The Northern Territory Government today announced more than $1.4m in funding for Territory Arts organisations.

Arts Minister Marion Scrymgour said the high quality applications from Arts organisations throughout the Territory ensured the funding round was very competitive.

“The Territory Government recognises the crucial role our arts organisations play in the quality of life, economy and social life enjoyed by Territorians,” Ms Scrymgour said.

“I’m really pleased to see regional arts organisations, such as Barkly Regional Arts in Tennant Creek, submitting high quality applications and be rewarded for their efforts with a substantial funding increase to $100,000 per year over the next three years.

“Barkly Regional Arts is set up as a cross-cultural organisation that has displayed a strong multi arts program, were able to clearly place their organisation within the regional context and addressed partnership opportunities, in addition to challenges they may face.

“Another highlight was the Northern Territory Writers’ Centre, who displayed a strong program for the Wordsstorm Festival that incorporates opportunities for both written and spoken word events, and had a strong Indigenous contribution to their content.

“The Writers’ Centre also displayed a strong focus on regional delivery, a good balance of interstate and local talent, with the skills base to deliver their programs.”

Some of the other arts bodies to receive funding for 2008 include:

- Ausdance - $65,500 (NT wide)
- Artback - $260,000 (NT wide)
- Darwin Visual Arts Association - $17,000 (Darwin)
- Brown’s Mart Community Arts - $115,000 (Darwin)
- Darwin Theatre Company - $100,000 (Darwin)
- Top End Arts Marketing - $50,000 (Top End Region)
- Territory Craft - $56,000 (Darwin & Katherine)
- InCite Youth Arts - $45,000 (Alice Springs)
- RedHOT Arts - $40,000 (Alice Springs)
- Watch This SPACE - $50,000 (Alice Springs)
Central Craft – $40,000 (Alice Springs & Tennant Creek)
Red Dust Theatre - $65,000 (Alice Springs)

The Arts Grants Board, which was appointed last year for a term of three years, assessed 62 applications to the October 2007 Project Round on artistic merit by drawing on the collective skills and expertise in music, theatre, literature, business administration and project management.

The October 2007 Project Round has also provided $119,100 going to support 11 projects across the Northern Territory.

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