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Media release

Premier and Minister for the Arts
The Honourable Anastacia Palaszczuk

Funding for Indigenous arts and economic development

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists and arts centres in 12 Queensland communities are creating new work and economic opportunities with Queensland Government funding.

Premier and Minister for the Arts Anastacia Palaszczuk today announced \$200 000 for the Indigenous Regional Arts Development Fund 2015–2016, a partnership between the Queensland Government and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

“Queensland’s Indigenous art centres and cultural celebrations are a vital part of community life and are a powerful force on the Australian arts scene,” the Premier said.

“The Indigenous Regional Arts Development Fund, established in the late 90s, helps to maintain successful art programs, create employment and build economic development in Queensland’s Indigenous communities.

“We continue to see great outcomes from this funding. In June, artists from Pormpuraaw travelled to the 2015 Laura Dance Festival, a biennial gathering in Cape York Peninsula, to participate and enjoy language, song, dance and stories from more than 20 communities across the region.”

“The journey to create and display work is not always easy for Indigenous communities as they are often located in remote areas, hundreds of kilometres from the nearest service centre, so the Indigenous Regional Arts Development Fund can have a significant impact,” the Premier said.

Past recipient Hope Vale saw artists produce a series of high quality works for the 2014 Cairns Indigenous Art Fair (CIAF) and then travel to Cairns to gain experience in curating and selling art during CIAF.

Dancers in Lockhart River developed and performed a contemporary dance piece and participated in a traditional dance master class that was filmed for NITV and the ABC.

“My Government is committed to supporting Indigenous communities through the Indigenous Regional Arts Fund, helping to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples’ continued contribution to Queensland’s vibrant economic, social and cultural life,” Ms Palaszczuk said.

A full list of funding follows.

Indigenous Regional Arts Development Fund 2015-2016

Aboriginal Councils

Host Organisation

Amount

Aurukun	Aurukun Shire Council	\$15,000
Cherbourg	Cherbourg Historical Precinct Group	\$15,000
Doomadgee	Doomadgee Aboriginal Shire Council	\$15,250
Kowanyama	Kowanyama Aboriginal Shire Council	\$30,000
Lockhart River	Lockhart River Arts Indigenous Incorporation	\$19,750
Mornington Island	Mirndiyan Gununa Aboriginal Corporation	\$20,000
Northern Peninsula Area	Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council	\$15,000
Palm Island	Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council	\$10,000
Pormpuraaw	Pormpuraaw Arts & Cultural Centre	\$15,000
Torres Strait Regional Authority	Torres Strait Regional Authority	\$25,000
Wujal	Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council	\$10,000
Yarrabah	Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council	\$10,000
TOTAL		\$200,000

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