

# Assessment Report

## NT Arts Programs and Services Funding Round for 2014-2016

The Northern Territory Government offers \$3.75 million per year in funding through the NT Arts Programs and Services (NTAPS) category to support the Department of Arts and Museums vision for the Northern Territory to have dynamic and thriving arts, knowledge and creative industries.

This funding supports 21 not for profit arts organisations to deliver arts programs and services that contribute to the NT's cultural, social and economic development.

Nine organisations submitted applications to the NTAPS funding round for 2014-2016. Twelve month, multiyear or triennial funding was approved for those applicants that demonstrated they met the eligibility requirements and key objectives of the NTAPS category.

### Feedback

Assessment by a peer panel took place on 18 November 2013. Each application was assessed against the published criteria, which included:

- Artistic merit and innovation;
- Strong governance framework, sound management and program planning;
- Relevance of the program to the arts industry sector and/or art form development within a Territory context; and
- Income generation from sources other than the NT Arts Grants Program.

The assessment panel also considered the current Territory Government policy priorities, the recent track record of delivery of each applicant, the operating context and the national support programs relevant to each organisation. Decisions on funding through this category are made by the Minister for Arts and Museums, informed by the panel recommendations through Arts NT.

The panel rated all organisations on the criteria listed above, with total percentage scores ranging between 62% and 83%. Six organisations scored at least 70%. Recommendations were made for four organisations to receive annual funding, two organisations to receive multi-year funding, one organisation to receive triennial funding based on an exemplary track record, and two organisations recommended for annual funding and to be placed 'on notice'.

The 'on-notice' provision indicates that an organisation is not performing at the required level through the NTAPS category. This notice offers organisations a period of time to address performance issues including track record, governance and financial management procedures and controls, reporting and contract management.

The panel noted the relevance and importance of track record in assessing organisational programs and outcomes and that all organisations had responded to previous feedback from the panel. The panel commended organisations for program and service delivery outcomes, noting many had responded to considerable change over the past year. The panel also highlighted the need for organisations to demonstrate capacity to carry out proposed programs and to include information about networks and partnerships.

A summary of panel feedback against the assessment criteria is provided to each organisation.

## Panel Members

The NTAPS assessment panel was drawn from Northern Territory Government senior staff, an arts industry consultant and from the NT Register of Peers. Members are chosen for their relevant Territory arts sector knowledge and experience as well as regional, art form, cultural and gender spread. The panel for this round was approved by the Minister for Arts and Museums, and included:

- **Mr Steve Anderson (Chair)**, Curator at Batchelor Institute for Indigenous Tertiary Education (Alice Springs and NT Wide)
- **Ms Renita Glencross** 3C Projects Digital TV Switchover Coordinator in NT, SA RICS and Ethos Global Foundation Director (Darwin)
- **Ms Gillian Banks**, OAM, Board member of Godinymayin Yijard Rivers Arts and Culture Centre (Katherine)
- **Mr Michael Wells**, Director, NT Heritage Branch
- **Ms Christine Silvester**, Manager Business Systems, Arts NT

## NTAPS Funding Round approved commitments for 2014-2016

### **ANKAAA - \$120 000 for 2014**

To support the delivery of identified arts programs and services to Indigenous Art Centres and artists in the Top End that are members of the Association of Northern, Kimberley and Arnhem Aboriginal Artists (ANKAAA).

### **Barkly Regional Arts - \$115 000 per annum 2014-2016**

To support the delivery of identified arts programs and services for the Barkly region.

### **Darwin Symphony Orchestra - \$210 000 for 2014**

To support the delivery of identified arts programs and services for the development and presentation of orchestral music and a professional and community based symphony orchestra.

### **Happy Yess - \$40 000 for 2014**

To support the delivery of identified programs and services for the development and presentation of contemporary Territory music in Darwin.

### **InCite Arts - \$102 000 for 2014-2015**

To support the delivery of identified programs and services to young people and people with disability in Central Australia.

### **Katherine Regional Arts - \$130 000 for 2014**

To support the delivery of identified arts programs and services for multi arts development and presentation for the Katherine Region.

### **NT Writers' Centre - \$165 000 for 2014-2016**

To support the delivery of identified arts programs and services in Darwin and regions of the NT. This funding includes \$30 000 per annum to support the WordStorm Festivals.

### **Red Hot Arts Central Australia - \$280 000 for 2014-2015**

To support the delivery of identified arts programs and services for multi-arts development and presentation for Alice Springs and the Central Australian region. This funding includes \$180 000 per annum allocated to the Alice Desert Festival 2014-2015.

### **Watch This Space - \$70 000 for 2014-2016**

To support the delivery of identified arts programs and services as an Artist-Run Initiative in Alice Springs, for the development and presentation of Alice Springs and Central Australian contemporary visual art.