



Kate Carnell MLA

Chief Minister

Australian Capital
Territory

INCREASED FUNDING **FOR ACT ARTS COMMUNITY**

The Canberra arts community is set to benefit from extra funding in the 2000-2001 ACT Budget.

"We have allocated an extra \$260,000 to the arts grants program, bringing it to \$3.34 million in 2001. This is a major funding boost for the local arts community," Chief Minister Kate Carnell said.

The additional allocation will support innovation in the arts, including:

- \$100,000 for the Innovation in the Arts program which facilitates innovation by supporting young emerging artists
- \$50,000 for Arts Online to fund market research, facilitate business and arts partnerships, and to promote arts on-line
- an extra \$110,000 to support the continued contribution of the arts sector to the cultural life of Canberra.

"The arts program aims to profile Canberra as a centre of artistic excellence and provide opportunities for local artists and arts organisations. Over 100 artists and arts organisations are currently receiving support through the 2000 program for projects ranging from dance, theatre and music performances to events and exhibitions."

The funding program also supports multi-year funding for established major arts organisations like Craft ACT and the Tuggeranong Community Arts Association.

"There is no doubt the arts are a highly valued and thriving part of the Canberra community. We have an extraordinary range of professional, amateur and community-based creative activity here, and the funding program helps sustain this range," Mrs Carnell said.

"Our vision for Canberra in *Arts Capital*, the ACT's arts development strategy, is for a city rich in cultural and artistic life, a source of pride to residents and an attractive destination for visitors. The ACT arts program is a key component of achieving this vision."

Mrs Carnell said the ACT Government is also maintaining its support for the Canberra Institute of the Arts, with \$826,000 in the 2000-2001 Budget.

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