



Hon. George Souris M.P
Minister for Tourism, Major Events, Hospitality and Racing
Minister for the Arts

MEDIA RELEASE

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\$740,000 BOOST FOR ARTS AND CULTURAL FACILITIES IN NSW

Minister for Tourism, Major Events, Hospitality, Racing and the Arts, George Souris, today announced \$740,000 in grants to develop arts and cultural infrastructure across the State.

Mr Souris said 10 NSW arts and cultural organisations will share the funding under the 2012 Arts Funding Program.

“Capital Project Funding is available for the construction, renovation or fitting out of buildings and other facilities for arts and cultural use,” Mr Souris said.

“In 2012 it will support the development of a mix of performing arts centres, galleries, museums and community arts centres in NSW.

“This is fantastic news for communities from Leeton to Walgett and Pittwater to Dorrigo.

“From the city to the bush, each year this type of financial support increases access to purpose designed and well managed facilities.

“Capital Project Funding supports innovative capital infrastructure projects which promote participation in and access to, arts and cultural activities by diverse communities.

“It adds value to the NSW network of arts and cultural facilities, particularly where it meets a specific local need.

“Capital Project Funding helps councils develop projects which add to local infrastructure and services.

“It also encourages active co-operation between local community groups, arts organisations and local councils to ensure the most efficient use of available resources.

“I congratulate all the recipients of 2012 Capital Project Funding.

“I look forward to seeing the results of this State Government support at our arts and cultural facilities spread across the State.”

Mr Souris said the total 2012 Arts Funding Program is worth more than \$58 million in total.

“Already this year we have announced funding for regional conservatoriums and regional performing arts touring projects as part of the 2012 program,” he said.

“I am delighted that there will soon be more of these funding announcements under the Arts Funding Program, designed to enhance our nationally respected arts and cultural sector.”

Recipients of 2012 Capital Project Funding

Organisation	Electorate	Project	Amount
Penrith Performing and Visual Arts Ltd for Penrith Bicentennial Performing Arts Centre (PPVA)	Penrith	The technical upgrade (audio, lighting and vision systems) of the 90-seat Performance Studio at the Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre.	\$24,215
Mosman Council for Mosman Art Gallery & Community Centre	North Shore	Refurbishment of the Mosman Art Gallery will include development of The Cube for new media presentations, the Balnaves Room for the semi-permanent display of the Mosman Collection, a dedicated workshop space for expanded educational programs and public programming opportunities and upgrading of the grand hall.	\$100,000
Darlinghurst Theatre Limited for Burton Street Tabernacle	Sydney	A significant refurbishment of the historic Burton Street Tabernacle in Darlinghurst to create a 200-seat professional theatre for artists and the community. The refurbishment will include the installation of a cable net lighting grid which will protect and preserve significant heritage aspects of the building plus professional lighting and sound equipment.	\$160,000
Gwydir Shire Council for The Roxy Museum	Northern Tablelands	Situated within the Roxy complex, the Roxy Museum will celebrate the legacy of Greek settlement in rural Australia, particularly in NSW and Queensland. Staff will conduct research and develop collections that document Bingara's history in a national and international context.	\$94,500
Leeton Shire Council for Roxy Community Theatre	Murrumbidgee	Upgrading the current facilities at the Roxy Community Theatre in Leeton so it reaches a standard equal to other fully operational theatres and cinemas. The upgrade will include new auditorium and stage lighting, a new screen and fire proof curtains.	\$73,000
New England Regional Art Museum Ltd	Northern Tablelands	The New England Regional Art Museum houses the nationally significant Hinton and Coventry Collections. This infrastructure project will upgrade the museum to provide a sustainable and energy efficient building to preserve its collections for future generations and enable it to operate in a sustainable and environmentally responsible manner.	\$31,500
The University of Sydney for the Seymour Centre	Marrickville	The purchase of the first purpose-built sound system for the Seymour Centre's largest theatre, the York. This will enable a larger range of groups and organisations to use the theatre, avoiding the significant costs associated with hiring extra sound equipment.	\$69,377
Sawtell Art Group Inc. for Sawtell Art Centre	Coffs Harbour	The Stage 1 extension to Sawtell Art Centre will ensure an increased variety of art classes and gallery space for students, artists, and the broader community on the Mid North Coast. The centre will expand teaching services to youth, socially isolated, elderly, indigenous, culturally and linguistically diverse people and people with disabilities.	\$50,000
Walgett Shire Council for Lightning Ridge Opal and	Barwon	The stage 2 development of the Australian Opal Centre (AOC) which will be located in an outback setting and include two levels, recessed into and	\$107,040

Fossil Centre Inc		insulated by the earth. The project team has designed an innovative building that will generate electricity, collect and recycle rainwater and be filled with fresh air and natural light, minimising ongoing running costs.	
Dorrigo Dramatic Club for The Old Gazette Theatre	Oxley	Refurbishment of the auditorium of the Old Gazette Theatre and modernisation of green room facilities for performers.	\$30,368