

Community Arts Development Project
Metal Sculpture and Light Installation Program
Shire of Murchison

Project Overview

The Shire of Murchison is seeking an experienced public artist or artist-led team to design and deliver a series of community sculpture workshops culminating in the creation of a large-scale illuminated public art installation.

The project aims to engage residents from pastoral stations across the Shire in a collaborative creative process that transforms locally sourced scrap metal into a collection of sculptures celebrating the relationship between sustainable tourism and pastoralism in the Murchison region.

The completed sculptures will be incorporated into an illuminated public art installation designed to become a unique visitor attraction, encouraging tourism, local storytelling, and regional pride.

Project Theme

Sustainable Tourism and Pastoralism

The artwork should explore and interpret:

- The history and ongoing significance of pastoralism in the Murchison region.
- The connection between working stations, communities, visitors, and the landscape.
- Sustainable tourism opportunities that showcase the region's unique character.
- The repurposing of materials through creative reuse of scrap metal, reflecting sustainability principles.
- Stories, symbols, flora, fauna, machinery, landscapes, and cultural elements that represent life in the Murchison.

Artists are encouraged to develop a concept that reflects both the environmental and economic relationship between tourism and pastoral enterprise.

Scope of Services

The successful artist will:

Community Engagement and Consultation

- Engage with participating pastoral stations and community members.
- Facilitate discussions and creative activities that gather local stories, ideas, and imagery.
- Develop concepts that reflect community input while maintaining artistic integrity.

Workshop Delivery

- Design and deliver a series of hands-on sculpture workshops across participating locations (4) within the Shire.
- Guide participants in the design and construction of metal sculptures.
- Ensure workshops are inclusive and accessible to participants of varying ages and skill levels.
- Provide instruction in safe metal-working techniques.

Sculpture Development

- Create a cohesive artistic framework linking all community-made sculptures.
- Assist participants to transform available scrap metal into artistic forms.
- Ensure sculptures are structurally sound and suitable for long-term public display.

Project Delivery

- Coordinate fabrication requirements and workshop schedules.
- Provide progress reports and documentation.
- Assist with installation planning and final presentation of the project.
- Participate in project launch and community celebration activities.

Available Resources

The Shire anticipates that:

- Participating pastoral stations will provide access to scrap metal and reusable materials.
- Workshop venues will be identified in collaboration with participating stations and communities.

- The Shire will provide project coordination and stakeholder support.
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Deliverables

The artist will deliver:

1. Community consultation outcomes and concept design.
 2. A program of sculpture-building workshops across participating stations.
 3. A collection of community-created metal sculptures.
 4. Installation-ready artworks suitable for public display.
 5. Final project documentation, including photographs and community engagement outcomes.
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Desired Artist Experience

The successful applicant should demonstrate:

- Experience delivering community arts and public art projects.
 - Experience working in regional and remote communities.
 - Strong metal sculpture fabrication skills.
 - Experience managing participatory workshops.
 - Capacity to work collaboratively with diverse community stakeholders.
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Project Outcomes

The project seeks to:

- Strengthen community connection across the Shire.
 - Celebrate the pastoral heritage of the Murchison.
 - Reuse locally available materials in a creative and sustainable manner.
 - Build local skills and participation in community arts.
 - Create a distinctive tourism attraction that encourages visitation and overnight stays.
 - Enhance the cultural identity and visual appeal of the region.
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Vision Statement

"Transforming the stories, landscapes and working heritage of the Murchison into a collaborative illuminated sculpture experience that celebrates sustainable tourism, pastoral life and community creativity."

Anticipated Timeline

- For the purpose of funding expressions of interest will be required on or before 22nd September. Preliminary quotes are acceptable and can be refined at a later date.
- Workshops to commence after Jan 1 2027
- It is anticipated that finished sculptures would need to be delivered to Murchison Settlement on or before July 1st