



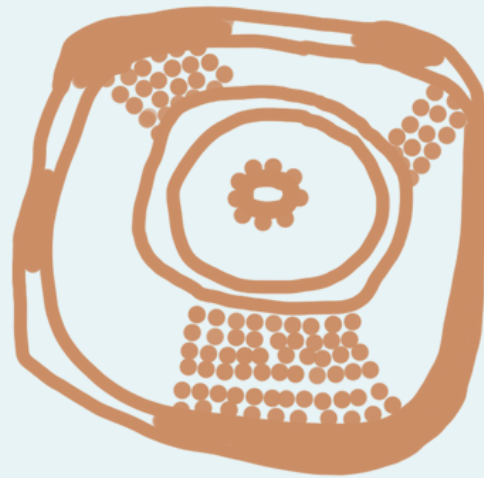
ARTS NORTHERN RIVERS

ANNUAL
REPORT

2022

ARTS NORTHERN
RIVERS

Arts Northern Rivers respectfully acknowledges Bundjalung, Yaegl, Gumbaynggirr and Githabul Country, the lands we work and create on and pay our respects to Elders past and present and emerging.



COVER IMAGE: NORTHERN RIVERS CREATIVE 'SELF' EXHIBITION, GRAFTON REGIONAL GALLERY
PHOTOGRAPHY: SIMON HUGHES

ILLUSTRATION: KYLIE CALDWELL 'OUR PLACE IS YOUR PLACE'

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

We started into the year with a new 4-year strategic plan, and a full year project and program plan. We completed the beautiful Rappville Creative Recovery Project and continued with Weavers of the Bundjalung Nation.

On February 28, 2022, everything changed for the region, our community and our organisation. The 2022 floods ripped through our region with such great devastation that it upturned entire communities - and we are all now, still, and will be for many years, in a state of recovery and renewal. Tens of thousands of people were evacuated, homes and belongings were destroyed, and communities now face years of rebuilding. Arts Northern Rivers lost its office, its hardware, archives, space and chattels.

As an organisation we delivered support services to our sector of the Northern Rivers through:

- Raising and delivering \$250,000 in direct rapid response funding
- Advocating to Create NSW for immediate and medium term recovery funds to the Creative Industries and its independents for infrastructure
- Designing, facilitating and hosting the Northern Rivers Creative Industries Recovery Forum in July 2022
- Producing a report on the findings from the Forum which informed Government and stakeholder responses for ongoing strategies for support for the recovery of the region
- Attaining funding for recovery projects and professional development expansion
- Connected impacted creatives with services and support

After 3 years of rolling lockdowns and impacts of Covid-19, the floods certainly took their toll on us as an organisation. We said goodbye to long term staff member; Phoebe Rose and we thank her for all her years with Arts Northern Rivers, and Imbi Davidson. We welcomed Grace Dewar in the Project Manager role, Sean Campbell into the Operations & Admin role, and Paris Mordecai as the First Nations Program Coordinator.

No longer having a 'base office' has seen Arts Northern Rivers move across the region, temporarily settling into the Old Schoolhouse in Clunes village (thanks NRCF!) and M|Arts in Murwillumbah for the second half of 2022. We immersed ourselves into the Tweed Shire unlocking many relationships with the abundance of creatives in the region.

Some highlights of the year:

- Auslan Creative - a major project working with the Northern Rivers Deaf community held over 4 days in Lismore in September: Workshops/sold-out Concert with famed D/deaf band 'Alter Boy'/D/deaf festival Lounge space/Exhibitions and performances
- Rappville Creative Recovery Project - a community led creative recovery project with lead artists Charlotte Haywood and Lyndall Phelps
- Weavers of the Bundjalung Nation - a publication documenting and researching the history, practice and techniques particular to Bundjalung weavers
- My Place is Your Place at Lismore Base Hospital - a public art project to raise cultural awareness for Bundjalung women at the Women's Care Unit
- Art On Bundjalung Market - Kyogle - celebrating the creative cultural heritage of the Bundjalung region
- PATHWAYS LAB - a pilot mentorship program that offers direct support to five First Nations artists/culture producers from Bundjalung country, in partnership with NRCF

I would like to acknowledge the spirit of the Northern Rivers Creative Industries communities in this time - the most challenging times the local sector has seen. And finally, thank you to the ANR team who have navigated the pathway for the organisation with conviction and professionalism.

Jane Fuller

Executive Director, Arts Northern Rivers



IMAGE: PATHWAYS LAB
PHOTOGRAPHY: KATE HOLMES

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

On February 28 2022, the Lismore community crawled to their roofs, jumped in boats and left their possessions behind as they watched floodwaters tear through their city, destroying more than 1,400 residential homes and impacting more than 3,000 businesses. Communities in the hills trekked through landslides to get to safety and watched as roads were washed away and creeks changed their course. Across the Northern Rivers, in Woodburn, Wardell, Murwillumbah, Coraki, Broadwater, Ballina, Byron, Nimbin and Mullumbimby there are thousands of stories of impact, destruction and loss.

One year on from the devastating impact of the most significant disaster Australia has seen since Cyclone Tracy, we are living with the ongoing effects every day - socially, professionally, civically and creatively. At Arts Northern Rivers we understand the pivotal role the Creative Industries play in our ongoing recovery as a region. We support our creatives; we advocate for a seat at the tables of decision makers; and we place independents, small-to-medium arts/cultural organisations and makers at the centre of everything we do.

Arts Northern Rivers role in this recovery has seen it take a leadership role within the Creative Industries, with our lived experience helping to shape the response and policy work of Government agencies and stakeholders in designing projects and initiatives. Arts Northern Rivers hosted and facilitated the Northern Rivers Creative Industries Recovery Forum, of which, the findings continue to guide and inform government and its lead agencies in recovery responses.

