAL REPORT 2011

Arts North West
creative opportunities. 





Arts North West creative opportunities



Arts North West is New England North West's regional art board. The Board supports the development of arts and culture regionally and is involved in the development of regional projects and initiatives.

- Our Vision is for a RICH DIVERSE CULTURAL LANDSCAPE
- Our Mission is to EXPAND CREATIVE OPPORTUNITIES IN OUR REGION

Arts North West is supported by Arts NSW and all thirteen local councils in the New England North West: Armidale-Dumaresq, Glen Innes Severn, Gunnedah, Guyra, Gwydir, Inverell, Liverpool Plains, Moree Plains, Narrabri, Tamworth Regional, Tenterfield, Uralla, and Walcha.

Arts North West is a member of Regional Arts NSW and Regional Arts Australia networks.





Dr Jane Kreis

Executive Officer and
Regional Arts Development Officer
Employed: Full-time



Nicci Parry-Jones

Arts Project Officer
Employed: Three days/week



Cherene Spendelove

Media Officer
Employed: One day/week



John Hamilton

Finance Officer
Employed: Half day/week



Heidi K Ford

Regional Touring Officer
Employed: Two days/week





Arts North West's skills-oriented Board is comprised of members from participating Local Government areas as well as arts and cultural industries professionals from the region.

PRESIDENT

Mr Rob Hurcum, Chair Arts on Tour NSW,
President Tamworth Arts Council, Member Friends of Tamworth Gallery, Member
Friends Tamworth Regional Conservatorium

VICE-PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY

Ms Meg Larkin, Chair Regional Arts NSW, Treasurer Tamworth Arts Council,
President Regional Arts Australia

VICE-PRESIDENTS

Mr Kent Mayo, McCrossins Mill Museum, Uralla

Ms Sandy McNaughton, Promotions and Marketing Manager Gwydir Shire Council,
Manager Roxy Theatre

TREASURER

Ms Lotta Jackson Director of Corporate and Community Services at Glen Innes
Severn Council

PUBLIC OFFICER

Mr Chris Newbigin, Inverell Theatre Co,
Inverell Cultural And Arts Council





Photo: 2011 Arts North West Regional Arts Board and CEO of Regional Arts NSW.

Rob Hurcum, Susan Wilson, Robin Riley, Lotta Jackson, Herman Beyersdorf, Tania Hartigan, Chris Newbigin, Bruce Mercer, Nerida Gourley, Kent Mayo, Meg Larkin, Elizabeth Rogers (CEO, RANSW), Sandy McNaughton, Jane Kreis (RADO), (absent: Andrew Sharp).

BOARD MEMBERS

Mrs Nerida Gourley, Arts Representative Narrabri

Mr Andrew Sharp, The Playhouse Hotel, Barraba

Ms Robin Riley, Manager Library and Cultural Services Tenterfield Shire Council

Ms Susan Wilson, Cultural Development Officer Gunnedah Shire Council Civic Theatre

Cr Herman Beyersdorf, Councillor Armidale Dumaresq Council

Ms Tania Hartigan, Quirindi Arts Council

Mr Bruce Mercer, Tamworth Regional Council, Manager Cultural & Community Services Tamworth Regional Council



2010-2011 again proved to be a productive and busy time for Arts North West and I have pleasure in submitting my report for this period.

Advice and assistance was provided to councils, arts organisations and artists across the Region and partnerships have been forged with many organisations. These activities are detailed elsewhere in this report.

Jane Kreis, our Executive Officer/Regional Arts Development Officer, has continued to engage with organisations across the region and I sincerely thank her for her professionalism and enthusiasm and extend to her the Board's congratulations on achieving her PhD.

Sincere thanks also to our part-time staff Nicci Parry-Jones, John Hamilton and Cherene Spendelove for the professional and cheerful manner with which you delivered our program throughout the year. I also have pleasure in welcoming Heidi Ford to her new position of Touring Co-ordinator - a position jointly funded by Arts NSW, Industry & Investment NSW and NENWPATN participating venues.

