



Greg Aplin MP
Member for Albury

MEDIA RELEASE

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Two young Albury artists set to receive \$20,000 from NSW Scholarship fund

Minister for the Arts Don Harwin and Member for Albury Greg Aplin today announced that young Albury artists Deni Davidson and Rhiannon Ersser will receive \$10,000 each to undertake a professional development program.

Ms Davidson and Ms Ersser, both of Albury, received the money from the first of two funding rounds from the NSW Government's 2017/2018 Create NSW Young Regional Artist Scholarship initiative.

Each year, the Young Regional Artist Scholarship initiative rewards 25 artists aged 18-25 across the state, with the initiative covering all art forms – from dance, design, digital arts, history, Aboriginal arts, literature, music, theatre, screen and curatorial to the visual arts.

“Our young creative people have been spectacularly successful in this field over recent years with Jackson Manson of Albury gaining a \$10,000 scholarship in April to undertake a creative development period to explore and create a new solo circus act,” Mr Aplin said.

“This scholarship provides a fantastic opportunity for our young Albury artists and I congratulate Ms Davidson and Ms Ersser on this honour and look forward to seeing the exciting creative work it leads to.”

The selected nine artists from the first round span a diverse range of art forms including circus, music, film, theatre and the visual arts.

Minister for the Arts Don Harwin said that supporting young talent is a priority as part of the NSW Arts and Cultural Policy Framework, *Create in NSW*, which guides strategy, investment and partnerships to grow a thriving, globally-connected arts and cultural sector.

“Supporting our young emerging artists is a vital step in building a stronger, richer and more diverse arts and cultural offering both here in Albury and across NSW, and we are always delighted to find such an incredible group of artists that we can help at the start of their artistic journey.

“This Scholarship offers truly once-in-a-lifetime professional development opportunities that cross both international and national boundaries. We’ve seen from previous recipients just what is possible from the funding, so I’m excited and confident that we will hear much more from our artists for years to come.”

Ms Davidson will attend the Hoop Convention in Germany to learn from experienced hula-hoop trainers and undertake circus performance mentorships with artists in NSW to create new work for Australian Circus Festivals. Ms Ersser will develop a new independent circus piece consisting of two performers aged 18 and 19 who will tour circus and fringe festivals.

For further information on arts, screen and cultural funding, including targeted support opportunities, visit www.create.nsw.gov.au or email arts.funding@create.nsw.gov.au.

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