



From the Executive Director's Desk



The Australia Council has just released [Arts in Daily Life: Australian Participation in the Arts](#). This independent study on how Australians view and participate in the arts updates a similar report published in 2009.

The results are stunning. Eighty-five percent of those surveyed view the arts as important and relevant to their daily lives. This is up five percent since 2009 and 14% since the surveys began in 1999. Virtually all Australians engage in the arts, in some way, each year—by attending performances or exhibitions, contributing time or money to arts organisations or by their own creative work. Two-thirds of those surveyed say the arts are important for child development and the 85% agree that the arts make for a richer and more meaningful life.

Clearly, the Australian public values the arts, and it seems that the humanities command the same respect. History books, documentaries, exhibitions and talks draw large audiences, and not just among the older generation. The pub philosophy movement, in which people gather in pubs for philosophical discussion, has spread from the UK to countries around the world including Australia. In my last newsletter, I wrote about philosopher Michael Sandel who presented a combination of philosophy and Shakespeare to a sell out crowd in New York's Central Park.

The social sciences are also held in increasingly high regard. The British Cabinet Office established a "Behavioural Insights Team" to apply social science research to government policy. Called the "nudge" unit (from the best selling book "Nudge"), its job is to improve health, welfare and education without coercion but by applying the findings of behavioural science. The New South Wales government has imported the idea to Australia.

Despite the high level of public and political support for HASS subjects, we CHASS members frequently feel that we are struggling—not only financially but also to prove our value. This is why the forthcoming CHASS Forum to be held in Melbourne on 8 and 9 October, will include discussions and master classes on how to turn our high public esteem into tangible financial support and stronger influence in Australia's public conversation. [Early bird registrations](#) are now open. Get in early and join us for what will be the biggest and most influential HASS meeting of the year.

Emeritus Professor Steven Schwartz AM

Quick Links

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2014 CHASS Australia Prizes - Nominations close on 30 June

The CHASS Australia Prizes are designed to honour distinguished achievements by Australians working, studying or training in the HASS (Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences) areas including academics, practitioners, philanthropists, policy makers and students.

CHASS
Australia Prizes



In 2014, four prizes will be given out. Two cash prizes of **\$3,500** each are sponsored by Routledge: one for a **Book** that enriches Australian cultural and intellectual life, the second for **Distinctive Work**, which may include an exceptional artistic performance, exhibition, film, television show, play, composition or practical contribution to arts policy. A cash prize of **\$2,000** sponsored by Future Leaders is for a **Future Leader**, an individual under 35 years of age who is demonstrating leadership skill and potential in the HASS areas. The Co-Op bookstore chain has sponsored the fourth prize valued at **\$500**, for a **Student** essay, exhibition, performance, project or thesis in a HASS area.

HURRY - Nominations closing 30 June. Self-nominations are acceptable. There is no entry fee for any category. For more information and to access the nomination form, [please click here](#).

2014 CHASS National Forum

[Early bird registrations are now open](#). Register before 31 August and save \$50 per person on both General and Student/Concession Forum packages. Individual tickets for Day 1, Day 2 and the CHASS Australia Prizes Dinner are also available. Delegates have the option of booking via [Eventbrite](#) (booking and payment fees apply) or using the [CHASS National Forum website](#) and paying via EFT/Cheque/Credit Card (only credit card fees apply). Venue details including special access information is available [here](#). For more information, please call us on (03) 9925 3935.

Membership Renewal

Membership renewal letters and invoices for 2014-15 will be sent out before the end of June 2014. Should you have any queries or would like to discuss your membership status, please contact us on (03) 9925 3935.

CHASS Meeting for Members, 14 July

We are holding a [meeting for CHASS members](#) on 14 July at the University of Sydney, followed by a CHASS Lecture by Professor Philip Pettit. If you are based in Sydney or will be there on 14 July, we would be delighted to have you join us. Please contact us for more information.

New: Job Listing

Head of School, School of Languages and Cultures, Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences, University of Sydney (REFERENCE NO. 590/0314) - CLOSING DATE: 13 July 2014

The Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences wishes to appoint an outstanding academic as Professor and Head of the School of Languages and Cultures. The Head of School will be an effective communicator within and outside the University, and an advocate for language teaching and research in the higher education sector and the broader community, playing an important role in the faculty's globalisation strategies and helping to develop innovative programs and initiatives that support the globalisation of our curriculum and opportunities for our students and staff.

