



Greg Aplin MP
Member for Albury

MEDIA RELEASE

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ATTENTION ARTS AND CULTURE GROUPS: FUNDING UP FOR GRABS

Member for Albury, Greg Aplin today urged our local arts and culture organisations to get applications in to secure their share of a new \$47 million round of funding as part of the NSW Government's Regional Cultural Fund (RCF).

Mr Aplin said applications from Councils, as well as arts, screen and culture organisations are being invited from 1 July, and will close on 21 September 2018.

"This is a fund which has the potential to totally transform the arts and culture scene not only locally but across the entirety of regional NSW," Mr Aplin said.

"This \$47 million funding pool comes on top of the \$48 million which was already allocated to projects as part of round one of the fund.

"As part of round one, Albury saw projects like the PumpHouse Creative Enterprise Project and the Flying Fruit Fly Circus secure over \$1.3m in funding to create art spaces and enhance current facilities.

"Now, as part of round two, with an additional \$47 million available for regional areas, we have a further chance to secure even more financial support for our local arts and culture sector. This already includes \$5m for regional library infrastructure projects" Mr Aplin said.

Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional NSW John Barilaro said the second round of funding was available for infrastructure and redevelopment projects ranging from major new exhibition and performing arts spaces, through to refurbishment of libraries, theatres and museums and smaller, grass-roots community projects.

"Having grown up and raised a family in a regional area, I know how important arts and culture is to our regional and remote areas," Mr Barilaro said.

"As I travelled the state to announce projects funded under round one, I saw first-hand just how much our arts and culture communities appreciated the support.

"As Minister for Regional NSW, I want people to look to our regional areas, and think 'I could have a great life there', and as a government we know that a diverse and vibrant arts and culture scene is key to achieving that," he said.

Arts Minister Don Harwin said the fund was established to ensure regional NSW received its fair share of arts and cultural infrastructure - providing recreational and educational benefits as well as increased cultural tourism.

"During recent visits to regions receiving RCF grants, I've seen how important nurturing a vibrant cultural life is for local communities, and just how much they value these grants," Mr Harwin said.

"Arts, screen and culture is at the heart of every regional community. The success of our recent first round of funding shows the Government's commitment to driving growth in arts, screen, culture and heritage in regional NSW is making a difference. I am confident that the second round will go even further to show this."

Aspiring applicants can review guidelines for applying for funding at the Create NSW web page www.nsw.gov.au/regionalculturalfund . Email enquiries can go to regional.arts.nsw.gov.au .(this is not an email)

The \$100m Regional Cultural Fund is a vital piece of the broader \$1.3 billion Regional Growth Fund which the NSW Government announced last year.

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