ArtsNational Molonglo Plains, Young Arts Program 2026

ArtsNational Molonglo Plains Young Arts Program 2026 has benefitted the recipients of our grants as well as our ArtsNational members who have experienced entertaining events related to the various art forms. This year our raffle proceeds and generous donations enabled us to support community-based young students including an individual local student who attends Marie-Cecile's School of music for singing lessons, the Queanbeyan Junior Brass Band for school aged children, and two small country primary schools in the Molonglo Plains area where creative arts programs are provided for all their children.

Gundaroo Primary School certainly appreciated our $1,000 grant to buy art material for groups of children who attend the school's regular afternoon Art Circle. ArtsNational wanted to give Gundaroo ongoing support because last year we realised how beneficial the Art Circle is for the children's creativity, social and emotional development. Last year the school invited our members to join them for a community breakfast and an art exhibition, and it was a well-attended and fun community event. Several of us will attend this year's community "breakfast with art" in December.

Michelago Primary School's art program also benefitted from a $1,000 grant. The teachers purchased art equipment and other necessary material to help the students create drama costumes and back drops for a large Christmas performance at the end of the year. The students appreciated our grant and hope that some of our ArtsNational members will attend their concert.

This is our second year to present a grant of $500 to Ruby who is a singing student from Marie-Cecile's Music. It has been a pleasure to see Ruby develop her voice, and confidence over the last 2 years. At our September lecture she kindly entertained us with a short concert including a song she had composed herself.

The Queanbeyan Junior Brass Band used the ArtsNational Molonglo Plains grant of $3000 to start the replacement and upgrade of their original instruments. The band teacher used our grant to purchase a "brand new" tenor horn. The stage at our lecture hall is small and it could not hold the whole band so three of our committee members attended a band practice and were given permission to video or photograph the lesson to be viewed as a power point at October's lecture "Power Music" by Graham Jones. It was great fun and certainly entertaining.

We are all looking forward to contributing to more Young Art Programs in 2027.

Jan Whyte, Young Arts Program Coordinator.