

INSPIRING ART
ACROSS THE STATE

23 November 2021

To Whom It May Concern

REGIONAL
ARTS
VICTORIA

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I am pleased to provide this letter in support Mark Egan's practice for future engagement in all his artistic and cultural endeavours.

Regional Arts Victoria is the peak body for regional artists and arts organisations in Victoria and has been fostering contemporary and innovative regional cultural practice for five decades. Through creative facilitation, touring, education, specialised resources, artistic projects, and advocacy, we develop and sustain creative communities and artistic practice while working in partnerships with every level of government.

In my role at Regional Arts Victoria as the Metropolitan Program Manager for the Creative workers in School program, I have come to know Mark in a professional capacity as one of the artists that I have had the privilege of managing. As one of the 150 creative practitioners who were selected to be placed in this state-wide program, Mark was selected from a highly competitive round of applications. In his project, placed at the Mernda Park Primary School. Mark worked closely and collaboratively with the art teacher and his mentor to engage the students in hybrid and digital creative practices to create an immersive and interactive experience. Through activating their imaginations and identities in responsive, personal, and unique ways such as mapping the local landscape of the school through photogrammetry, Mark was able to introduce the students to many programs and applications that improved their digital literacy, created access points into innovative ways for making art and realise their ideas via digital technologies. Despite the challenges and barriers faced by resident artists due to Covid 19, Mark adapted to alternative modes of deliveries quickly revealing a way to still engage with the participants sensitively and with care while making the sessions and output fun and memorable for everyone involved.

Mark has a deep understanding of the mediums he works with and can simplify and complicate them to respond to the different environments within which his projects are housed, resulting in sophisticated and appealing outcomes.

Mark is inspired, committed, and dedicated to his craft and it has been humbling to witness a small part of this journey and I wish him all the best in future endeavours.

Sincerely,



Priya Namana
Regional Area Manager - Creative Workers in Schools
Metropolitan Melbourne

W: www.rav.net.au

HEAPS DECENT

11/11/21

To whom it may concern,

I would like to support Mark Egan in any future creative and professional endeavours.

Mark has been working as an artist and digital producer for Heaps Decent since 2015. Heaps Decent is an arts organisation based in NSW providing projects and activities for children and young people, with a focus on digital media production. We target a majority of participants in underrepresented communities for participation, including those who are at risk and socially isolated due to a range of circumstances.

Mark's work has been crucial in leading our organisation as we pursue emerging technologies and investigate the creative possibilities for our communities. His ability to deliver cutting edge digital solutions for our projects, from AR to VR and beyond, has seen us expand our reach and engagement to spark the interest of truly diverse participants and audiences. He is also a highly capable facilitator, with an ability to engage even those who are extremely reticent or unsure. As a result they have built skills, confidence, and discovered the joy of self-expression.

Mark's work on Heaps Decent's augmented reality mural in Wagga Wagga, developing the technology as well as engaging young people in producing the digital content, was instrumental in the project reaching new audiences and winning the [Diversity in XR Award](#) at the 2020 Real World XR awards. He has most recently been working on a VR viewing experience for Heaps Decent that captures the beauty of Australian environments through immersion in digital media.

I believe Mark is an excellent candidate for funding and employment, capable of delivering exciting and professional work, and engaging a wide range of audiences.

Please contact me if you require further information,



Regards
Nerida Woods / CEO



Creating extraordinary
theatre for young
audiences.

To Whom It May Concern,

Subject: Mark Egan

Arena Theatre Company has had the pleasure of working with Mark Egan on several projects over the last 6 years. Mark designed the Augmented Reality technology for our acclaimed project Hidden Creature Gallery which has toured across the country and to China in 2019. Earlier this year Hidden Creature Gallery was presented as part of the Dream Big Festival in Adelaide where 5000 kids engaged with animated AR creatures through the Hidden Creature Gallery app. This was made possible through the innovative use of AR technology developed by Mark.

We have always found Mark to be professional, hard working and very creative.

If you have any further questions, don't hesitate to give me a call on 0448 357 112.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sharon Custers", is written over a faint, light blue circular watermark. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Sharon Custers
Executive Director

