



# ARTIST APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN FOR HOMEGROUND

The doors are now open for artists to apply for the Western Plains Cultural Centre's (WPCC) HomeGround, a professional development program for emerging artists.

HomeGround has been running since 2007 and focuses on emerging artists who are wanting to expand their skills and have the potential to extend their practice and ultimately benefit from the experience of working alongside curatorial staff within a professional gallery.

"HomeGround provides regional artists with the opportunity to further their career, similar to programs that are more easily accessible to artists in the city areas," WPCC Curator Officer, Mariam Abboud said.

"Eligible artists must live or practice within a 200km radius of Dubbo.

"The program will benefit the artists through access to an exhibition space, professional advice and mentoring and will culminate in a solo exhibition right here at the Western Plains Cultural Centre."

HomeGround holds a dedicated exhibition space within the WPCC, enabling emerging regional artists living and/or practicing with the Central West Region of NSW to grow and develop their practice within the arts sector through the program.

“This was my first solo exhibition which was an amazing experience in itself but having the support from my curator was wonderful and I learnt so much from her,” 2022 HomeGround artist and Wellington resident, Kate Kenworthy said.

“Being an artist can be isolating but to have a curator come and work so closely with me at my home gave me new insight into my art and help me understand the process to create a solo exhibition.”

“I would definitely recommend the HomeGround program to other artists as it provides the opportunity to experiment with your art but also it will raise your profile as an artist,” Ms Kenworthy said.

Successful artists will collaborate and work alongside a curator experiencing all facets of the exhibition process including a formal opening/artist talk, studio visits and a range of promotional activity.

HomeGround is a professional development program sponsored by Wingewarra Dental and supported by Orana Arts. Through the Dubbo Regional Council SPARC Cultural Plan, Council is committed to supporting the development of strong visual arts sector and HomeGround support the growth of regional artists.

HomeGround applications close 5pm 21 October 2023. For information and application forms visit [www.westernplainsculturalcentre.org](http://www.westernplainsculturalcentre.org) or contact Curator Officer Mariam Abboud on 6801 4434.

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