



Daryl Maguire MP

Member for Wagga Wagga

PRESS RELEASE

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WAGGA WAGGA CELLIST AWARDED NSW REGIONAL ARTS FELLOWSHIP

Wagga Wagga cellist Clare Brassil has been awarded one of the NSW Government's two \$50,000 Regional Arts Fellowships for 2015, Member for Wagga Wagga Daryl Maguire announced.

Mr Maguire congratulated Ms Brassil on being chosen for the prestigious fellowship, which she will use to undertake mentorship, create new works and perform in workshops and concerts across regional NSW.

"Regional NSW has a diverse and thriving arts and cultural scene, and the Government is proud to support talented regional artists such as Ms Brassil who are making valuable creative contributions to their local communities," Mr Maguire said.

Ms Brassil is a classically trained orchestral cellist and composer who creates music using looping technologies and an amplifier with her cello under the moniker *Cello Riot*.

She has performed and recorded for the Melbourne, West Australian, Tasmanian and Sydney Symphony Orchestras and artists including Kanye West, Barbra Streisand, Katie Noonan, Missy Higgins, The Whitlams and Jimmy Barnes.

Ms Brassil's mentors under the fellowship will include:

- Katie Noonan and Zac Hurren
- USA based cellist looper and sampler Zoé Keating
- Canadian cellist/composer Julia Kent and
- Australian film composer Michael Yeserski.

Deputy Premier and Minister for the Arts Troy Grant said the fellowships are offered to professional artists and arts and cultural workers based in regional NSW for projects to develop skills in their chosen field.

"Supporting arts in regional NSW is a key part of our Government's new *Create in NSW* framework which guides strategy, investment and partnerships to grow a thriving, globally connected arts and cultural sector with and for the people of NSW," Mr Grant said.

Fellowships open to artists in all art forms including dance, design, digital arts, history, Aboriginal arts and culture, literature, music, theatre and the visual arts.

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