

MEDIA RELEASE

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## Youth arts prodigy set to inspire the next generation

Carclew and Country Arts SA are pleased to announce that Alysha Hermann has been appointed to the newly created role of *Creative Producer – Youth*.

The new role, co-funded and managed by both organisations, will focus on creating outcomes with young people aged 12-26 living in regional communities across South Australia.

Alysha, originally from the Riverland, is a highly skilled and award winning artist and arts worker, specialising in youth arts practice and working with regional communities. She is the 2015 recipient of the Kirk Robson Award and a current participant of Australian Rural Leadership Program with an Australia Council scholarship.

"A regional community arts and cultural development project was the net that caught me," Alysha said.

"I was a disconnected and disengaged high-school dropout and teenage parent and so I know the power of arts for social change, regional leadership and personal development because my journey since is proof of it. I'm so excited and honoured to take on this new role with Carclew and Country Arts as the Creative Producer, Youth. What an incredible commitment from both organisations to create space and opportunity for regional young people across the state to inspire, connect, discover, challenge, make, interrogate, grow and become."

The Chief Executive of Carclew Tricia Walton said: "Carclew's responsibility for supporting creative experiences for children and young people in South Australia does not stop at the outskirts of the city. Creative leadership and ingenuity, imagination and ambition, artistic exploration and voice are important for all, and we do what we can to support those aspirations for children and young people statewide. Working with Country Arts SA is a great partnership for Carclew to impact the lives of regional young people and their communities."

Country Arts SA Chief Executive Officer Steve Saffell said: "Regional South Australia has numerous young people seeking more ways to be engaged with the arts. Alysha is the ideal person to work with them to find the best ways to build their skills, broaden their opportunities and inspire them to lead us into the future. We are very pleased that Carclew is the newest partner in our Creative Communities Partnership Program, which currently employs 10 staffing partnerships statewide."

Alysha will be living and working in regional South Australia and is beginning consultations with young people in their communities from November 2017.

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