

# MEDIA RELEASE

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## \$10K Young Regional Artist Scholarships for three Bathurst arts makers

Three Bathurst-based artists are among nine from regional NSW to share \$90,000 from the Create NSW Young Regional Artist Scholarship initiative. The next round of this funding closes October 30.

Jesse Alston, Johanna (JoJo) Williams and Ben Rodwell each received a \$10,000 scholarship in the most recent round. Each are a recent or soon-to-be graduate of the CSU B Communication Theatre / Media course. Each also spent time with Arts OutWest executive director Tracey Callinan to develop and fine tune their applications before submitting.

Annually the scholarship initiative rewards 25 artists aged 18-25 across the state, in all art forms – from dance, design, digital arts, history, Aboriginal arts, literature, music, theatre, screen and curatorial to the visual arts. The programs designed by the three Bathurst artists are:

- **Jesse Alston** will develop a unique artistic theatre practice and a new body of work through the study of practical animation and professional mentorship from modern theatre practitioner Nel Kentish.
- **Ben Rodwell** will develop a directing practice through a week-long directing course and combine with knowledge from working with international and nationally based children's theatre companies to create a short development with the support and mentorship of regionally based artists.
- **Johanna Williams** will develop her skills as a playwright/dramaturge through internships and attendance of arts festivals and conferences to develop new work that will involve creative development and mentorships in Bathurst.

The selected nine artists from the first round this year span a diverse range of artforms including circus, music, film, theatre and the visual arts, and will each receive a \$10,000 grant to support a self-directed program.

The Scholarships will officially commence on 1 November when the group comes together for a two-day professional development training workshop at Carriageworks in Eveleigh curated by Create NSW, before they each embark on their own chosen programs. During the workshop they will receive expert advice, business management lessons and networking opportunities with a range of leading industry figures, visit arts organisations and meet the Minister for the Arts, Don Harwin.

Create NSW CEO Michael Brealey commented, "This Scholarship offers truly once-in-a-lifetime professional development opportunities that cross both international and national boundaries. We've seen from previous recipients just what is possible, and we're really excited to welcome our new artists with this unique learning experience."

Applications for the Young Regional Artist Scholarship Round 2 are open until midnight, Monday 30 October 2017. **For information on how to apply visit, visit [www.create.nsw.gov.au](http://www.create.nsw.gov.au) or email [arts.funding@create.nsw.gov.au](mailto:arts.funding@create.nsw.gov.au)**



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