

Queensland Governor Jeannette Young to open regional arts tour in Cairns

Far North artists are invited to showcase their work and be inspired by a regional arts tour kicking off in Cairns this weekend.

[Catherine Duffy](#)

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Queensland Governor The Hon Jeannette Young opened the Queensland Regional Arts Awards in Cairns on Saturday night in conjunction with Flying Arts Chair Anthe Philippides.

Cairns

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In a boost for regional arts funding, Governor of Queensland Dr Jeannette Young and Chair of Flying Arts, Anthe Philippides, will announce a \$40,000 increase in prize money for artists in the Queensland Regional Arts Awards 2023.

The increase will boost the total amount available in the prize pool for regional artists from \$100,000 to \$140,000.

Ms Philippides said she was delighted to see the awards grow every year. "The awards at this level pay proper tribute to the quality of Queensland's

regional artists and their commitment to enriching the creative landscape of regional Queensland,” Ms Phillippides said.

“The Queensland Regional Arts Award pool has grown over the years but this year there will be an enormous boost because of the increase in the prize pool of \$100,000 worth of cash prizes and incurring sponsorship.”

The awards would also provide opportunities for professional development, networking and in-house residency opportunities.



Cairns based artist Rosella Namok who won the Flying Arts 2022 First Nations Art Award will have her artwork displayed at the Queensland Symphony Orchestra and William Barton concert on Sunday. Picture: Supplied.

“Built into most of the awards are in-kind professional development opportunities which allow for a broader audience reach and opportunities to exhibit their work as solo exhibitions,” she said.

Ms Phillippides said the awards highlighted that no matter an artists location, they could be appreciated for the work they were doing.

“It’s something that really emphasises you can be an artist in regional Queensland and be appreciated for what you’re doing.

The regional tour featuring last year’s winners, including Cairns-based First Nations artist Rosella Namok, will kick off at the Cairns Botanic Gardens Visitor Centre on Saturday, September 2.

Ms Namok's work will also feature on large screens during the Queensland Symphony Orchestra and William Barton concert on Sunday.

Entries for the Queensland Regional Art Awards 2023 opened on August 11 and will close on October 6.