Despite the incredibly challenging times, the team at ANR continues to deliver rapid response funding; recovery projects; advocacy and advice to industry and government; and outreach. And, continues to produce its own projects for the sector and the community. On behalf of my fellow ANR Board members, I extend deep gratitude and appreciation to the team for their incredible professionalism and hard work. We are very proud of the work they do.

Our newly elected Arts Northern Rivers Board (January 2022) only saw 1 x in-person meeting before the floods, despite this, we managed to meet another 3 times in 2022 online, and I would like to thank my fellow Board members of Arts Northern Rivers for their commitment to the organisation and the representation across skills and LGAs. We are in a sound and strengthening financial position, which is being guided by our Executive

Director and Finance Manager. We are pleased that the NSW Government has recognised the important role that RADOs such as Arts Northern Rivers play in connecting to and supporting local regional creatives, which will grow stronger into 2023 and beyond. The Arts Northern Rivers Board acknowledges NSW Arts Minister; The Hon. (Ben) Benjamin Cameron Franklin, MLC.

Arts Northern Rivers is acknowledged as the go-to organisation for the region's Creative Industries voice and plays a crucial leadership role in the professional development, resilience and promotion of our region as a place where creatives thrive. We are a small but highly effective regional arts organisation and with the ongoing support of our member Councils we look forward to continuing our work supporting the arts and creative industries across the Northern Rivers. Together we are building a stronger base for the arts and cultural sector in our region.

Elly Bird

Chair, Arts Northern Rivers



IMAGE: CREATIVE INDUSTRIES RECOVERY FORUM 2022
PHOTOGRAPHY: KATE HOLMES

INCOMING BOARD & STRATEGY

IMAGE: ART ON BUNDJALUNG MARKET, KYOGLE
PHOTOGRAPHY: KATE HOLMES



In late 2021, the local council areas - Local Government Area (LGA) undertook council elections where new councillors across the 7 LGAs were elected. As a result of this, Arts Northern Rivers welcomed in a largely new Board of representatives and alternates; 2 from each LGA that contributes financially to ANR.

Arts Northern Rivers undertook an update and development of its future strategic plan for 2022-2025 in late 2021 and adopted it in 2022. Given the Executive Director had been in the job for under 6 months and the incoming new Board was appointed in early 2002, the Strategic Plan was considered an Interim plan with an intention to do a full update in 2022.

The Board met for the first time on 18 February 2022. 10 days later, the 2022 Floods tore through the region.

This flood event changed everything for the region; impacting the ANR interim Strategic Plan, its programs, and its priorities. ANR ran in 2022 with priorities pivoting to be focused on sector recovery, assisting the sector in accessing support in funding, advice in recovery and shifting to operating under the new devastated landscape.

WHO WE ARE & WHAT WE DO

Since 2003, Arts Northern Rivers has grown to become the peak arts organisation for the Northern Rivers region, servicing seven local government areas. As one of 14 Regional Arts Development Organisations (RADOs) that make up the regional arts network of NSW, we provide strategic direction for sustainable arts development across the state.

VISION

An engaged, diverse, connected and resilient arts and cultural community valued in our region and recognised nationally and internationally.

PURPOSE

As the peak arts organisation for our region, we deliver services and projects that foster the creative industries, encourage excellence, and work to ensure access and engagement with arts and cultural activity.

We do this by:

- Developing quality programs in collaboration with our stakeholders and partners
- Extending our reach across the region to encourage participation in and promotion of our vibrant arts and cultural sector
- Connecting creatives to opportunities and pathways in our sector
- Ensuring we remain viable as an organisation through good governance practice and financial management.



OUR VALUES

PLACE

We champion and advocate for the role that a thriving arts and cultural sector makes in our region of the Northern Rivers.

IMPACT

We work together with others so we can achieve more, and share what we learn.

INCLUSION

We value and seek opportunity for the arts of the First Nations peoples of the

CREATIVITY

We nurture, celebrate and showcase creativity from across our region. We are open, frank and respectful in our relationships.

RESPECT

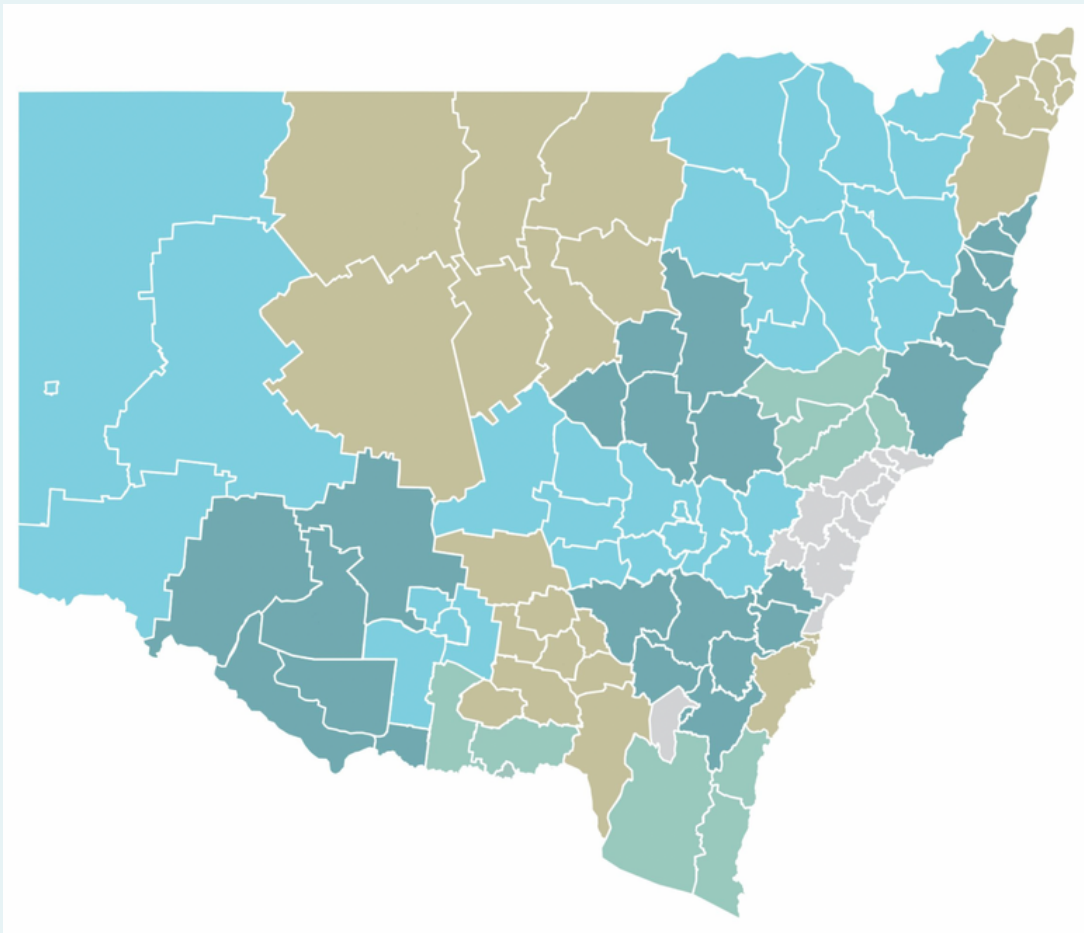
We are open, frank and respectful in our relationships.