All applications must be submitted via the University of Sydney careers website. Visit sydney.edu.au/recruitment and search by the reference number for more information and to apply.

The University is an equal opportunity employer committed to equity, diversity and social inclusion. Applications from equity target groups and women are encouraged. The University of Sydney has also established a scheme to increase the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff employed across the institution. Applications from people of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander descent are encouraged.

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Member and Sector Updates

[The Committee to Assist Refugee Academics](#)

CARA was established almost a century ago by British academics. It was dedicated to provide an escape route for academics who were being persecuted by Hitler's Nazis. Unfortunately, academics

are still being persecuted in countries around the world and they still need our help. The Arts Faculty at Macquarie University has established a CARA scholarship at Macquarie and is trying to bring over a Syrian Refugee. If you are in a position to help a refugee become established in Australia, or want to learn more about CARA, please [email Professor John Simons](#).

[Exhibition: Beyond The Fence Line, June 19 - August 16, FORM Gallery, Perth](#)

Helen Ansell's 'Beyond the Fence Line' opens in celebration of her exhibition 'Floribundus' and the launch of Mulla Mulla Designs with Peta Riley. A childhood spent in the outback has allowed Helen to develop a deep sense of connection with the West Australian landscape and refers to the area where she lives outside of Geraldton as her backyard. While she holds a strong affinity with the Mid-West, Helen has also travelled extensively throughout the state, illustrating her interest in the broader Western Australian environment, particularly its fauna and flora.

[ANZATS Conference, June 29 - July 02, Fremantle](#)

The ANZATS 2014 Conference 'The Eclipse of God - Theology after Christendom' will be held from at the University of Notre Dame, Fremantle WA. Speaker: Professor Graham Ward, Regius Professor of Divinity, Oxford University.

[Call for papers closing 27 June: Joint AAA/ASHA 2014 Conference](#)

You are invited to submit an abstract for presentation at the AAA/ASHA 2014 Conference 'Culture, Climate, Change: Archaeology in the Tropics' being held in Cairns from 1-3 December 2014. Acceptance of abstracts will be made via email by 18 July. Early bird registrations close 15 August.

[Registrations closing 30 June - The Future Workforce of Australian Social Science, 24 - 25 July, Sydney](#)

Hosted by The Australian Sociological Association (TASA) and the University of New South Wales (UNSW), this two-day workshop will bring together Australian policy institutions that heavily rely upon the social sciences with leading Australian social scientists and early career researchers. The workshop will gather research and theory relevant to understanding an intellectual workforce, and explore the experiences of early career researchers and teachers. It will develop a critical dialogue on the future of the social science workforce in Australia, and will develop practical proposals for employment pathways for social science graduates.

[Call for papers ending 30 June - The First World War: Local, Global and Imperial Perspectives](#)

To mark the centenary of the First World War and the 100th anniversary of the allied landings at Gallipoli, the University of Newcastle's Centre for the History of Violence will host a two-day conference in Newcastle on 26 - 27 March 2015. As a rejoinder to the customary hubris of national commemorations, and in recognition of a number of developing trends in the field of First World War studies, the event seeks to refocus discussion of this monumental episode in world history; to move beyond the well-worn nation-centric narratives, and to instead promote a greater appreciation of the conflict's often elided local, global and imperial contexts.

[Registrations close 30 June - Harvest: Fresh Perspectives for Performing Arts](#)

Presented by Australian Performing Arts Centres Association (APACA), this conference promises a rich banquet of arts ideas and practices. From the beautiful harbour-front location, hear from speakers will unearth the value of arts and culture.

[Sidney Myer Rural Lecture, 07 July, Flinders University](#)

The fourth and final Sidney Myer Rural Lecture entitled 'Vibrant Rural Communities: Leading the Way for Sustainable Futures'- will be presented by the Sidney Myer Chair of Rural Education and Communities, Professor John Halsey. Light refreshments will be served, [RSVP](#) essential.

[Curator Talk & Tour: East coast encounter - re-imagining history, 12 July, Australian National Maritime Museum](#)

Celebrate NAIDOC Week as Indigenous Programs Manager Donna Carstens discusses the East Coast Encounters project - a cross arts initiative that re-imagines the encounters of Lt James Cook with Aboriginal people in 1770 through stories, songs and artworks. Enjoy a documentary screening and tour of the HMB Endeavour replica. Cost: Members \$20 Guests \$25, bookings essential.

