

MEDIA RELEASE
Monday 11 July, 2016

Country Arts Support Program closes July 28

Act now to secure funds for your community's arts projects next year.

Applications for the 2017 round of Country Arts Support Program (CASP) funding close at 3pm on Thursday July 28.

CASP is an annual program providing small grants to groups and organisations in regional NSW to run their own local arts projects. Key dates for 2017 funding have been brought forward.

"The closing date is much earlier than previous years so groups will need to think now about their projects for next year," Arts OutWest executive director Tracey Callinan said.

"CASP funds are a valuable way to kick start exciting local, on-the-ground arts projects," Ms Callinan said, "This funding is about giving regional people access to a diverse range of arts programs - activities that are made for and by the local community."

CASP grants are for small amounts of money - up to \$3000 - and are available primarily to cover professional artist's fees, travel and accommodation.

Seven projects were funded through CASP in 2016. Past projects have included workshops, performances, arts activities at local festivals, public art making, writing and composition of new music, and arts-based training for volunteers.

The funding is open to all incorporated associations. Unincorporated groups or collectives of artists are allowed to find a local organisation to auspice their funding.

Groups in Central West NSW region wishing to apply for the funding *must* discuss their project with Arts OutWest before submitting an online application. The Country Arts Support Program of Regional Arts NSW is funded by the NSW Government through Arts NSW.

To apply, read the funding criteria at <http://regionalartsnsw.com.au/grants/casp/> and contact Arts OutWest on 02 6338 4657 or email artsoutwest@csu.edu.au

Caption for image attached to email: Get your hands on money to make art. The CASP funded 'West Women Weaving' workshop with artist Harriet Goodall, organised by Friends of Oberon Library, held in May 2016. Photo: Arts OutWest.