



RACHEL NOLAN MP

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State Government invests in regional arts in Ipswich

Local arts and cultural activities in the Ipswich electorate will benefit from \$29 000 in State Government funding, Member for Ipswich Rachel Nolan announced today.

Ms Nolan said the Ipswich City Council would benefit from the funding under the 2005-06 Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) – a joint initiative between the State Government and 120 local councils across Queensland.

Ms Nolan said the council was among 120 across the state to share in \$2.23 million in State Government funding in 2005-06.

“Queensland has a rich and vibrant regional arts scene,” she said.

“The Regional Arts Development Fund, which is now in its 14th year, is a unique partnership between the State Government and local councils, with local councils also contributing funds and in-kind support towards the program.

“The program plays a key role in supporting and showcasing the unique cultural riches of our regions and in supporting the work of local artists and cultural workers.”

Ms Nolan said local councils administered the Regional Arts Development Fund.

“Funding is used to employ professional regional artists to develop ideas for arts and cultural activities, deliver arts projects, develop skills through workshops and provide professional development and employment for regional artists,” she said.

“Communities are engaged in arts funding and decision processes at the local level, with innovation and cross-regional projects considered the most beneficial to the local community receiving funding,” she said.

Funding allocated to councils is determined against a range of criteria, including population, by a team of assessors representing local councils, and selected in consultation with the Local Government Association of 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 in the 2005-06 financial year.