

**The rise in the number of wealthy individuals, and culture reaching \$230 million in foundations and corporations with 2004, there is a large, and growing, pool of money available. community interests in But many arts organisations need Australia offers new support to tap into these funds ... income for arts which is where Artsupport Australia organisations. comes in.**

by IVANA JIRASEK

**ARTSUPPORT AUSTRALIA WAS CREATED THREE YEARS AGO TO provide support for arts organisations to access philanthropic funds. An initiative of the Australia Council for the Arts, Artsupport has built strong relationships across the arts, government, philanthropic organisations and businesses to increase an awareness of philanthropy and its potential.**

So far, over \$7 million has been raised across the country by arts organisations with direct assistance from Artsupport Australia through one-on-one mentoring, help to prepare grant applications and relationship building with the philanthropic sector.

Artsupport Australia also makes presentations to arts boards to more actively engage them in philanthropic fundraising. Annual lectures and masterclasses by international experts have provided important skills development of the sector. Artsupport Australia has developed specialist mentoring programs, which now includes a full-time Darwin-based Northern Territory Manager who works with Indigenous organisations throughout the territory.

Artsupport Australia works closely with philanthropists and foundations to encourage greater support of the arts. It also promotes the Australia Business Arts Foundation's complementary workshops and resources on giving, as well as its Australia Cultural Fund, which can enable tax deductibility for donations to artists and organisations without gift recipient status.

Beyond Empathy (BE) is a successful example of a beneficiary of philanthropic giving that has brought benefits to youth-at-risk in regional Australia. A newly formed organisation, BE uses

professional artists across a number of artforms to build esteem, skills and social re-engagement to participants. Artsupport Australia assisted BE throughout its early development and made strategic introductions to corporate foundations which have over time secured two major multi-year grants.

Artsupport Australia has also helped two organisations, The Song Room and the Australian Children's Music Foundation, become recipients of workplace giving programs. This is an employee level program where a salaried worker donates ongoing pre-tax contributions from their pay to nominated charities.

Artsupport Australia will continue to help Australian arts organisations build their capacity to generate income from philanthropic sources. ■

**For more information on the ways that Artsupport can help your organisation, contact Louse Walsh, Director, Artsupport Australia Tel 02 9215 9022 Email l.walsh@ozco.gov.au.**

# Artsupport Australia




*Founder and Executive Director of one of Artsupport's clients, Beyond Empathy, Kim McConville, was presented with the the Inspiration Social Entrepreneur Award from Social Ventures Australia earlier this year. Left to right: Michael Traill, CEO of Social Ventures Australia; Kim McConville; Denni Scott-Davis, Project Development Manager, Beyond Empathy, and Jan Owen, Executive Director, Social Ventures Australia.*

## January

12 – 14 January

 Clubs NSW **PARKES** Elvis Festival  
Over 45 swooning and hip-swivelling events, including an Elvis Street Parade, Elvis Feature Concerts and the Elvis Gospel Church Service. Tel 1800 624 365  
Web [www.parkeselvisfestival.com.au](http://www.parkeselvisfestival.com.au)

12 – 14 January

 Craftathon 2007: 3 big days of sales, demonstrations, supplies and exquisite handmade crafts. Bushland Drive Racecourse, **TAREE**  
Tel 02 6559 4588

12 – 23 January

 *The Regional Art Exhibition of Excellence* **GRAFTON** Regional Gallery  
Displays the gifted talents of a selection of highly acclaimed regional craftsmen and women Tel 02 6642 2598

14 – 19 January

 Murrumbidgee School of Creative Arts. Intense workshops in fine arts, textiles, literature, craft and photography; all workshops designed by master tutors.  
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