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The Board of Southern Tablelands Arts is pleased to announce the appointment of ROSE MARIN to the position of Executive Director.

Southern Tablelands Arts known widely as STARTS, and more recently as STA, operates across the seven local government areas of Wollondilly, Wingecarribee, Goulburn Mulwaree, Yass Valley, Upper Lachlan, Hilltops and Queanbeyan Palerang, who each contribute to operational funding along with Create NSW.

Based in Goulburn STA is in its 24th year of continuous operation and operates under the leadership of Regional Arts NSW.

STA is a non-profit arts and cultural registered charity operating with a skills-based Board of Directors, headed by President Susan Brindle.

Strategically, STA works to increase community engagement in arts and cultural activities through key programs in arts and health, creative aging and arts and the environment. Strong emphasis is given to seeking funding for creative opportunities for young people through engagement with schools and youth focused organisations. STA has a focus on children and youth participating in arts and cultural events.

The role of STA Executive Director is vital to implementing the vision and the strategic plan of the organization. She requires far reaching skills and experience in building strong partnerships with stakeholders, arts and cultural organizations and individual artists and creatives. She works in the now delivering creative projects and in the future devising new projects, seeking grant funding from many sources and engaging with future cultural directions for the communities STA serves. She leads the STA team, oversees all operations and administration and ensures compliance with the governance framework. In addition she engages in long term cultural planning with heritage and indigenous organizations and contributes to cultural and eco tourism objectives in each of the LGAs.

ROSE MARIN will join STA with rich experience, skills and education to make her mark in every aspect of the work. Six years at the Grafton Regional Gallery saw her leading diverse public and education programs including community exhibitions at the gallery and across six library locations across the huge Clarence Valley. Two years running ROSE received *Museums & Galleries Awards for Excellence*.

The last seven years has seen ROSE continuing her career-long focus, in her own words, 'to engage diverse audiences with cultural content' at the National Gallery of Australia as a Program Producer where she was the lead programmer across the *NGA PLAY* interactive and immersive creative gallery between 2016 and 2019. *NGA PLAY* was developed over five installations into a space that attracted nearly 200,000 visitors.

ROSE MARIN joins STA from her home in Queanbeyan Palerang where she lives with her family, taking up her position full time in mid-March.

Outgoing Executive Director, SUSAN CONROY, is delighted at the Board's appointment and will enjoy a brief hand over period with ROSE, ensuring continuity of current projects, funding applications and liaison with partners and stakeholders.

Encl.

For more information and media interviews contact SUSAN BRINDLE, President Southern Tablelands Arts, 0407 221 743.

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