



## **RACHEL NOLAN MP**

### **Member for Ipswich**

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#### **State Govt Provides \$40,000 for Arts and Cultural Activities in Ipswich**

The State Government will contribute \$40,000 towards arts and cultural activities in Ipswich under a joint funding partnership with local councils.

Member for Ipswich Rachel Nolan said Ipswich City Council will receive \$40,000 from Arts Queensland under the Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) which is a joint Queensland and Local Government initiative.

"Funding is determined against a range of criteria, including population, by a team of assessors recommended by the Local Government Association of Queensland and including representatives of arts and cultural groups and government," Ms Nolan said.

"Ipswich has much to offer in terms of arts and culture and is contributing to the rich and diverse cultural life of Queensland."

Ms Nolan said 120 councils across Queensland will share in \$2.27 million in State Government funding in 2004-05 through the Regional Arts Development Fund. Councils will also contribute funds to the program.

"The funding, which is administered by local councils, could be used to bring to fruition a festival, fund the development of ideas for arts and cultural activities in the region, deliver arts projects or provide professional development for regional artists," she said.

"RADF is a unique partnership between state and local government that is ensuring the development and celebration of the state's diverse regions and their distinctive arts and cultural activities.

"Communities are engaged in arts funding and decision processes at the local level, with projects considered the most beneficial to the local community receiving funding."

In the 2004-05 financial year, RADF programs will operate in 120 shire and city councils across Queensland. Interested artists and arts workers in regional areas are encouraged to contact their local council for information on how to apply for a grant.