[The Art of Good Health and Wellbeing 6th Annual International Arts and Health Conference, 11-13 November, Melbourne](#)

This conference will present best practice and innovative arts and health programs, effective health promotion and prevention campaigns, methods of project evaluation and scientific research. It will be held at the National Gallery of Victoria. Call for Abstracts and Nominations for the 2014 Arts and Health

Australia Awards for Excellence close 31 July 2014.

[Call for papers – Religion in Conflict and Collaboration in the Modern World, 26-28 November](#)

Organised by the Religious History Association of Aotearoa New Zealand (RHAANZ), The Religious History Association of Australia (TheRHA) and the Christian Research Association of Aotearoa New Zealand, the theme of the conference is 'Religion in Conflict and Collaboration with the Modern World' and papers are welcome on any aspect of the theme, from historical and sociological perspectives. Offers of papers should be submitted by 31 July.

[Armidale International Film Festival, 01-03 August, University of New England](#)

The Armidale International Film Festival was the brain child of a small group of foreign film enthusiasts in the School of Languages, Cultures and Linguistics (LCL) at the University of New England. The 11th Armidale International Film Festival is on this year at the Belgrave Cinema and Festival passes will go on sale on 01 July.

[Exhibition: Lowered Brows, 06 August-04 September, Light Square Gallery, Adelaide College of the Arts](#)

Lowered Brows features work from a variety of South Australian artists and makers, each representing their particular craft, some choosing traditional techniques while others push the boundaries of their chosen discipline. Can their work find a place in the stark white-walled gallery setting, or do these underground mediums have their own special place in the fine-art world? Includes street art, screenprinting, sign painting, illustration, poster and zine making, and much more.

[Griffith REVIEW Annual Lecture with Dr Chris Sarra 'Beyond victims: The challenge of leadership', 07 August, State Library of Queensland](#)

Dr Chris Sarra will examine the styles of leadership that have emerged and prevailed since white settlement and argue it is time for a new approach. This important lecture will propose practical pathways in the lead up to the referendum. Hosted by Paul Barclay, ABC Radio National Big Ideas. Seats are limited, bookings essential.

[2014 Hedland Art Awards - Call for Entries](#)

Artists living in and around the Kimberley, Pilbara, Mid West and Gascoyne regions are now encouraged to apply. This prestigious annual event will take place in Port Hedland at the Courthouse Gallery, which houses than 100 artworks creating a platform for emerging and established artists for Australia and the world. The winners will be announced on August 29, and the exhibition will run from August 29 to 12 October. Entry forms due: 09 August.

[Educational Publishing Awards 2014, Australian Publishers Association, 17 September, Melbourne](#)

Celebrate with friends and colleagues at the presentation of the Australian Educational Publishing Awards for 2014 at the State Library of Victoria. The Awards will be presented in the primary school, secondary school, TAFE & vocational and tertiary education categories as well as to the APA Primary and Secondary School Publisher of the Year.

[Rising to the Challenge: Australia's Future Leaders Confront Tomorrow's Security Issues, 01-03 October, UNSW Canberra](#)

As the world moves into the 'Asian Century', Australia's unique strategic position presents both domestic and international opportunities and challenges, distinct in our nation's history. This conference aims to engage and inform the future decision-makers of Australia on these upcoming challenges, with topics ranging from Australia's role in a dynamic region, conventional military conflict as well as human security threats from outside and within our borders.

[22nd Annual Conference of the Australian Society for French Studies \(ASFS\), 03-06 December, RMIT University, Melbourne](#)

The ASFS exists principally to unite and represent the interests of those researchers, scholars, higher degree students and teachers working within a French Programme in the Australian Higher Education Sector. Topic: Conflict, Dialogue and Representation. Guest of honour: Former French Prime Minister Lionel Jospin (who will be talking about his new book *Le Mal napoléonien*, Seuil 2014). Other keynote speakers: Emeritus Professor Colin Nettelbeck, School of Languages and Linguistics, University of Melbourne and Dr Fanny Pascual, Département de Lettres et Sciences humaines, Université de la Nouvelle Calédonie.

Council for the Humanities, Arts & Social Sciences
PO Box 12226, Franklin Street Post Shop, A'Beckett Street, MEL
VIC 8006

T: +61 3 9925 3935 E:

membership@chass.org.au W: www.chass.org.au



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