RADO NETWORK

There are 15 Regional Arts Organisations in NSW, each providing strategic direction for sustainable arts and cultural development in their region.

Their Boards include representatives from local government, tourism, education, arts councils and other community arts organisations and community members. Each employs an Executive Director and other staff who coordinate a cultural development program across the contributing local government areas in their region.

IMAGE: REGIONAL ARTS DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATIONS MAP, NSW
SOURCE: REGIONAL ARTS NSW



FLLOODS 2022

In February 2022, the first of two catastrophic floods wiped out communities in the NSW Northern Rivers. One of the first things ANR undertook was to visit as many studios/artists/organisations as we could access. We lobbied and advocate to State and Federal Arts Ministers for awareness and support. We ran a fundraising campaign and the Arts Northern Rivers team dedicated their time for flood relief and recovery funding to directly assist individuals impacted by the devastating floods.

With overwhelming community support nationally, Arts Northern Rivers raised over \$250k for flood relief. We supported over 250 individual creatives with one-off \$1000 rapid response funds. This funding process gave us real time insights to start to form a picture of the full devastation experienced by creatives across the region. From this we can estimate a total damage of over \$4.5m in lost work, equipment, studios and artworks, and this is only from a portion of those affected.

The data indicated the following for

Independent creatives:

54% Lismore

22% Byron

12% Tweed

4% Richmond Valley

2% Clarence Valley

1.8% Ballina

1.8% Kyogle

By art form/practice:

71% Visual Artists

24% Musicians

22% Performers

15% Digital Artists

12% Photographers

10% Designers

8% Indigenous Artists

7% Literature

5% Screen

Arts Northern Rivers proceeded to work in the regions recovery and connection through Rapid Response, the Creative Industries Recovery Forum, and Recovery.

PROJECTS

RECOVERY AND THE CREATIVE INDUSTRIES RECOVERY FORUM

Creative Industries from across the Northern Rivers region gathered in July to lay the foundations for a sector-led approach to recovery following the recent flood disaster. Delivered by Arts Northern Rivers, the Forum addressed impacts of isolation, creative business atrophy, and positive regional futures. With many creatives asking the question; "where to now?", the Forum aimed to bring the creative community together, revitalise cohorts and networks, and support the Northern Rivers on its path towards a thriving future.

Arts Northern Rivers' advocacy and support immediately following the disaster resulted in over \$250,000 delivered in direct rapid response funding to individual flood affected creatives. Through this response, a sector wide snapshot of the direct impact was gained, documenting financial losses and damage from both independent creatives and organisations across the region. One of the key insights gained is the need for the creative industries to come together as a sector.

In response to this, the Forum's main objective was to provide practical support for priority areas of the recovery of the Creative Industries to bolster the sustainable recovery and rebuild agenda of the entire region. As part of the medium-term flood recovery strategy, this two-day regional Forum brought together the creative industry to develop a future road map for longer term recovery..

IMAGE : CREATIVE INDUSTRIES RECOVERY FORUM 2022
PHOTOGRAPHY : KATE HOLMES



The event designed a recovery map in real time using Open Space methodology. The event was accessible, and trauma informed, bringing a range of mental health and community services together to form a safe space for relationship building and connection

FORUM REPORT

Arts Northern Rivers worked with research agency Patternmakers to produce the *Creative Industries Recovery Forum Report*. It documents the outcomes of the forum, supplementing observations with additional analysis and conversations with stakeholders not present at the forum.

The purpose of the report was to build a story of the Northern Rivers recovery needs and identify opportunities to strengthen the creative industries in the region.

5 interrelated areas of need in the region's creative industries were identified from the analysis of data and have informed the three Recovery Project Streams Announced –

- **REPAIR:** Supporting artists and organisations to replace losses and rebuild their practices
- **PREPARE:** Helping artists and organisations disaster-proof their practice and strengthen resilience
- **INFLUENCE:** Advocating for the creative industries and ensuring artists are central to recovery
- **WORK:** Creating opportunities for artists to work, generate earnings and support community recovery
- **THRIVE:** Working towards a more equitable, vibrant and newly flourishing arts sector

Arts Northern Rivers has capacity to support the three recovery streams by:

- Investing in professional development to build capacity for creative recovery and preparedness
- Shape opportunities for residencies, commissions and projects
- Improve equity and strengthen alignment across the region
- Ensure there are ongoing opportunities for connection
- Collect and share information about the recovery process

1:1 SUPPORT

An ongoing hallmark of Arts Northern Rivers is our direct person-to-person support for independents and self-managed artists from emerging to established. This is a huge part of our organisation's remit, and often gets overlooked by our suite of programs.

