

**MEDIA RELEASE**

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## Winter Arts Networking comes to Lithgow

Winters Arts Networking comes to Lithgow, powered by a fun fast format called PechaKucha 20x20.

Local artists will share an eclectic mix of stories and ideas at the networking night next Wednesday June 18, from 5pm (through to 6.30pm) at Eskbank House Museum.

Hosted by regional arts organisation Arts OutWest, the Bathurst event is one of nine happening throughout the Central West this winter.

"It's really going to be a social event for the whole arts and creative community. A chance to meet, mingle, introduce yourself, make contacts and maybe even kick start future collaborations," Arts OutWest executive officer Tracey Callinan said.

Each of the presenters on the night will have just 20 slides, shown for 20 seconds each to tell their story. Hear about living history re-enactments, the process of making ceramics, a photographer's perspective on bushfire and a taste of cabaret.

"We've so far had networking nights in Cowra and Bathurst and are still getting great feedback from people about how fun the nights were, how much they learnt about the local arts scene," Ms Callinan said. "People think 'oh I know all the artists here', or 'I've heard all the stories' and they were surprised to find such a depth of local ideas and talent. There has been a real buzz across the region about the events and especially about the PechaKucha 20x20 format. We're looking forward to some really diverse and fascinating stories," Ms Callinan said.

PechaKucha 20x20 (pronounced peh-cha-coo-cha) was started in Japan in 2003 by Tokyo's Klein-Dytham Architecture. There are now PechaKucha nights in more than 700 cities around the world.

Everyone is welcome, entry will be by donation, finger food will be provided, BYO drinks.

Other events happen in Orange (Wednesday July 16 at Union Bank) then Wellington (July 30), Forbes (August 6), Oberon (August 26 at Cafe Savannah), Grenfell (August 20) and Canowindra (August 27).

To RSVP (for catering numbers) or for more information call Arts OutWest on 6338 4657.