I thank the Board for their significant contribution to the organisation. Your diverse range of skills has ensured that the organisation continues to progress and move forward in new and exciting directions.

Arts North West recognises the support and assistance from Arts NSW, Regional Arts NSW, participating Councils, regional government and non-government organisations, arts and cultural organisations.

I look forward to another productive and successful year.

Rob Hurcum
Chair





Creative Opportunities! Not just a well-considered mission statement but also the perfect place to start a summary of the 2010-11 year's achievements. Creativity and opportunities abound in this region and it has been our pleasure to provide or assist with as many of those as we can. Whether it was by - judging art exhibitions throughout the year; developing an (En)Able Arts Network and its first forum in July 2010, highlighting the creative capacity of the region's screen sector at the Creative Community's Conference in September and with Screenworks NR; assisting with funding for hundreds of individual artists and arts organisations in the region; working with the Department of Education and the region's Cooperative Learning Forum to offer artists critical professional development; or travelling the region to initiate a regional arts trail - there was always so much more to do and be excited by. Given our small staff numbers and big brief, many of the creative opportunities Arts North West delivers must necessarily rely on good communication, resource sharing, strong networks, flexibility and a lot of energy and enthusiasm. Some of this comes naturally and some requires a lot of work. I would particularly like to thank the Arts North West team, our Board and our partners for their dedication to the creative opportunities in this region. I think that our achievements in 2010-11 are something we can be proud of as well as achievements that can be built on in the years to follow.

Dr Jane Kreis

Executive Officer and Regional Arts Development Officer



Arts North West 2011

Management & Organisation

Deliver effective financial planning and control (systems, reserves, delegations/authorities)

Sustain governance and board effectiveness (composition, skills base, key roles, linkage with EO, processes)

Enhance core funding, fundraising and resources to meet organisation and regional potential

Ensure Arts North West has the staff and capacity to meet regional needs and opportunities

Review Business Plan, Strategic Plan, Work Plans (Strategic initiatives)

Ensure effective and appropriate office facility, resources and technology

Undertake regular risk management and analysis

Project Staff Increase (expansion of resources to be able to keep pace with regional demand)

Programs and Projects

Provide advice and assistance to key stakeholder groups and individuals

Provide project development

Enhance the skills base across the region

Provide information exchange

Provide industry development support

Develop and sustain art and cultural network groups

Develop and sustain programs responsive to indigenous and cultural diversity

Marketing, Communication & Advocacy

Increase access to relevant, timely information for arts and creative activity

Clearly brand ANW as an advocate for art and creative development

Positively influence decision-makers on the value of arts and Arts North West





BOARD MEETINGS

- 12 July 2010, Royal Theatre, Quirindi
- 27 September 2010, Booloominbah Collection, UNE
- Annual General Meeting, 27 November 2010, Roxy Theatre, Bingara
- 14 February 2011, McCrossin's Mill, Uralla
- 18 April 2011, Booloominbah Collection, UNE, Armidale

RADO NETWORK MEETINGS AND RAA NATIONAL MEETING IN LAUNCESTON, TASMANIA

Regional arts development in NSW is decentralised through a network of regional organisations known as the Regional Arts Boards (RABs). Each RAB services an area of the state made up of a group of local government areas. The local councils in each area, together with the State Government, contribute financially to each Board to employ a Regional Arts Development Officer (RADO) and other support staff. This structure enables people who live in the regions to manage their own arts and cultural priorities.

