

Looking to the future

ORANA

arts inc

**2020
YEAR IN
REVIEW**





TURNING AROUND 2020

2021 is likely to be as challenging a year as 2020 was, and it may be many years before things return to the way they were before March 2020, if at all. However, this provides an important opportunity to realign the organisation, over coming years, as one of great value to regional artists, museums and their communities of interest.

One interesting factor in relation to the changed travel and broader restrictions imposed by the C19 lockdowns has been the ability of young people to find a voice in the regional arts sector, seen in the success of the youth performing arts program, *Not a Dress Rehearsal*. Also, shifts in business and corporate workplace practices are allowing greater flexibility to work from regional areas, in turn offering the opportunity to develop new audiences in the regions.

The past year saw an emphasis placed on showcasing artists on digital platforms. Through *Soup Sessions Online*, Orana Arts was able to assist some regional artists with promoting themselves on a world stage with quality digital content and the potential to attract financial support for their creativity. Until the number of face-to-face presentation opportunities builds up again, it's important for Orana Arts to continue looking at digital platforms as a valid form of audience engagement.

As the State arts funding landscape evolves it's important Orana Arts positions itself with diverse offering of projects and services within the regional arts space. We're confident Orana Arts can use its networks and track record with projects, combined with its geographical location at the heart of NSW, to be the centre of new opportunities for regional artists and creative communities, allowing them to taking the lead in shaping their future alongside that of the organisation.

MATT POLL, CHAIRPERSON, ORANA ARTS INC.

\$302,300
funding brought to the
region's creatives +
cultural groups

50+ artists
supported, including
young, emerging
artists

90+ artists have
informed our strategic
plan for the next 5
years

[For more information on strategy + finance](#)

NOT A DRESS REHEARSAL



is a youth performing arts program developed by Orana Arts for 14-19-year-olds from across regional NSW with a passion for the performing arts. The focus is professional development and industry networking with career pathways in mind. In conjunction with our content delivery partners, Australian Theatre for Young People (ATYP) and Taikoz, the program kicked off in Term 4 this year, after we received 54 applications. Almost **40 young performing artists from across regional NSW** participated in the first round, with some continuing on into the second round in 2021.

GRANTS FOR ARTISTS



saw Soup Sessions and Country Arts Support Program (CASP) funding put money in the hand of regional artists in 2020 at a time when it was most needed. Soup Sessions this year was about pitching an idea online and the best pitch taking home the money raised through tickets. The **three artists** who sent us pitches received a minimum **\$500** to create their work and gained wider audiences as a result of profiling their work over two weeks. CASP is an annual small grants program offering amounts of \$3,000 to \$5,000 guided by Create NSW's Arts and Cultural Funding Program. **Five groups** across the region were successful this year, totalling **\$17,200**.

STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR 2021-25

has seen much of 2020 spent working in the back room at Orana Arts setting a new direction for the organisation. It's a big task that's involved consulting stakeholders and working closely with our board. Key programs and projects will flow from this planning. Some are already underway, including Not a Dress Rehearsal and a creative content production project with Sydney Trains in Stuart Town involving **three regional artists**.

2021: A SNAPSHOT

Orana Arts exists to support artists and volunteer cultural workers trying to find their place in the new decade, creating equitable opportunities, pathways and connections that extend beyond 'the local'. As well as advocating for and elevating the status of the regional cultural sector of NSW. From 2021, we'll be an artist-led, project-based organisation shaped by three key program areas.

The Studio

A platform that allows regional artists of all ages and artforms to exchange, connect, learn and grow their practices.

Volunteers Artists & Museums Program

VAMP connects regional, volunteer-run museums in with artists to reimagine and reinvent the stories of the regions.

Creative Consultancies

The Creative Consultancies are a bespoke offering for clients, leveraging Orana's expertise, talent pool, networks and experience.

PARTNERS+ INVESTORS

CREATE NSW

SYDNEY TRAINS, TRANSPORT NSW

AUSTRALIAN THEATRE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

SYNERGY & TAIKOZ LTD

MACQUARIE CONSERVATORIUM

STUDIO 138

DUBBO REGIONAL COUNCIL

MID-WESTERN REGIONAL COUNCIL

WARRUMBUNGLA SHIRE COUNCIL

WESTERN PLAINS CULTURAL CENTRE

ABOUT TURN - SYDNEY/COONABABRAN



OUR BOARD + TEAM

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NOT A DRESS REHEARSAL

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