

Media Release



24 June 2019

Sit Down Shutup and Watch to strengthen its connection with Whyalla film-makers

Film-makers with a learning disability in Whyalla and surrounding areas are being invited to “Dream It, Screen It” by regional South Australian film and new media organisation Sit Down Shutup and Watch (SDSW).

SDSW has received funding from the Australian Government’s Regional Arts Fund through Country Arts SA to deliver a week-long workshop in digital storytelling skills in collaboration with YMCA’s Leap Takers program and Whyalla City Council in September.

SDSW Chair, Lee Witczak, says, “We are incredibly excited to receive this funding and continue nurturing film-makers in the Whyalla region. Sit Down Shutup and Watch has visited Whyalla twice in the past few years to deliver programs and we’ve been blown away by the enthusiasm of the local community.”

Sit Down Shutup and Watch was part of Whyalla City Council’s celebrations for International Day of People with Disability in December 2018 and toured its Best of Fest films to Whyalla in 2017.

Committee member Lorcan Hopper says, “It’ll be really good to go back to Whyalla and help people make films that they can enter into film festivals all around the world.”

The workshop will enable participants to increase their skills in film-making using their own devices and will culminate in a first showing of work that will be of a standard suitable for submission to national and international film festivals.

Sit Down Shutup and Watch is led by a Steering Committee of six people who identify as having a learning disability and are passionate about film. The Committee works with a Coordinator and disability arts organisation Tutti Arts which has been integral to creating and sustaining Sit Down Shutup and Watch over the past seven years.

Tutti Arts CEO and Artistic Director, Pat Rix, says, “Tutti is extremely proud that the SDSW Committee has delivered three fabulous film and new media festivals and dozens of workshops across regional South Australia. It’s particularly great to be deepening our relationship with film-makers in Whyalla through this grant.”

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People interested in participating in the workshop can contact Suzanne Merrall, SDSW Coordinator on 08 8422 6511 or email sdsw@tutti.org.au

FURTHER INFORMATION

About Sit Down Shutup and Watch

Sit Down Shutup and Watch (SDSW) is a learning disability-led film and new media organisation. SDSW has a strong regional focus and has held three festivals in the Barossa Valley (in 2014, 2016 and 2018) celebrating films made by people with learning disability. The SDSW Steering Committee members are Chair: Lee Witczak
Committee Members: Lorcan Hopper, James Kurtze, Matthew Wauchope, Sara Egarr and Tyson Pienaar. Sit Down Shutup and Watch is made possible through the support Tutti Arts, an incubator for artists with a disability in Adelaide and the Barossa Valley.

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