

Media Release – The Hon Shelley Payne MLC

Funding boost for Rave About Arts

24 June 2024

- Rave About Arts will receive \$70,000 per annum over three years through the Regional Arts Venues Support Program
- The organisation will also receive \$75,000 as part of a new program to improve creativity and wellbeing for young people across Western Australia

Rave About Arts, based in Ravensthorpe, is one of 22 regional arts organisations to benefit from up to \$70,000 per annum over three years through the Regional Arts Venues Support Program (RAVS).

RAVS is a competitive grants program open to regional arts venues operated by local government authorities and not-for-profit organisations.

Rave About Arts will receive \$70,000 per annum for the next three years for its program Inspiring the Possibilities Within.

The Cannery Arts Centre in Esperance will also benefit from RAVS, receiving \$25,450 per annum for the next three years for its Expansion of Exhibition Program: Art Room Gallery Activation, Touring Exhibitions and Technical Training.

In addition to the RAVS funding, Rave About Arts has received \$75,000 as part of the Creativity and Wellbeing for Young People Pilot Program, which will go towards ARTitude Adventures: Creative Play for Social Wellness.

The project will further enhance the accessibility and outreach of the ARTitude program and create an inclusive pilot Creative Play Program, specifically designed for school students in Years 1, 3 and 4 at Hopetoun Primary School.

Both programs have a strong emphasis on involving parents and carers as key stakeholders, and respond to a significant gap in children's creative and emotional development in the Hopetoun and Ravensthorpe region.

The Creativity and Wellbeing for Young People Pilot Program is a partnership between the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries and Healthway, with each agency contributing \$300,000 for the one-year trial. The pilot program aims to:

- provide opportunities for participation and engagement in arts and creative activities for young people in Western Australia;
- organically build health outcomes for young people participating in arts and creative activities;
- increase the long-term sustainability of employment opportunities for artists delivering and creating work with young people; and
- increase accessibility and engagement of creative experiences for young people with a particular focus on those that identify as: Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CaLD), LGBTQIA+, or are impacted by a level of socio-economic disadvantage.

Comments attributed to Member for the Agricultural Region Hon Shelley Payne MLC:

“I’m delighted to see Rave About Arts receive funding through both the Regional Arts Venues Support Program and the Creativity and Wellbeing for Young People Pilot Program.

“Organisations such as Rave About Arts are vital to our small communities, where arts and culture isn’t as easily accessible as it is in the metropolitan area.

“Congratulations to Rave About Arts and thank you for your ongoing commitment to bringing the arts to Ravensthorpe, Hopetoun and beyond.

“I’d also like to offer my congratulations to the Cannery Arts Centre for its funding through the Regional Arts Venues Support Program.

“I’m proud to be part of the Cook Government, which supports regional arts organisations to flourish.”

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