We continue to deliver a diverse and layered program for and with communities and individuals across the Northern Rivers. For our team, 2022 was shaped and informed not only by the priorities outlined in our strategic plan, however in recovery and rapid response support.

We worked with the creative industries to deliver:

- Advice
- Access to Funding
- Advocacy
- Strategic Planning
- Skills and Professional Development opportunities
- Building capacity for community groups and organisations in recovery
- Project development and support

IMAGE: SMOKE CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT
PHOTOGRAPHY: KATE HOILMES



NORTHERN RIVERS CREATIVE

Launched in 2019, the Northern Rivers Creative (NRC) online directory was established to support the creative ambition of artists and connect them to national and global markets. The platform features multi-arts practitioners working across categories including creative services, visual arts, design, Indigenous arts, literature, music, performance, and screen.

2022 continued the delivery of a Northern Rivers Creative artistic program including several multi-arts public activations spread across the region featuring exhibitions and performances teamed with live artist talks and panel discussions. The program supported partnership with a range of regional and national partners, as well as providing paid opportunities for the directory's featured practitioners.

BUSINESS WORKSHOPS FOR CREATIVES

Arts Northern Rivers professional development workshops series are delivered across the region and online. Workshops are designed for artists and art-workers at any career stage looking for additional support in their creative career paths. In 2022, we focussed on recovery support with the view to expand the professional development program in 2023. With support from NSW Government's Business Connect program, Arts Northern Rivers partnered with Creative Plus Business to present two workshops in the Northern Rivers in 2022. Led by Creative Plus Business' founder, Monica Davidson, workshops were delivered with a focus on recovery and business structures. Sessions were delivered in Tweed Shire (M|Arts) and Kyogle Shire (The Roxy Gallery) in partnership with the Kyogle Writers Festival.

IMAGE: CREATIVE PLUS BUSINESS WORKSHOP, KYOGLE
PHOTOGRAPHY: JODIE HARRIS



AUSLAN CREATIVE

Auslan Creative was major project working with the Northern Rivers Deaf community and multi-artform partners. Over three days in September 2022, the Auslan Creative Festival landed with workshops, exhibitions and events engaging both Deaf and hearing participants.

Festival Events

Alter Boy - A sell-out! at Lismore City Bowls Club – Hailing from Perth, Alter Boy is led by hard of hearing artist Molly Priest, and features an Auslan interpreter front and centre. Alter Boy continues to influence a greater understanding of how deaf/hard-of-hearing individuals experience the power of music through their dark, shiny pop hits all performed in Auslan. Alter Boys combination of Chaotic live performances feature transgender, disabled bodies and carefully considered, unique uniforms serve the bands collective motivation to challenge the music industry's status quo and influence a new relationship with music.

Museum of Contemporary Art (MCA) – professional learning program focusing on the development of accessible programming for staff from the regional gallery and museum network of the Northern Rivers. Insights into MCA Access programs, participants engaged in basic Auslan signs in a deaf awareness session included a toolkit of strategies to deliver accessible and inclusive experiences for audiences and connect to the Deaf and hard of hearing community in museum and gallery settings.

Streetlight: Meet Me There – Exhibition at Elevator ARI - it shone a light on the work of Deaf visual artists.

Workshop Program – held across the entire weekend with a range of activities to suit the whole family at the Deaf lounge at the Lismore Quad: Walking Tour of Lismore CBD, Visual Vernacular Workshop, Auslan Storytime, Art Table and Community Collaborative Painting. Film Night – an open outdoor film night to the whole community, short films made by, with and for Deaf people celebrated the diversity Deaf history and culture

Project History

This project responded to an approach made by Lismore-based Deaf arts worker Sigrid MacDonald in collaboration with Phoebe Rose; Arts Worker and passionate ally, and crucially; the local deaf community. Arts Northern Rivers received funding to deliver this multi-arts project through the Australian Government's Regional Arts Fund and by the NSW Government through Create NSW.

ART IN THREE BITES

Art Practice in 3 Bites is a three-part lecture / panel series developed in partnership with Lismore Regional Gallery and Southern Cross University with support from the Regional Arts NSW Experience Initiative.

The series provides critical and creative discussion around several key topics that are currently an important focus for the sector: artist-run initiatives & sustainable practice, transdisciplinary practice, and ecologies & public spaces. It is designed to increase visitation to and support cultural tourism across the Northern Rivers, whilst offering an opportunity for professional development for local artists hearing from contributing speakers, both local and interstate industry professionals.

The first panel discussion 1st Bite – Sustain, held at Southern Cross University was facilitated by Senior Lecturer in Art and Design at SCU, Dr Marian Tubbs, and featured a panel of dynamic creative industry heavyweights: Lisa Havilah; Chief Executive of Sydney Powerhouse Museum; Hamish Sawyer; Independent curator and Director of Outer Space; and Laith McGregor; Internationally exhibited Artist.



IMAGE: ART IN 3 BITES: SUSTAIN, SOUTHERN CROSS UNIVERSITY
PHOTOGRAPHY: MIA ZAPATA

SMOKE

SMOKE is a dance theatre work co-directed by Kirk Page and Jade Dewi TyasTunggal that has been in development on Bundjalung Country in Northern NSW, Meanjin lands of the Yuggaera and Turrbal peoples lands and Indonesia.

Smoke undertook a creative development in early 2022 and will continue to develop the work for presentation in 2024.



