

BAF Mission: To encourage and develop, through strong community engagement, the aspirations and talents of emerging artists from all disciplines who have lived, worked or studied in Ballarat.

Aspirations

The Annual Award Winners Magazine of the **Ballarat Arts Foundation**
Issue No.20, October 2021 | www.ballaratartsfoundation.org.au

Below: Penny-leaf Flat-pea *Platylobium rotundum*
G. Gould-Hardwick, coloured pencil on paper, 2021.



BAF's 21st Anniversary: Here's to the future!

The Ballarat Arts Foundation Grant Round is always inspiring, exciting and filled with hope, just the right medicine for a pandemic that has gone on for much too long! As a committee we saw 33

hopeful and aspirational artists draw on their creativity to develop projects and then have the courage to apply to the Foundation for over \$125,000 worth of funding to bring these projects to completion. We noted a small swing away from performance-based requests, a likely reflection of the unpredictable live events horizon.

We recognise the desolation of the arts industry in the last 20 months and commend and congratulate those who are persisting with art-making. We are so pleased to be able to assist in some way through our programs.

Our interviews were once again held via Zoom on August 14th and surprisingly didn't seem all that strange – it's funny what you get used to! Ultimately, we selected nine successful grant recipients who will share in over \$16,000 worth of funding. We are proud to announce that including this current grant round, we have now awarded over \$260,000 worth of grants in our 21-year history.

This year we discovered resilience, brilliance and clever adaptation in the swathe of fascinating and Covid-proof projects that came forward for consideration. There was an interesting focus on nature, sustainability and the development of content for children, possibly all a reflection of the year that was! Along with determination and grit within the arts community, we also recognise our determined Ballarat community, united in their quest to ensure that Ballarat artists continue to receive a leg-up, so to speak. This is reflected in on-going financial support and fresh interest in supporting our program through new named awards, generous donations, and partnering and collaborative opportunities. A huge thank you to all our supporters – the BAF granting program wouldn't be possible without all of you.

Congratulations to all our 2021 grant recipients! We invite our broader BAF family to read about their work over the page, and we look forward to providing more details of their achievements as the years pass.

Paula Nicholson, Chair



Above: Clicking Ambertail *Yoyetta robertsonae*
G. Gould-Hardwick, pencil on paper, sketch, 2020.

Grant Round Thirty Four



MELISSA WILSON

Melissa Wilson is a visual artist who combines painting and photography to produce detailed works on the textures, shapes and colours of natural subjects in the Ballarat region. The **Haymes Family Foundation Award** will enable Melissa to buy a digital SLR to document her subjects and her works.



OLIVIA FRENCH

Olivia French is a theatre performer and director who will bring the works of Gothic lit master, Edgar Allen Poe, to life using theatre performance and visual and audio multimedia. The **Jack Anderson Film Award** will assist Olivia via the purchasing of equipment to record and publish the performances.



SARAH HART

Sarah Hart is an artist and teacher who will produce print and stencil-making workshops to help marginalised people channel feelings of love and rage into art. The **Ballarat Arts Foundation Award** will provide the funds needed to acquire the necessary materials for these workshops.



ALEX BAYLEY

Alex Bayley is a textiles artist developing new approaches to producing chemical-free dyes in a range of new colours from plants. She is committed to developing her skills through attendance at workshops conducted by a master artisan in this field. The **Rotary Club of Ballarat South Award for Visual and Performing Arts** will allow Alex to acquire the materials she needs to participate in these workshops.



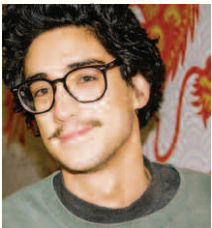
LILY GOODFELLOW

Lily Goodfellow is a dancer and emerging writer who produces children's adventure stories that incorporate components of physical movement. The **Will Coltman Award for Writing** will enable Lily to acquire technology to support her writing and to more effectively integrate imagery and video.



KATE GORMAN

Kate Gorman is a sculptor who works with bronze to produce finely detailed works that express the hope for an empathetic relationship between people and nature. The **Norman Hofmaier Award for Contemporary Art** will support Kate to present an exhibition of her work in a public art space.



JAMES MCKINNON

James McKinnon is an ethnomusicologist who aspires to create a visual history and ethnography of the Lal Lal landscape. The **Fiona Sweet and Paul Newcombe Award for Photography** will assist to equip James with a drone-mounted camera to capture aerial and oblique perspectives to undertake his study.



GEORGINA GOULD-HARDWICK

Georgina Gould-Hardwick is a visual artist who will create a series of artworks on paper, detailing the biodiversity of the Woookarung Regional Park specifically examining native flora and insects. The **Isobella Foundation Award** will enable Georgina to produce her work in several formats to enrich the interpretation of the Park.



KELSIE WHITE

Kelsie White is a watercolourist and graphic artist who is expanding her skills into larger-scale oil and acrylic based painting. The materials required to make this transition are expensive and the **Ballarat Arts Foundation Award** will assist Kelsie to purchase some of what is needed and therefore continue to expand her skill set.



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CALLING ALL EMERGING ARTISTS

Don't forget to check the Ballarat Arts Foundation website early in 2022 for information regarding the next round of available funding.

Where are they now?

