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MEDIA RELEASE: Esperance Artists heading to Kalgoorlie for Regional Arts Australia Summit

24 September 2014: Four representatives of the Esperance Arts community will be attending the Arts & Edges Regional Arts Australia Summit in Kalgoorlie in a few weeks time thanks to the generous donations from Dave Grills MLC, Graham Jacobs MLA and Mark Lewis MLC.

Viv Bowkett is one of the organisers of Just Dance Esperance, Kathryn Knop is a member of the Emergence Art Group, Flora Yetman is member of the Cannery Arts Centre and the Bijou Theatre and Marcella Sharry is a volunteer for Esperance Community Arts. All four applied successfully for a total of \$4000 made available to the community through contributions by Grills, Jacobs and Lewis to cover registration, accommodation and travel costs.

Visual artists Anna Morcombe, Joe Young, Karen McClurkin and Naomi Roy are also among the contingent travelling to Kalgoorlie for this significant arts event.

Anna Morcombe will be presenting a film at the Summit produced in partnership with the Emergence Photo Group, Jennene Riggs of Riggs Australia and Esperance Community Arts. This short documentary film, called *Jigsaw People: Joining Pieces*, explores the value of community arts in Esperance and includes a focus on the Larger than Life arts event held in May 2014. The film will be exhibited in the Digital Gallery at the RAA Summit. Copies will be available on DVD from Esperance Community Arts Gallery.

The Regional Arts Australia Summit is a national biennial event that brings together around 800 regional artists, arts workers and community arts groups from around the country and from overseas to exchange ideas and build creative networks and to exhibit and perform a wide variety of works. It is held in a different regional location every two years.

The Arts & Edges event in Kalgoorlie is hosted by Country Arts WA and is described as 'part conference - part festival' and includes a public festival program of dance, music, theatre, writing, visual arts and digital media.

This significant arts event will provide wonderful opportunities for professional development and network building for artists in the Goldfields -Esperance region. It will also allow us to showcase the extensive creativity in our communities.

For more information about the Arts & Edges RAA Summit visit the website (<http://www.raasummit.com.au/>) or contact Country Arts WA. Email info@countryartswa.asn.au or telephone (08) 9200 6200 or Freecall 1800 811 883 from regional WA.

Esperance Community Arts thanks Dave Grills MLC, Graham Jacobs MLA, Mark Lewis MLC, Country Arts WA, the Shire of Esperance and BOICO for directly supporting our contributions to the RAA Summit.

For more information about the variety of programs run by ECA contact Jane Mulcock on 9072 1158 or admin@esperancecommunityarts.org.au.

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For more information or to organise a photo opportunity contact:

Jane Mulcock

admin@esperancecommunityarts.org.au

9072 1158 (Wk)041 209 1245 (Mb)

Esperance Community Arts – Shop 8, Museum Village, 54 Dempster Street ESPERANCE

Opening hours: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 10am – 2pm, Wednesday: 1pm – 5pm, Market Days: 10am – 1pm