IMAGE: SMOKE CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT
PHOTOGRAPHY: KATE HOILMES

INDIGENOUS PROJECTS

Indigenous arts development has been a strategic priority for Arts Northern Rivers since its inception. In 2022, ANR introduced a new strategic goal to lead and guide the organisation and provide the program direction:

Create partnerships leading to pathways and opportunities for participation by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in arts and cultural sectors in the Northern Rivers.

Since 2005, ANR has employed an Indigenous Arts Development Officer tasked with supporting and developing projects that support Aboriginal artists across our region. In 2022, ANR brought on a First Nations Program Coordinator to support the program as it develops and grows. Both roles are funded through the Federal Government's Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support program (IVAIS).

WEAVERS ON BUNDJALUNG NATION

In 2021, ANR began working on the publication of Weavers Of The Bundjalung Nation, documenting women's weaving practice's specific to the Bundjalung region. The book records stories of elders and weavers, researches historical and archival material and documents traditional plant species and harvesting techniques.

Written by acclaimed writer, producer and director Rhoda Roberts AO and skilfully edited by Grace Lucas-Pennington and Melissa Lucashenko, the publication documents these stories with images by renowned photographer Kate Holmes, mentee photographer Kris Cook and also features an introduction by Miles Franklin Award winner Melissa Lucashenko. The publication was further developed in 2022 and will be launched in a phased approach throughout 2023. .

IMGAE; BUNDJALUNG WEAVERS
PHOTOGRAPHY: KATE HOLMES



ART ON BUNDJALUNG MARKET, KYOGLE

Art on Bundjalung Market 2022 was in October in Kyogle. The market engaged with over 30 local First Nations artists as stallholders and over 35 performers in the concurrent cultural program. Additionally, Arts Northern Rivers supported the Roxy Gallery in Kyogle to facilitate an exhibition of local First Nations artists alongside the market, which engaged with 11 artists. As part of the development of artists and to encourage 'market-readiness', two professional development sessions were facilitated for Art on Bundjalung stallholders and artists in the Dalaang Gali Wogun exhibition. The sessions offered support in developing an artist biography, as well as the opportunity to receive professional headshots and photographs of their works.

Partnerships with community and Aboriginal organisations were key to the success of the market, providing valuable services to market patrons and stallholders. These partners were Gugin Gudduba Local Aboriginal Land Council, Ngunya Jarjum, Rekindling the Spirit, Kyogle Together, Kyogle Council, and Roxy Gallery.

Despite wet weather, the market attracted an audience of over 2000 attendees, as well as 150 to the Dalaang Galii Wogun Exhibition, and generated an impressive \$34,000+ in sales/income for stallholders and exhibiting artists.

IMAGE: ART ON BUNDJALUNG MARKET, KYOGLE
PHOTOGRAPHY: KATE HOLMES



PATHWAYS LAB

PATHWAYS LAB is a professional development pilot program that offers support to five First Nations creative practitioners living on Bundjalung country. The program aims to develop the leadership skills of emerging practitioners, grow their creative capacity, and connect them with pathways into areas of the arts they may not have encountered or considered.

The first intensive took place in 2022, facilitated by lead artist, Bundjalung and Yaegl man Mitch King, with Minjungbal-Yugambah, Wiradjuri and Ni-Vanuatu guest artist, Thomas E.S Kelly of Karul Projects. Participants include Coedie McCarthy, Jannali Doncaster, Tahnee Arnold, Rory Close, and Ngarra Williams. In 2023, further intensives will be delivered to connect the cohort with creatives, producers, production and technical professionals working in the industry.



IMAGE : PATHWAYS LAB
PHOTOGRAPHY : KATE HOLMES

FIRST NATIONS VISUAL ARTS SCHOLARSHIP

Delivered in partnership with the Byron School of Art (BSA), the First Nations Visual Arts Scholarship sponsors a First Nations artist to participate in a year-long Visual Arts Foundation Course. Designed to provide an extensive grounding in the Visual Arts, students gain knowledge, skills and experience needed to form an integrated understanding of contemporary visual arts ideas and practices.

Kay Lee Williams received the 2022 First Nations Visual Arts Scholarship. Kay is a Kamilaroi artist currently working with silk and wool, creating wearable scarves, wall hangings and soft furnishings. Kay sources beautifully coloured plant fibres, leaves and roots to create natural bush dyes creating surface patterns and colours on textiles. Her work is about identity and place with references to elements, water and earth illustrating her experience with traditional and contemporary techniques and cultural themes. Unfortunately due to unforeseen circumstances, Kay was unable to join the program in 2022, deferring her study until 2023.

MY PLACE IS YOUR PLACE

In partnership with the Aboriginal Maternal Infant Health Service (AMIHS) and Northern New South Wales Local Health District, in 2021/22 ANR worked to deliver cultural artworks to the Women's Care Unit (WCU) at the Lismore Base Hospital.



IMGAE: AMARINA TOBY, BIRTHING SUITE ARTWORK

KINSHIP FESTIVAL

The annual Kinship Festival, held in Murwillumbah in Tweed Shire has become a valuable and important event that celebrates Aboriginal arts and culture, bringing community together and encapsulates belonging, participation and connection to land and country. The festival committee is committed to communicating the true meaning of Kinship and provide an opportunity for people from all walks of life to appreciate and connect with the local Indigenous culture that is alive and thriving.

Arts Northern Rivers are passionate supporters of Kinship Festival and the professional development opportunities for emerging First Nations artists to showcase and sell their work, established and emerging performers and musicians to perform for a wide audience, and the opportunity for cultural dance and song to be shared. In 2022, Arts Northern Rivers contributed to the festival planning sessions with our First Nations Indigenous Officer, Kylie Caldwell attending meetings, supported with \$2,000, enabled art workshops to take place and had a presence on the day, valuing the historic importance, continuation and visibility of Aboriginal Arts and Culture.



