



MEDIA RELEASE

Regional Arts NSW Announces New Board.

Following the Regional Arts NSW Annual General Meeting on Thursday 14th April, the following regional directors were appointed to the Board. **Rebecca Coyle**, Associate Professor, School of Arts and Social Science, Southern Cross University, Lismore; **Bernadette Haldane**, General Manager, Hot House Theatre Company, Albury and **Jennifer Turner**, Director, Tamworth Conservatorium of Music were appointed for a two year term. **Lani Houston**, Executive Officer, Regional Development Australia, Griffith and Chair of South West Arts, Deniliquin was appointed to a one year term to fill a casual vacancy. They join **Lindy Hume**, Chair of South East Arts and Festival Director, Sydney Festival to make up the team of five regional directors required under the Constitution.

At the following Board meeting, an additional four directors were co-opted to complete the team. **Naomi Messenger** from Swaab Lawyers, **Peter White**, Aboriginal Arts and Culture consultant and **Janice Summerhayes**, Director Environment and Community Services, Wagga Wagga City Council. **Meg Larkin**, who did not seek re-election as a regional director, was co-opted to serve an additional 12 month term as Chair as part of the board's succession planning strategy.

Regional Arts NSW CEO, Elizabeth Rogers said, "I welcome the new board, both new directors and those returning for a further term. This new board marks the final stage of a process of constitutional reform that has seen the Company move from a representative model to a skills based board. The expertise and experience of the directors will provide a valuable resource to the organisation and the network of 14 regional arts boards across the state. "

"I would like to acknowledge the contribution of the outgoing directors, Mr Kym Fuller and Cr Mave Richardson. I am also extremely grateful to Meg Larkin for forfeiting her well earned plans for retirement by agreeing to return to take the Chair for a further year."

Meg Larkin replied that she was honoured by the Board's wish to have her return for another year. "My term will be devoted to familiarising the new Board with governance and advocacy issues that are essential for the future of arts and cultural development in country NSW," she added.

Regional Arts NSW Board 2011

Meg Larkin, Chair (Governance & Advocacy)
Lindy Hume, Deputy Chair (Festivals & Performing Arts)
Jennifer Turner, Treasurer (Music)
Bernadette Haldane, Chair RAF panel (Theatre)
Rebecca Coyle, Trustee Public Fund (Creative industries)
Naomi Messenger, trustee Public Fund (Legal)
Janice Summerhayes, trustee, Public Fund; Chair state CASP panel, (Local Government)
Peter White (Aboriginal Arts & Culture)
Lani Houston (Regional Development)
Elizabeth Rogers, CEO (ex officio)

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