

Media Release

The Hon Colin Brooks MP
Minister for Development Victoria
Minister for Precincts
Minister for Creative Industries



Wednesday, 11 September 2024

GRANTS TO BOOST CREATIVE EVENTS IN REGIONAL VICTORIA

The Allan Labor Government is giving regional communities the chance to present more shows, gigs and performances in their own town with new grants to put on events that will boost local economies.

Minister for Creative Industries Colin Brooks today announced that applications are now open for the *Small Regional Presenters* program, with grants of up to \$15,000 to help volunteers and local councils secure and present shows in 2025.

Last year's program supported a range of creative events across the state – such as the Bruthen Arts and Events Council bringing circus comedy *Casting Off* and children's theatre performance, *You're An Instrument* to local arts lovers of all ages in Bruthen.

Community groups; Music at the Basilica presented concerts by the Australian Chamber Choir at St Mary's Basilica in Geelong, Warragul Heritage Preservation Association brought a season of acoustic music performances to Wesley of Warragul, and Yea Arts presented musical comedy, theatre and kids puppetry for the town and visitors to enjoy.

The Small Regional Presenters program is delivered on behalf of the Labor Government by Regional Arts Victoria – the state's peak body for creatives and creative organisations in the regions.

Applications are now open and close Wednesday, 23 October 2024. For more information including eligibility details or how to apply, visit rav.net.au.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Creative Industries Colin Brooks

"Victoria is the creative state and this is one of the ways we are making sure our creative scene is thriving right across the state – with towns and communities of all sizes having the chance to experience world class performances."

"This program provides so many benefits – from backing local groups to present creative events that they know will bring the community together, to boosting tourism and helping artists to grow their audiences."

Quote attributable to Regional Arts Victoria CEO Jo Porter

"We are delighted to manage this program on behalf of the Victorian Government. It is an enormously impactful initiative, that particularly recognises the role of volunteers and artists in regional and rural Victoria."