

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE | 7 OCTOBER | SENT FROM BOORLOO/PERTH

New CAN CEO Rick Heath to drive influence, visibility and impact

The Board of Community Arts Network is delighted to announce the appointment of Rick Heath as its new CEO.

Known as a passionate advocate for the arts with previous leadership roles at arts organisations such as Black Swan State Theatre, Perth Festival and PAC Australia, Rick brings a wealth of knowledge and leadership experience, and extensive international, national and local connections to the role of CEO.

“We’re thrilled to welcome Rick as CEO,” says CAN Chair Lorraine Keane. “He brings not just expertise in cultural leadership, but a passion for ensuring communities are at the heart of decision-making. This aligns perfectly with CAN’s mission to connect art, story and social change.” CAN’s Board is excited by the appointment and the start of a new era for CAN.

“When people are supported to share their stories and identity, they claim their place in the civic conversation,” says Rick. “That’s what excites me about leading CAN. It’s an organisation that doesn’t just deliver quality projects — it strengthens communities, citizenry and democracy itself.”

Rick’s recent work with social change arts organisation Big hART was a catalyst that reinforced his conviction in the power of community-led arts practices to shift narratives, and empower communities in ways that create lasting impact.

“My career has been dedicated to the belief that telling stories through the arts is a powerful tool to achieve transformational change and cultural equity, and to connect communities,” he says. ”

Rick steps into the role determined to grow CAN’s influence, visibility and impact, whilst ensuring the organisation continues to be led by community. He joins CAN at a time when the role of the arts in amplifying citizen voices and building inclusive democracy is more vital than ever.

Community Arts Network

King Street Arts Centre
357 – 365 Murray Street
Perth WA 6000

can.org.au

PO Box 7514
Cloisters Square WA 6850
Phone 08 9226 2422
Email admin@can.org.au
ABN 72 106 364 407





Images for media

- Rick Heath, CEO, Community Arts Network [LINK](#)
- Rick Heath, CEO, Community Arts Network (Alt) [LINK](#)

For media enquiries

Nina Levy | 08 9226 2422 | nina@can.org.au

About Community Arts Network

CAN creates positive social change through the arts, building inclusion and understanding between people. CAN unlocks Western Australia's untold stories through community participation in art, giving voice to the hidden histories of this land and all of its people. can.org.au