These RADOs and their staff meet on average four times a year at the Regional Arts NSW office for professional development, joint meetings with key stakeholders, and to reinforce co-operative approaches to regional arts development. The National RADO Network, organised by Regional Arts Australia meets biennially at the Regional Arts Australia conference and every other year at a nominated location. Over 2010-11 period the NSW RADO network met in Sydney:

- 19 & 20 July, 2010
- 15 & 16 November, 2010
- February 21 & 22, 2011



Photo: Welcome dance at Junction 2010 Regional Arts Conference





Junction 2010 Regional Arts Conference was held in Launceston, Tasmania during 25-29 August 2010. The RADO and APO attended along with several Arts North West Board members. This national arts conference provided an opportunity to network and share ideas with other Regional Arts Development Officers, arts workers and volunteers from around Australia and to participate in hands-on workshops. The speakers were inspiring and diverse but all conveyed a passion for their work and such passion brought with it hope for the future of community art and the possibility of greater participation and dissemination of arts practice throughout regional communities. The overarching theme was integration and acceptance of the importance of art at all levels of society - its role in health, community collaboration, technology and new building development.

STAFF TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- RADO & Arts Project Officer (APO) both attained a TAFE Certificate in Senior First Aid
- RADO attended professional development training, ArtStart Youth Skills Development RADO: Arts Activated Conference, 25-26 March, 2010.
- RADO & APO received training in database entry with Regional Arts NSW staff
- RADO attended Employer Compliance Seminar 17 March 2011, Tamworth Chamber of Commerce
- RADO & APO underwent Microsoft Access training
- APO attained a TAFE Statement of Attainment in Aboriginal Cultural Awareness

WORK EXPERIENCE PLACEMENTS

Arts North West hosted two Glen Innes High School Work Placement IT students, Kahla Johnson & Ashleigh Dawson, from the 29 November to 3 December 2010 in our Glen Innes office. This mutually beneficial arrangement gave both students experience in office based IT management including the development of a Facebook page, database entry and design and in house printing of Christmas cards and youth related programming in a professional and creative

learning environment necessary for their education and future careers . The students assisted with projects and programs including Arts North West promotion and the North by North West Festival proposal for which they attended a meeting in Barraba with key stakeholders (see photo), and other events relevant to Arts North West's day to day operations.





Photo: Bridge Mural for Moree Bypass

CASP

Country Arts Support Program (CASP) is an annual, devolved small grants (for arts and cultural projects up to \$3,000) program administered through Regional Arts NSW and each regional arts board, including Arts North West. In 2011 there were 11 regional applications funded totalling \$17,800.

CASP is a dedicated small grants fund that allows for the regional arts board on the ground to work with Councils, individuals and organisations to maximise their potential in securing this much needed funding and to bring much needed arts training and experiences to regional communities.





2011 CASP Projects from across the New England North West were:

Piano workshops	Piano workshops and piano trio concert	Inverell
Writ Large	A visiting writers program	Armidale
Bridge Mural for Moree Bypass	Design and paint a mural for the Moree Bypass (See Photo)	Moree
Dance Ability	Dance classes for people with disabilities	Armidale
Palette of the Plains Arts Expo	Palette of the Plains Arts Expo art expo, art and craft classes	Narrabri
Goldilocks in the Gallery	Creative storytelling and art making for young children	Armidale
Canvas Art Training	Canvas art training for the remote community of Gwabegar	Narrabri
Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Awards	National Presentation of the Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Awards	Gunnedah
Barraba Festival 2011	Barraba Festival 2011-focus on Spain, music & dance performance at festival	Barraba
Creative Art Escapes	Creative Art Escapes in a small country village, artist workshops by professional artists	Wallabadah
Endangered Instruments Project	Double reed instrument workshops for regional students and teachers	Armidale



ARTSTART 2011

Arts North West was successful in securing the regional co-ordination of the 2011 ArtStart NSW Youth Arts and Skills program for 12-24 year olds, a bi-annual funding program to enable youth to access professional, artistic and creative development. In consultation with Arts North West, ArtStart addresses key arts needs identified by regional youth and their representatives and provides:

- opportunities to show and share their work (both online and in real space) with the rest of the community
- affordable arts equipment, spaces, and training
- opportunities for participation in arts and cultural programs
- training to develop the skills necessary for an arts career in the region and for passing on important skills to their peers
- networks, sharing of ideas, and discussion between young people and the art works in the region (both online and in real space).



