Regional Arts Development Fund Assessment Panel



Cr Rhodes Watson

Cr Rhodes Watson is a Livingstone Shire local, living in Kinka Beach, Emu Park, Bangalee and Rockhampton since 1976. He is currently the portfolion holder of Vibrant Community which entails Tourism, Arts and Culture in the Shire. He has worked many jobs in the creative field including; chief photographer at the Capricorn Coast Mirror and signwriting. He has also previously photography at Central Queensland University. Cr Watson is passionate about turning ideas into reality, with one of his most recent ventures aimed at removing disposable plastic bags by designing a canvas bag which features the name of every locality in Livingstone, highlighting the Shire's region's diversity and unique charm.



Leanne Smith

Leanne Smith has been a member of the Livingstone Shire RADF panel since 2015 and also served on the Rockhampton Regional Council RADF panel prior to deamalgamation. She is a long time member of local community arts organisation, Keppel Coast Arts and is currently KCA President. Leanne is not a practicing artist, however she has some experience in event organisation and is always an enthusiastic member of the audience at creative activities.



Carmel Knowles

I have been a resident of Yeppoon for nearly 40 years. After teaching secondary school Art for 25 years in the Torres Strait, Rockhampton and Yeppoon, I resigned in 2011 to devote time to my own art practice. I have been a member at the Emu Park Gallery since 2012, and also a member of The Capricorn Printmakers. In 2014, I was fortunate to win the Baton Award at the Rockhampton Regional Art Gallery. We choose to raise our children here because of the natural beauty of the area but it also provided many enriching experiences for them. It is an exciting time with a diversity of arts practices and arts related activities being more visible and actively supported.



Phill Jenkins

I have lived and worked in Yeppoon since 1980. During this time I have been a full time sculptor, graphic designer/screen printer and musician. In the 90's I was a board member for the Mill Gallery and on the RADF committee for three and a half years. I am a member of the Keppel Coast Arts and participated and volunteered in the Village Festival since its inception in 2003. About ten years ago I started the Yeppoon Ukulele Movement, YUM. I believe in the long term value to the community of upskilling local artists who are able to sustain their artistic practice here in the Livingstone Shire.



Anni Simmons

I have lived permanently in Yeppoon since 1990, having first moved here in 1978. I studied nursing at the Central Queensland University in the mid 1990s and continued in the profession until 2011. My husband and I have been involved in volunteering since the mid 1990s initially starting with the community radio station Radio NAG. Following on from that was the Coastal Blues Club, the Village Festival, Keppel Coast Arts, OM Fest and most recently the Mill Gallery. One of my passions is textile art and craft, and although I'm not considered an artist as such, I do like to create using all sorts of fibres and techniques.



Nene Davies

Nene Davies is an author of five contemporary fiction novels and owner of Chapter Books and Coffee, Yeppoon. She is a member of local arts organisation Keppel Coast Arts Council and director of the Capricorn Coast Writers Festival, which held its inaugural event in May 2019. She lives with her family on the Capricorn Coast where she writes full time.

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Patric Lilleboe

Patric has a strong passion for the arts sector and a long history of leading arts programs, graduating from the Queensland University of Technology and the New York Film Academy. He has been involved in professional and amateur creative projects across the world; cast in stage productions and film projects in the UK, USA and Australia. Patric has over a decade of teaching experience, instructing and choreographing dances for all ages in a variety of styles. During his residency in the Social Inkubator program through Visible Ink, he produced public accessible arts projects with funding by Brisbane City Council and support from AusDance Queensland. While working with the Starlight Children's Foundation, Patric planned and organised countless arts programs to engage patients, hospital staff and donors. Patric is excited to contribute to the panel and support the arts in his local community.



Netti Cooper

Over the years, Netti has engaged in and completed many qualifications relevant to her desire to in the Arts; a Bachelor in Performing Arts, Certificate in NIDA open program, Acting for Stage and Screen, Certificate III in interior design, Digital Photography Course, Australia Institute of Fashion – Styling. Netti has had the pleasure of being involved in Rockhampton Theatre, having been a cast member in Cats, Guys and Dolls, Barnum and many more. On of her highlights would be assisting casting agent for Sue Manger (McLeod's Daughters – internship). This entailed casting actors for TV commercials, producing and directing. Currently Netti has created a little art school (Arty Pants Coastal) here, where she teaches a wide range of art mediums to young students in Emu Park. Often, art creates a stir and encourages healthy conversations that can improve a society. There's nothing better!



Suz Cranny

Suz Cranny currently lives and works in Dubai as the Head of Production & Operations, Events and Entertainment division for Expo2020. Having toured nationally and internationally for the last 20 years working with a myriad of live entertainment genres; including Cirque Du Soleil, Australian Ballet, Opera Australia and more musicals than she'd like to admit. A change of pace was required and Suz swapped to the mega event industry with White Night Melbourne, Ceremonies team for the Commonwealth Games and now the greatest show on earth - Expo2020 (bigger and better in 2022!) Suz is a multi genre events and entertainment leader with over 2 decades of global experience. Skilled in Project Leadership, production, technical and producorial roles from creation through to delivery.