APEX BLOOM – Formerly SAINT IVORY

2020 was a year to forget for many but for us it was certainly a year to remember! During February we spent a week at **Newmarket Studios** recording our debut album *Yesterday's A Universe Away*. It was an amazing opportunity getting to work in a professional studio, with two-time *Emmy* winner **Guus Hoevenaars** engineering the whole process for us.

The band recorded everything live in Newmarket's main recording room, with Kaine watching on as he recorded vocals simultaneously in the next room. This gave the whole album a sense of togetherness, capturing the energy of musicians recording live in a room – like the albums from the 60s and 70s that inspired us. We finished recording, editing and mixing the album ourselves throughout the rest of 2020, with a lot of time spent sending files back and forth during lockdowns.

Our first two singles as **Apex Bloom** – *Dope Haus* and *Camouflage* – were released in September and November, with the album *Yesterday's A Universe Away* finally releasing in January this year. In February, we celebrated the release with a sold out show at Volta, right here in Ballarat, with Ballarat's **Barracouta** and Geelong's **The Kite Machine**. It was fantastic to be performing live again after the events of last year, and great to debut some songs that had never been played live.



Photograph: Kate Williams

TOBIAS MADDEN – WHAT A STAR!

Tobias first received a BAF Grant in 2005. He used it to pay for singing lessons whilst in Year 12 at Ballarat & Clarendon College.

He went on to study dance at Brent Street in Sydney, then completed his Bachelor of Music Theatre at WAAPA in Perth.

Since then, performing has taken him all over Australia and New Zealand, Asia and, quite literally, around the world (on a cruise ship)! He started out as the Dance Captain onboard the *Pacific Princess*, and then went on to perform in Australia and New Zealand with tours of shows such as *Mary Poppins*, *Cats*, *Singin' in the Rain* and *Guys and Dolls*. He has also done lots of smaller shows and workshops in Melbourne. A later stint on cruise ships saw him as a guest entertainer with **The Aussie Boys**, and then performing in **Lifelike Company's** acclaimed production of *The Light in the Piazza* at The Arts Centre.

In 2016 Tobias spent time teaching dance at Federation University, and working with the students at The Kerry Moore School of Ballet in Ballarat.

After this, Tobias took up a role teaching at AIM (Australian Institute of Music) in Melbourne, then at Ettingshausens Pro in Sydney.

In 2019, he edited and published *Underdog*, the first #LoveOzYA short story anthology for previously unpublished Aussie young adult fiction writers. Also in 2019, he wrote the cabaret show *Siblingship*, which played to sold out audiences in Sydney, Melbourne, and Canberra. Tobias is a passionate member of the #LoveOzYA and LGBTQ+ communities.

Today, Tobias is a Senior Marketing Executive at Bloomsbury Publishing in Sydney, Australia, but is also an author! His debut young adult fiction novel, *Anything But Fine*, is out now in Australia and New Zealand (Penguin Teen), and going to the USA in January 2022 and it is set in Ballarat!



TELL US YOUR STORY

BAF Alumni Survey

www.ballaratartsfoundation.org.au/alumni-central



Now after another long year, and the continued support of the **Ballarat Arts Foundation**, we finally have physical copies of the album in the ultimate format: splattered 12" vinyl records! We are longtime lovers and collectors of vinyl and to have our very own album in our hands is truly a dream come true! These can be purchased from:

apexbloom.bandcamp.com

We have a new single, *Just Be*, due for release later in 2021. Keep an eye on our socials to be up to date with all the exciting things we get up to!

Aspirations

Storylines: Tim Sullivan and Paula Nicholson | Photographs courtesy of BAF or the Artists | Layout: Peter Lambert Design | Printing: Baxter & Stubbs | Printed on EcoStar Silk 100% Recycled



Supporting the local community

Flatpack furniture, 2 min assembly with no tools! Our new product range 'Formed by Function' has enabled local staff to work through the COVID-19 pandemic. With your help we continue to support our friends and colleagues in the Arts Industry.

Shop the range at www.formedbyfunction.com

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GET INVOLVED WITH BAF

BAF would like to thank our vast network of donors, supporters, benefactors and friends for their ongoing assistance as we strive to deliver our objectives. There are many opportunities for you or your organisation to become involved with the Foundation, be it through a partnership, sponsorship, a donation or as a volunteer. If you wish to make a donation, please find the details below. If you would like to discuss other options, please contact Paula: info@ballaratartsfoundation.org.au

We look forward to revealing the possibilities that exist through building relationships with the arts community of Ballarat.

MAKE A DONATION OR BECOME A BAFA

The **Ballarat Arts Foundation Inc. Gifts Account** is a tax deductible fund listed on the Register of Cultural Organisations under Subdivision 30-B of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1977. **Donations of \$2.00 or more are tax deductible.**

It is easy to support artists who live and work in the Ballarat region. Just go online to the BAF website: www.ballaratartsfoundation.org.au/make-a-donation

Here you may choose to make a one-off donation or a recurring donation. By making a recurring or monthly donation of between \$10 and \$100, you will become a **Ballarat Arts Foundation Ally** or a BAFA! In return, a BAFA receives advance notifications regarding our core program, invitations to our exclusive events, regular updates on our Alumni, as well as a warm inner glow knowing that you are supporting local artists.

BECOME A BEQUEST FRIEND

Contribute to the work of BAF through a bequest. Discuss with us the various options of creating a named award or a scholarship in your will.

EMERGING ARTISTS

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