Photo: Tenterfield's Wintersong Saddlers' Circus group training





2011 ArtStart Projects in the New England North West

Web comic/graphic novel workshop	Design and create a digital comic	Armidale
Listen Project	Music workshops for Indigenous youth	Armidale
Flamenco Dance & Guitar	Flamenco dance and guitar workshops with	Barraba
Beat the Drum	Drumming workshop	Bingara
Art in the Park	Public Art mural, ceramics	Glen Innes
Gunnedah Youth choir	Youth choir workshops and performances	Gunnedah
Train the Trainer workshops	Circus Skills training	Gunnedah
Art Alive	Painting workshop for Indigenous youth with Indigenous artist	Guyra
Basic Drawing Skills workshop	Drawing workshop and exhibition in Inverell Art Gallery	Inverell
Get Creative, Get Out There	skill development for youth interested in circus, film, drumming, painting and drama	Liverpool Plains
Reach for the Sky	Youth Week Public Art Project	Narrabri
The Cultural Divide	Overnight camp with activities that explore a range of Aboriginal cultural activities	Tamworth
Tamworth Dramatic Society Youth Group	Theatre workshops and improvised theatre	Tamworth
Youth DJ Drive	Radio DJ training	Tenterfield
Wintersong & Dance Circus	Circus skills and workshops	Tenterfield
Legal Arts	Graffiti public art project	Walcha



ARTS NORTH WEST CONNECT

"Connecting the New England North West through cultural exchange and creative practice"

Arts North West Connect is an integrated approach to connecting with cultural and art entities in our region with the aim of improving information sharing, artistic exchange and creative opportunities. Arts North West database records are continuously being updated and a more efficient email, mail-out and media campaign has been implemented. In addition we are trying to improve the way that stakeholders can interact with us and provide us with ideas, feedback or requests.

The development of a system of networks that allow better sharing of information, ideas and opportunities are a key way that Arts North West can assist individual artists and organisations across such a large and diverse geographical area. This system has been activated through a series of interrelated projects including Art Escapes, an art trail for the New England North West; the Artseed website which provides exhibition space and other development spaces for the region's young and emerging artists; (En)Able Arts network for artists with disabilities and networks; our Screen NENW partnerships; and the ongoing mapping of Aboriginal Art and Cultural activities.





NEW ENGLAND NORTH WEST PERFORMING ART TOURING NETWORK (NENWPATN)

Arts North West and the NENWPATN venues were successful in an application for funding through Arts NSW and Industry and Investment NSW for a regional touring coordinator and Ms Heidi Ford commenced in the position on 16 June 2011. Participating venues also contribute financially to this position. The Touring Coordinator role enhances the ability of the region's performing arts venues to undertake collective bargaining for touring productions and take a regional approach to promotion and cost sharing.

New England North West presenting venues are of a diverse size and specifications (80-400 plus seating arrangements). These venues are often volunteer-run and multi-faceted. They present both film and live performing arts productions. The region's venues and organisations include:

- The Armidillos, Armidale
- Roxy Theatre, Bingara
- Playhouse Hotel Theatre, Barraba
- Tamworth Conservatorium of Music, Tamworth
- Opera In the Paddock, Delungra
- The Chapel Theatre, Glen Innes
- Glen Innes Arts Council, Glen Innes
- Civic Theatre, Gunnedah
- Gunnedah Arts Council, Gunnedah
- Inverell Conservatorium of Music (NECOM), Inverell
- Moree Arts Council, Moree
- Crossing Theatre, Narrabri
- Friends of the Crossing Theatre, Narrabri
- Royal Theatre, Quirindi
- Quirindi Arts Council, Quirindi
- Capitol Theatre, Tamworth
- Sir Henry Parkes School of Arts, Tenterfield
- Tingha Arts Council, Tingha
- McCrossin's Mill, Uralla
- Uralla Arts Council, Uralla
- Wee Waa Arts Group, Wee Waa



Photo: Carpenters From Kempsey regional tour



Advocacy: This year Arts North West has advocated on behalf of the New England North West arts and cultural sector through dedicated speeches in NSW Parliament; lobbying and communicating regularly with relevant politicians and funding bodies to ensure we get the best possible opportunities, carrying out research and providing much needed data on the arts and cultural industries in this region, presenting written papers and oral presentations at conferences and regional meetings, providing workshops on a range of topics, responding to and helping to develop local, state and federal cultural planning and policy.

