



**Greg Piper MP**  
**Member for Lake Macquarie**



**MEDIA RELEASE**

22 January 2010

## **\$120,000 TO SUPPORT THE ARTS IN LAKE MACQUARIE**

Member for Lake Macquarie, Greg Piper, has welcomed funding from the State Government totalling \$120,000 for local arts initiatives.

The grants are part of the \$42.7 million 2010 Arts Funding Program announced by Minister for the Arts, Virginia Judge.

"I am determined NSW remains the premier State for the creative industries – and support for locally based ventures is an important part of that commitment," Ms Judge said.

Mr Piper said Lake Macquarie City Council would receive new arts grants totalling \$120,000, including \$80,000 for the first year of a three-year funding program for the Lake Macquarie Art Gallery.

"A further \$40,000 will go towards the creative development and public presentation of a major environmental installation and sculpture commission at the Gallery", he said.

"These additional funds will enable the gallery to commission a major sculptural work that will enhance the community's understanding of the gallery site's wetlands, wildlife and vegetation. It will also highlight the gallery's spectacular lakeside site and Sculpture Park, situated on a five-hectare peninsula, and will complement its collection and exhibition program."

Mr Piper said "Lake Macquarie Art Gallery has particularly strong Aboriginal and community programs as well as curated contemporary Australian art, craft and design exhibitions."