

Central West Aboriginal artists exhibit at Black Arts Market at Corroborree in Sydney this Sunday

Aboriginal artists from the NSW Central West will be selling and showcasing their products at the Black Arts Market on Sunday 23 November 2014 as part of the Corroboree festival in Sydney. This is the second time the market has run and the second time artists from our region have been selected to participate.

“This is a great opportunity for our artists to showcase their work to the Sydney market and to show Corroboree visitors the diversity of contemporary works from over the mountains,” Aleshia Lonsdale, Arts OutWest’s Aboriginal Arts Development Officer said.

Artists participating from the Central West include Nyree Reynolds (Blayney), Mirree Bayliss (Orange), Ashton Walden, Tamara Leggett (Bathurst), Orange Fibre Artists, Bob Sutor (Lithgow).

Established in 2013, the Regional Arts NSW sponsored event, supported through the Australian Government’s Regional Arts Fund (RAF), will feature the work of up to 40 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists from regional New South Wales and Sydney. This year it moves to the Museum of Contemporary Art (MCA) Foundation Hall and will be held on Sunday, November 23 from 10am-5pm.

The market will include artworks, homewares and design, bush foods, body products, and medicines, along with music and literature.

“Whilst not all of the artists will be able to come down to the markets this is a valuable experience for them in terms of challenging them to focus their work and tailor it to the market and event whilst maintaining it’s integrity,” Ms Lonsdale said.

The market is a key event of Corroboree Sydney to be held from 20 – 30 November. Corroboree Sydney is a festival for all Australians celebrating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture in the heart of Sydney at significant sites around the world-famous Sydney Harbour.

Separate to the Black Arts Market, Central West artists Irene Ridgeway and Nyree Reynolds will be exhibiting work in the Discovery Centre at The Rocks (Thursday 13 November – late November). This exhibition was set up by Djon Mundine as a result of our Central West Creative Lab project earlier this year.

“It’s exciting to see our artists presenting their work at the Black Arts Market in such an amazing venue – hopefully it will give them the confidence to seek out other opportunities to show their work in Sydney,” Ms Lonsdale said.

Arts OutWest has been supporting local artists to fine tune their products for events like the Black Arts Market. In 2013 Arts OutWest and NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service set up the permanent Kew Y Ahn Aboriginal Art Gallery at Hartley Historic Site to sell contemporary paintings, jewellery and weaving by Aboriginal artists from the region.

Regional Arts NSW has been able to support, through the Regional Arts Fund, travel to Sydney for those artists who were able to attend this weekend.

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