



Marion Scrymgour

MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES, ENVIRONMENT AND THE ARTS

05 July 2006

SCREEN AND MUSIC GRANTS IN ABUNDANCE!

One of the Top End's most highly awarded songwriters will tour Sweden this year after being awarded a share in \$21,000 worth of NT Arts grants, Arts Minister Marion Scrymgour announced today.

And a further \$60 000 has been awarded to Territory filmmakers in the latest round of screen grants funding.

Ms Scrymgour said she was pleased the NT Government was able to support the Territory's vibrant and talented film and music sector.

"The Territory has some of the most talented artists, and I am proud that through our generous and various grants programs, the Government is able to give our budding stars the opportunity to thrive in their industry," she said.

Ms Scrymgour said the Territory's Shellie Morris is one of four sets of performers that will be carving new ground and finding new audiences with a \$5,000 Indigenous Performing Arts Touring grant.

The Touring Grants are a special initiative from Arts NT that supports emerging and established Indigenous artists throughout the NT.

Ms Morris said the grant will provide her with the unique opportunity to tour through Sweden in September to promote her new CD on an international scale.

"I'm over the moon, the tour is the chance of a lifetime and will be the first time I have been to Europe," she said.

"The people of Europe are fascinated with Indigenous music and culture, so this tour is a great opportunity for me to share and promote NT contemporary music.

"It will also be a great opportunity to network and hopefully extend the tour to other parts of Europe."

Ms Scrymgour said the grants would also enable Alice Springs band NoKTuRNL, the Warrabri Country Bluegrass Band from Tennant Creek and Mamaduwarrie from Central Arnhem Land to tour throughout the Territory.

“The amazing diversity of music styles of all applicants from blue grass roots, to contemporary music through to heavy rock, are a great indication of the Indigenous music industry is thriving in the NT,” she said.

“Many remote communities in the Territory will have the chance to experience the best of indigenous music in the coming month.

“The established artists will also host professional music development training for young Indigenous people during the tours to pass on their musical and technical knowledge.”

Ms Scrymgour added that our budding film makers were also given a chance to expand with 11 projects to receive almost \$60,000 in the latest round of Screen Grants Funding.

Both sets of grants attached.

INDIGENOUS TOURING GRANTS

NoKTuRNL – an Alice Springs Indigenous contemporary music group will perform in nine Northern Territory communities in August this year. NoKTuRNL are a model NT band in terms of originality and have achieved excellent inroads into the Australian Music industry. This tour throughout the NT will raise the profile of the band and market their new release, but will also allow contemporary Indigenous music to travel to remote areas in the NT. Besides performing on stage, members of the band will host professional music development workshops to young Indigenous people on the tour. Their attitude and motivation will inspire other remote bands to aim for a similar path.

NoKTuRNL have toured nationally with ‘The Big Day Out’. NoKTuRNL is the only Alice Springs based band to secure a major recording deal with Sony/ATV, and are three time winners of ‘Band of the Year’ category at the Deadly Awards.

\$6000

Wildflower - a unique community based band from Mamaduwarrie in Central Arnhemland is comprised of five young women and three young men who will be touring from August to October throughout the NT. Wildflower’s music can be described as tuneful, musical, lyrical, catchy and beautiful and is following the footsteps of their uncles and fathers from the well known Nabarlek Band. This tour will give Wildflower’s young women the opportunity to perform contemporary songs to a broader public. Five gigs have been booked across the Northern Territory at this stage.

\$5000

Shellie Morris – a highly awarded Indigenous singer/songwriter from the Top End will be touring to Sweden in September this year at the invitation of the Australian/New Zealand Friendship Association of Sweden. Shellie will be able to promote her new CD on an international scale with this unique opportunity. Shellie’s strength is in her song writing, vocal ability and lyrical content. She enjoys working with Indigenous communities and youth throughout Australia and is helping young people to write music about their experiences.

Shellie is a two-time winner of the ‘Best Female vocalist’ category at the NT Indigenous Music Awards

\$5000

Moving the Territory Ahead



Warrabri Country Bluegrass Band – a blue grass and gospel band singing in Walpiri language will tour for the first time to the Harts Range community, Alcoota community and Alpururulam community. The band will use this opportunity to build audiences in these remote communities. Furthermore the Warrabri Country Bluegrass Band will provide training to musicians in these communities about all aspects of performance, including setting up PA systems.

\$5000

Screen Grants

Documentary Development

Aboriginal Explorers **\$10,000**

CAAMA Productions

Script development

About Australia's Aboriginal explorers and guides and their important contribution to the continent's European exploration.

Ayers Rock to Uluru **\$5,000**

David Curl Pty Ltd

Script development

The story of Uluru today, 20 years after one of the most symbolic and significant historical events in twentieth century Australia: "Handback"

Speed Gordon of the Territory Skies **\$2,500**

John Ety

Script development

The story of Australia's most unique, heroic and adventurous doctor, whose life saving medical practise brought life saving operations and medical care to the northern frontier of Australia, from the 1930s to now.

Cultural Desert **\$2,500**

Plexus

Script development

Traces the lives of three emerging artists from Alice Springs as they each create a new work of art, intrinsically linked to their desert location, climaxing with national openings in Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane.

Drama Development

The Build Up **\$8,000**

Megan Jacobson

Plus Script Mentor

Script development to first draft feature

Frustrated writer, Jared, finds a muse in his girlfriend's new age mother. All the while a search continues for her husband who disappeared suspiciously a decade ago.



10th, 11th, 12th

\$4,475

Sandra Thibodeaux

Script development to shooting script (short film)

Denpasar. A Balinese woman struggles to bring up her two children alone. She sees change and hope on the horizon: she's finally finished her English course, and tonight she starts her new job at a popular nightclub.

Documentary Production

Warlpiri Media Association

\$10,000

Aboriginal Rules

Production of 2 x half hour documentaries

A behind the scenes insight into Australian rules football – Warlpiri style.

Screen Culture

Gap Youth Centre

\$2,500

Outback Youth Festival

Public screenings of films by young people as part of the Alice Desert Festival, aimed at youth empowerment.

Darwin Festival

\$2,000

Film and TV Workshops as part of the Darwin Festival with a focus on making documentaries and short films.

Sydney Film Festival

\$5,000

Travelling Film Festival

Touring a selection of films to Darwin, Katherine and Alice Springs, building on previous successes.

Industry Development

Creating Vision

\$5,000

Indigenous Screen Industry Development Workshop bringing together people and organisations from across the Territory to discuss and plan their ongoing and future involvement with the industry.

Contact: Maria Billias 0401 119 746

