



Don Harwin
Minister for the Arts

Stuart Ayres
Minister for Western Sydney

MEDIA RELEASE

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\$1M BOOST FOR WESTERN SYDNEY ARTS COMMUNITY

Minister for the Arts Don Harwin today announced a \$1 million fund to support three programs for emerging artists across Western Sydney.

“These programs will be hugely valuable in supporting new opportunities for emerging artists and organisations across the Western Sydney region,” said Minister Harwin.

“I’ve seen firsthand the depth of talent in Western Sydney arts, screen and culture – this funding will help drive forward artistic endeavour in the west”.

The *Making Spaces* fund in its second year encourages property owners to partner with arts, screen and cultural organisations to activate spaces and create vibrant and liveable communities.

The *Strategic Opportunities Fund* targets strategic projects outside of existing arts programs, to allow organisations to embed arts in the everyday and increase participation.

The new *Emerging Organisations Program* supports emerging Western Sydney arts, screen and culture groups in developing sustainable business models and setting them up for long term success.

Minister for Western Sydney Stuart Ayres says the NSW Government is committing millions of dollars to support arts and culture across Western Sydney - with \$7.5 million dedicated to local arts organisations.

“The NSW Government is making significant investments in the cultural infrastructure and artistic programs which bring the community together and showcase the talents of new and emerging artists,” Minister Ayres said.

Chief Executive Officer, Penrith Performing & Visual Arts Ltd, Hania Radvan welcomed the funding.

"It is critically important for responsive programs to support cultural growth directly in the communities where people live – especially at a time of such significant expansion and change," said Ms Radvan.

Applications open today. For further information, full eligibility guidelines and criteria visit: <https://www.create.nsw.gov.au/funding-and-support/types-of-funding/western-sydney-funding-opportunities/>

MEDIA:
William Verity | Minister Harwin | 0448 268 162
Anna Hindson | Minister Ayres | 0437 094 873

****Notes to the editor***

Making Spaces fund

- Up to 10 new projects will share in \$500,000 (up to \$50,000 each).

Strategic Opportunities fund

- Up to six projects will share in \$300,000 (up to \$50,000 each).

Emerging Organisations Fund

- Up to four organisations will share in \$200,000 (up to \$50,000 each).