Marketing and Promotion Marketing and promotion is sometimes so much a part of advocacy that it is difficult to divide the two. In addition to the web-site development, Arts North West has developed and now maintains two sister sites www.artseed.org.au and www.filmnenw.com.au We now integrate these websites with other social media platforms (Twitter, Facebook, Skype, YouTube, Place Stories etc.) in order to maximise our interaction with the diverse stakeholders in our community.

It has also been increasingly important to define and clarify what Arts North West does, who we are, why we are here for you.

E-BULLETIN

Our revitalised monthly e-bulletin (an email newsletter) is sent to recipients in and around the New England North West region of NSW. The e-bulletin highlights local artists and events as well as offering timely news, opportunities, and resources. Anybody can join the e-bulletin membership by contacting the office or joining via our website www.artsnw.com.au





WEBSITE RE-DEVELOPMENT

During 2011 our website underwent re-development with the introduction of specialised tabs for (En)Able Arts, Indigenous Cultural Projects and other key networking projects, website visitors will find an artist's gallery, venues gallery, what's on, links to funding and resources, as well as information on Arts North West itself. We look forward to hearing your feedback. www.artsnw.com.au



<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Arts-North-West>

<http://twitter.com/#!/ArtsNorthWest>



For everything that can be seen online and through our e-bulletins or emails, there is an equal amount of physical meetings, phone calls, workshops, forums, traditional media form and advertising.



Arts North West recorded a surplus of \$10,008 for the 2010-11 financial year after providing for depreciation of \$6,806.

Income totalled \$200,741 (up from \$185,593 in 2009-10) principally from increased funding from Arts NSW whose grant increased from \$92,500 in 2009-10 to \$101,250 in 2010-11. Local government contributed \$85,612 while Glen Innes Severn Council donated \$2,992 towards office improvements. Income for administration of projects reduced from \$8,080 in 2009-10 to \$3,681 in 2010-11 however, the grants in advance figure includes \$9,000 set aside for administration fees in 2011-12.

Expenses including depreciation increased slightly from \$185,664 in 2009-10 to \$190,733 for 2010-11.



ARTS NORTH WEST INC

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30TH JUNE 2011



ASSETS:

Bank Accounts:

Westpac Cheque A/c	\$130,094.16	
Westpac Business Cash Reserve A/c	\$36, 350.33	\$ 166,444.49

Debtors:

Prepayments	\$2,931.67	\$2,931.67
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Fixed Assets:

Motor Vehicle at Cost	\$28,691.00	
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(\$1,613.87)	
Furniture, Office Equipment at Cost	\$14,986.90	
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(\$12,287.28)	\$29,776.75

TOTAL ASSETS:	\$ 199,152.91
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LIABILITIES:

Other Creditors:

Trade Creditors	\$231.12	
Accrued Salaries	\$3,040.98.00	\$3,272.10

Payroll Liabilities:

PAYG Withholdings Payable	\$3,446.48	\$3,446.48
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GST Liabilities:

GST Collected	\$5,234.98	
GST Paid	(\$3,524.90)	\$1,710.08

Grants in Advance:

Arts NSW: Recurrent Grant	\$51,250.00	
Artstart 2011	\$1,500.50	
NENWPATN	\$37,378.89	
DHIIYAAN Moree Project	\$39,576.01	\$129,705.40

Provisions:

Computer Replacement Project	\$6,000	\$6,000
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Staff Leave Entitlements:

Annual Leave Provision	\$11,231.44	
Long Service Leave Provision	\$5,246.33	\$16,527.77

TOTAL LIABILITIES:	\$160,661.83
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NET ASSETS:	\$38,491.08
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Communities
arts nsw





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