

Media Release:

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NTFO Grant Support for Industry and Screen Culture Development

New funding totalling \$41,000 for industry development and screen culture initiatives across the Northern Territory has been announced under the Screen Grants Program.

Northern Territory Film Officer Director Penelope McDonald said the Film Office awarded funding through a competitive process of assessment by a Screen Grants Advisory Panel.

“The Panel continues to consider an increasing range of excellent and interesting projects from the Territory,” Ms McDonald said.

“Funding has gone to supporting Fist Full of Films during 2008 which is a popular event in its ninth year, as well as towards developing a long term vision and strategic plan for the future of Fist Full.

“Fist Full encourages Territorians, both professional and amateur to make small Territory stories for the screen and culminates every year in outdoor screenings of the finalists at the Deckchair Cinema in Darwin, with entries also screened in Alice Springs and other remote locations.

Ms McDonald said another new and exciting event supported through the Screen Grants is bringing Australian composers and music legends, David Hirschfelder (*Shine, Strictly Ballroom, Elizabeth*) and Bruce Rowland (*The Man from Snowy River, Phar Lap*) to Darwin and Alice Springs, for public screenings as well as master classes with screen composers.

“These grants support opportunities for Territorians to enjoy local and national screen culture events, while also providing support towards the development of our local screen industry, so that we can all see more Territory stories in the future,” Ms McDonald said.

“The Panel has recommended continuing support for the Film and Television Association of the Northern Territory (FATANT) and I congratulate all funding recipients and thank the screen Grants Panel for their work in assessing the applicants.”

Further detail of Screen Grants:

Fist Full of Films **\$15 000**

Brown’s Mart Community Arts

Fist Full of Films 2008 and Strategic Planning

Fist Full of Films is an annual film competition and festival held in Darwin during the Darwin Festival. This is the ninth year for Fist Full of Films. Applications for Fist Full of Films are accepted from across the Northern Territory and last year the festival accepted entrants from Interstate filmmakers for the first time.

Australian Guild of Screen Composers **\$10 000**

Two Screen Music Icons

As part of the 2008 Darwin Festival the Australian Guild of Screen Composers has arranged for two leading Australian screen composers David Hirschfelder (*Shine, Strictly Ballroom, Elizabeth*) and Bruce Rowland (*The Man from Snowy River, Phar Lap*) to travel to Darwin to present free workshops and introduce a free public screening of one of their films. The Australian Guild of Screen Composers is also presenting this event in Alice Springs in association with the Alice Desert Festival.

**Film and Television Association of the Northern Territory
Operational Funding January to December 2008**

\$16 000

The Film and Television Association of the Northern Territory (FATANT) is a membership association of film industry practitioners in the Northern Territory. This funding is to support FATANT's operational costs for January to December 2008,

Ends

Media Note – for more information contact Penelope McDonald on 89525 222

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