JAHVIS LOVEDAY 'BUNI' CASP PROEJCT 2022
PHOTOGRAPHY: DYLAN LALOR

ABORIGINAL REGIONAL ARTS ALLIANCE (ARRA)

ARRA are a collective of regional Aboriginal artists and arts worker who advocate, support and provide opportunities for Aboriginal artists, arts workers, Aboriginal organisations, and cultural practitioners in regional NSW. Arts Northern Rivers is proud to be a partner of ARRA.

In 2022 as part of the partnership with ARRA, Kylie and Paris were supported to travel to Condobolin for the NSW Aboriginal Culture, Heritage and Arts Association Conference to connect with other regional arts workers, state cultural institutions, and funding bodies. Arts Northern Rivers is also supporting the development and delivery of a new ARRA initiative titled 'Here Now & Always' focused on celebrating, showcasing and marketing NSW regional Aboriginal Arts and Culture to the world. The program will culminate with an online arts market in 2023.

ARTIST OUTREACH

The Artist Outreach component of the ANR First Nations program forms a foundational pillar to the overall program. Ongoing individualised support is provided by ANR's Indigenous Arts Development Officer (IADO) to encourage and support Indigenous artists and groups across the Northern Rivers region to take up opportunities to create, strengthen and expand their profile and practise.

This is a critical role within the IADO remit, and was expanded and stretched in 2022 with the needs of the sector due to the February floods. The IADO delivered support with creatives that suffered loss of income, studios, space and future income through grant identification, writing and advocacy. Critically, the IADO supported and amplified First Nations voice at the Northern Rivers Creative Industries Recovery Forum in July 2022. The IADO also supported artists with navigating funding and submitting grant applications, in particular supporting Arminel Nagas and Jai Walker to submit an application to the Country Arts Support Program (CASP). The application was successful, enabling Jai and Arminel to deliver the Goori Youth Creative Culture Workshops program at the local Oaks Community Centre for young mob aged 13 – 18.

STRATEGIC FUNDING ACHIEVEMENTS

FOUNDATIONS & SPONSORSHIP

In addition to government funding programs we have been able to utilise our Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status to secure financial donations for individuals and foundations. We are also grateful for the on-going sponsorship relationship we have with local accountancy firm Thomas Noble Russell, who have conducted our annual audit for over 14 years.

ANR also amplifies its work by joining with other organisations and individuals to develop, present and promote a range of innovative programs and providing responsive funding opportunities targeting various sectors within the arts and creative industries.

We work with the contributing local governments, the state and federal arts agencies as well as philanthropic agencies to ensure that the arts and culture are at the table as important voices for our social cohesion and identities.

Our partners:

- Australia Council For the Arts
- Create NSW
- Business NSW
- Services NSW
- National Recovery and Resilience Agency
- Northern Rivers Reconstruction Commission
- Northern Rivers Community Foundation
- Minderoo Foundation
- Lifeline
- Northern Rivers Health
- FRR
- The Yugilbar Foundation
- Business Connect
- Creative Plus Business



MARK CORA'S WARES, ART ON BUNDJALUNG MARKET
PHOTOGRAPHY: KATE HOLMES

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ENGAGEMENT

As financial contributors to Arts Northern Rivers, Councils enjoy the full support of our services across the region. From participation on Council committees to the delivery of innovative projects that support community-wide participation in arts and cultural activity, we deliver services and amplify arts funding for all councils of the Northern Rivers.

Council's ongoing support and contribution to Arts Northern Rivers ensures:

- All artists and cultural organisations in each LGA can seek advice and assistance from Arts Northern Rivers
- Representation through the Arts Northern Rivers Board
- Support to Council staff in sourcing funding and deliver dynamic arts and cultural projects
- Access to our expertise in cultural planning, policy development, project development and community consultation
- Support of creative industry development in each LGA
- Connections to state and nationally-funded cultural programs
- Access to our region-wide projects
- Inclusion in a network that attracts over \$2 million investment from the State Government
- Access to our professional and skills development program
- Advocacy for our regions creative industries to all levels of government agencies

AUSPICING PROJECTS

Arts Northern Rivers has increased its auspicing services over the past year. We work with individuals and small groups to support their capacity to access more grant opportunities both within the arts sector and further aligned sectors. This is an important service that the organisation offers to the region.

COUNTRY ARTS SUPPORT PROGRAM (CASP)

CASP offers small grants up to \$5,000 and is managed by Arts Northern Rivers through devolved funding from Create NSW. These grants are offered once a year and are available for short term, locally initiated arts and community projects delivered in the following local Government areas in the Northern Rivers; Byron Shire, Clarence Valley, Kyogle, Lismore, Richmond Valley and Tweed Shire.

The 2022 recipients for projects in 2022/23 include:

Nanahng Bunahm - Goori Youth Creative Culture Workshops will consist of 10 creative workshops led jointly by Arminel Nagas and Jai Walker for ten weeks at local Oaks Community Centre in Casino for high school youth aged 13 – 18 years.

Byron Youth Theatre – Nuance, an original theatre production exploring the nuances of communication and how they can positively and negatively affect our relationships. Performances will be made available for local high schools and community.

Jahvis Loveday - The Making of Buni (fire), an inclusive documentary-style project that will explore Loveday sharing his knowledge on how to traditionally make fire. Through a hands-on experience, the community will get an exclusive insight in to the culture that is still practiced today.

Dance Integrated Australia - MOVE IT performance workshops - dance for film, a series of 12 weekly dance for film performance-making workshops, designed to enrich the social lives and mental well-being of the community through making ongoing creative connections with local and visiting artists. The project will launch 'MOVE IT – Ensemble' for dancers aged over 50.

Jeanti St Clair and Raimond de Weerd – Rescue, a project collecting the stories and portraits of people involved in the heroic civilian rescue operation during the 2022 Northern Rivers floods, which saw individuals getting into their boats, jet-skis, canoes, and blow-up boats to rescue residents who were caught out by the floods.

