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\$126,000 BOOST FOR NORTHERN TABLELANDS ARTS AND CULTURAL FACILITIES

Duty MLC for Northern Tablelands, Sarah Mitchell, has announced \$126,000 in State Government funding to develop arts and cultural infrastructure in the Northern Tablelands community.

Mrs Mitchell said that under the 2012 Arts Funding Program, the Roxy Museum and the New England Regional Art Museum Ltd would receive government funding in order to help expand the opportunities for people to enjoy the arts in regional New South Wales.

"This funding is available for the construction, renovation or fitting out of buildings and other facilities for arts and cultural use" Mrs Mitchell said.

"I am pleased to announce that \$94,500 will be directed towards Gwydir Shire Council for the capital development of the Roxy Museum.

"The Roxy Museum is a fantastic local organisation that celebrates Greek settlement in rural Australia and this funding will help staff conduct research and develop collections that document Bingara's history" Mrs Mitchell said.

"I am also happy to announce that under the 2012 Arts Funding Program, the New England Regional Art Museum Ltd will receive \$31,500 for capital redevelopment.

"NERAM houses nationally significant Hinton and Coventry Collections and this funding will go towards upgrading NERAM to provide a sustainable and energy efficient building to preserve its collections for future generations" said Mrs Mitchell.

"I congratulate the recipients on receiving this NSW Government support" Mrs Mitchell said.

Minister for Tourism, Major Events, Hospitality, Racing and the Arts, George Souris said the funding will support the development of a mix of NSW performing arts centres, galleries, museums and community arts centres.

"This type of funding adds value to the NSW network of arts and cultural facilities, particularly where it meets a specific local need" Mr Souris said.

The 2012 Arts Funding Program is worth more than \$58 million in total.

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