COMMUNICATIONS & ENGAGEMENT

COMMUNICATION PLATFORM

ANR digitally communicates with individuals, organisations and Government across a suite of channels including website, e-news and social media (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Vimeo) to generate, promote and advocate for the arts and creative industries in the Northern Rivers region. ANR delivers an up-to-date What's On directory and monthly What's On e-news delivered to ANR subscribers ensures access to arts and cultural activity for everyone. Additionally, a Soapbox newsletter featuring guest writers and promoting key projects and opportunities is produced quarterly.

NORTHERN RIVERS CREATIVE (NRC)

Northern Rivers Creative celebrates the region's thriving creative diversity, featuring a range of categories including creative services, visual arts, design, Indigenous arts, literature, music, performance and screen. The creative directory of the Northern Rivers is built to support creative ambition and increase professional opportunities for creatives by connecting them to local and global markets. Northern Rivers Creative regularly promotes creatives through physical activity, in local and national print publications, as well as all digital platforms including website, e-news and social media (Facebook & Instagram).

ONLINE ENGAGEMENT 2022 (2021)

ANR PLATFORMS

Subscribers 6,255 (5,010)

Facebook - 7,248 (6,216)

Twitter - 1,655 (1,655)

Instagram - 4,964 (4,232)

Sessions with website - 38,443
(31,770)

Total annual increase - 21%

NRC PLATFORMS

Subscribers - 841 (644)

Facebook - 1080 (966)

Instagram - 3,255 (2,528)

Sessions with website - 23,785
(15,521)

Total annual increase - 51%

TOTAL ENGAGEMENTS 2022 = 87,526

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & THANK YOU'S

PRINCIPAL PARTNERS

Create NSW, Office for the Arts – Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support (IVAIS)
TNR

CONTRIBUTING COUNCILS

Byron Shire, Clarence Valley, Kyogle, Lismore City, Richmond Valley and Tweed Shire
Council

PROJECT PARTNERS 2022

- Australia Council For the Arts
- Bunjum Aboriginal Corporation
- Business NSW
- Services NSW
- Health NSW
- National Recovery and Resilience Agency
- Northern Rivers Community foundation
- Minderoo Foundation
- Northern Rivers Health
- Foundation For Rural & Regional Renewal (FRRR)
- The Yugilbar Foundation
- Business Connect
- Creative Plus Business
- Regional Arts Australia (RAF)

BOARD & STAFF

STAFF

Executive Director - Jane Fuller
Indigenous Arts Officer - Kylie Caldwell
Project Manager - Grace Dewar
Communications Manager - Ingrid Wilson
Administration Coordinator - Sean Campbell
First Nations Program Coordinator - Paris Mordecai
Finance Manager - Grant Binns

BOARD

Lismore Representative/Chair - Cr Elly Bird
Kyogle Shire Alternate/Deputy Chair - Ruth Tsimbinis
Clarence Valley Representative/Treasurer - Cr Steve Pickering
Byron Shire Representative - Cr Peter Westheimer
Byron Shire Alternate - Cr Sama Balson
Clarence Valley Alternate - Sarah Nash
Kyogle Shire Representative - Janet Wilson
Lismore Alternate - Ashleigh Ralph
Richmond Valley Representative - Cr Patrick Deegan
Richmond Valley Alternate - Sharon Davidson
Tweed Shire Representative - Cr Chris Cherry
Tweed Shire Alternate - Susi Muddiman
Co-opted Member - Naomi Moran
Co-opted Member - Brett Wiley

FINANCIAL AUDIT REPORT 2022

ARTS NORTHERN RIVERS INCORPORATED
A.B.N. 28 417 575 325
STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Income		
Core Grant - Arts NSW	408,900	168,000
Core Grants - Council	118,773	110,440
Indigenous Program Grants	112,500	145,000
Other Program Grants	680,329	203,900
Unexpended Grant Income	(542,957)	66,135
Fundraising Campaigns	108,304	-
Jobsaver Subsidy	-	38,011
COVID-19 Business Support	-	15,000
Donations	111,070	19,018
Auspice Fees	6,911	1,000
Gain/(loss) on termination of lease	2,801	
Interest Income	3,967	386
Project Administration Fees Received	11,742	4,552
Sponsorships	7,760	11,010
Ticket Sales Workshops	1,691	-
Merchandise Sales	82	194
Margaret Olley Arts Trust Income	40,000	60,725
Other Revenue	26,976	23,669
Total Income	<u>1,098,849</u>	<u>867,040</u>
Less Operating Expenses		
Accounting	53,698	38,007
Advertising & Publicity	2,823	4,049
Artist Payments	289,954	17,087
Audit Services - Thomas Noble & Russell	7,440	6,560
Other accounting services - Thomas Noble & Russell	740	1,265
Bank Fees	720	228
Cleaning	185	-
Contractors	110,952	102,257
Depreciation - Plant and equipment	2,691	2,054
Amortisation - Right of use asset	11,052	29,606
Doubtful Debts	272	-
E-Marketing	3,472	3,113
Events / Forums	36,328	159,758
FBT	-	5,122
Honoraria	5,080	7,185
Insurance - Association Liability	1,693	345
Insurance - Cyber	335	214
Insurance - General Business	2,211	765
Insurance - Journey Insurance	94	73
Insurance - Public Liability	2,062	2,283

FINANCIAL AUDIT REPORT 2022

ARTS NORTHERN RIVERS INCORPORATED
A.B.N. 28 417 575 325
STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Less Operating Expenses - Cont'd		
Insurance - Volunteers Insurance	5	65
Interest Expense	395	3,208
Legal expenses	301	-
Loss on disposal of assets	7,961	-
Meetings - Board	1,252	120
Meetings - Operational	250	260
Meetings - Partnership	15	-
Merchant Fees	-	532
Motor Vehicle Employee Contributions	-	-
Motor Vehicle - Lease	3,091	-
Motor Vehicle - Maintenance	-	300
Motor Vehicle - Petrol	5,074	3,812
Motor Vehicle - Rego & Insurance	4,788	1,513
Office Supplies & Equipment	5,151	1,194
Postage & Courier	14	890
Printing & Design	48,148	4,572
Publications	-	4,200
Recruitment	444	-
Rent & Outgoings	8,304	-
Repairs & Maintenance	23	524
Small Asset Write Off	17,814	7,444
Staff Amenities	2,390	2,573
Staff Training and Professional Development	1,659	565
Subscriptions & Memberships	7,675	9,335
Telephone & Internet	4,113	2,868
Travel - Accommodation & Meals	764	7,139
Travel - Airfares	3,426	2,889
Travel - Mileage Claims	1,151	1,832
Travel - Taxis Parking & Other	231	3,496
Website	3,163	3,386
Workshops / Seminars	8,107	27,114
Wages and Salaries	311,606	351,794
Superannuation	31,744	32,029
Annual Leave Expense	(4,181)	(2,472)
Long Service Leave Expense	(3,697)	(10,892)
Workers Compensation Insurance	217	2,788
Total Operating Expenses	1,003,200	843,049
Net Surplus / (Deficit)	95,649	23,991

FINANCIAL AUDIT REPORT 2022

ARTS NORTHERN RIVERS INCORPORATED
A.B.N. 28 417 575 325
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Assets		
Current Assets		
Bank		
Cash Account	-	10,529
Gift Account	287,882	59,287
IADO Account	367,813	238,747
Operating Account	404,927	327,403
PayPal Account	1,264	1,264
Event Floats	-	300
Petty Cash	200	1,001
Total Bank	<u>1,062,086</u>	<u>638,531</u>
Other Assets		
Prepayments	1,312	535
Sundry Debtors	1,957	40
Trade Debtors	167,090	16,300
Corporate Credit Card	6,808	3,347
Total Other Assets	<u>177,167</u>	<u>20,222</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>1,239,253</u>	<u>658,753</u>
Non-current Assets		
Property, plant and equipment		
Computer Equipment	-	37,387
Less: Accumulated Depreciation on Computer Equipment	-	(32,435)
Office Equipment	-	6,021
Less: Accumulated Depreciation on Office Equipment	-	(3,563)
Motor Vehicles	30,816	-
Less: Accumulated Depreciation on Motor Vehicles	(2,691)	-
Right of Use Assets	24,243	131,656
Less: Accumulated Amortisation on Right of Use Assets	-	(103,327)
Total Non-Current Assets	<u>52,368</u>	<u>35,739</u>
Total Assets	<u>1,291,621</u>	<u>694,492</u>

FINANCIAL AUDIT REPORT 2022

ARTS NORTHERN RIVERS INCORPORATED
A.B.N. 28 417 575 325
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accrued Expenses	-	6,968
Annual Leave Provision	16,514	20,695
Auspice Payable	79,318	76,958
FBT payable / (receivable)	(7,680)	(2,560)
GST	19,798	3,701
PAYG Withholdings Payable	3,639	5,279
Core Grant Unexpended	251,282	59,383
Project Grant Unexpended Indigenous	86,723	142,669
Project Grant Unexpended Other	486,231	65,590
Unearned income - Margaret Olley Arts Trust	-	40,000
Trade Creditors	3,424	7,604
Sundry Creditors	283	
Lease Liability	8,175	26,403
Total Current Liabilities	947,707	452,690
Non-Current Liabilities		
Long Service Leave Provision	-	3,697
Lease Liability	16,068	5,908
Total Non-Current Liabilities	16,068	9,605
Total Liabilities	963,775	462,295
Net Assets	327,846	232,197
Equity		
Retained Earnings	327,846	232,197
Total Equity	327,846	232,197

FINANCIAL AUDIT REPORT 2022

ARTS NORTHERN RIVERS INCORPORATED
A.B.N. 28 417 575 325
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Retained Earnings \$	Total Equity \$
Balance at 1 January 2021	208,206	208,206
Operating surplus for 2021	<u>23,991</u>	<u>23,991</u>
Balance at 31 December 2021	232,197	232,197
Operating surplus for 2022	<u>95,649</u>	<u>95,649</u>
Balance at 31 December 2022	<u><u>327,846</u></u>	<u><u>327,846</u></u>

FINANCIAL AUDIT REPORT 2022

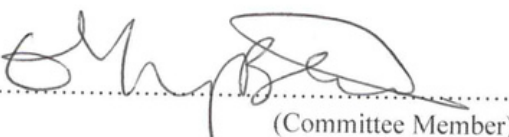
ARTS NORTHERN RIVERS INCORPORATED
A.B.N. 28 417 575 325
STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

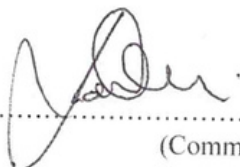
The Committee of Management has resolved that the Association is not a reporting entity because there are no users dependent on general purpose financial statements. Accordingly, as described in note 1 to the financial statements, the attached special purpose financial statements have been prepared for the purposes of complying with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and the *Associations Incorporation Act (NSW) 2009*.

The Committee of Management declare that:

- 1) The financial statements and notes set out on pages 7 to 16 satisfy the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:
 - a) complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described at Note 1 to the financial report and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2022* and the *Associations Incorporation Act (NSW) 2009*; and
 - b) giving a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 31 December 2022 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date.
- 2) At the date of this declaration, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Association will be able to pay its debts, as and when they become due and payable.

This statement is made in accordance with the resolution of the Committee of Management and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee of Management by:


.....
(Committee Member)


.....
(Committee Member)

Dated this 6 day of June, 2023