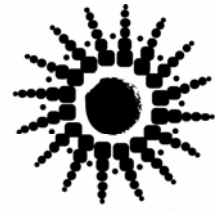




Department of Culture and the Arts
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ScreenWest

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New Board Announcements for ScreenWest

ScreenWest will have a change in leadership in 2007 with the announcement that Erica Smyth has been appointed new Chairperson of the ScreenWest Board from 1 January.

Ms Smyth has extensive Board experience. She is currently Chairman of Nova Energy Ltd and Board Director for various organisations including Scitech, the Swan Care Group, Diabetes Research Foundation and the Centre for Sustainable Resource Processing. She has also previously served as Chairman and Board member of the Pilbara Development Commission, Pro Chancellor in 2006 and Senate member of University of Western Australia as well as an inaugural Board Member of UWA's Geosciences Foundation Advisory Board.

Culture and the Arts Minister Sheila McHale said Ms Smyth will bring a wealth of Board experience to ScreenWest.

"Ms Smyth will be a great asset to the ScreenWest Board. Her strong corporate and Board background will be a good fit with the already diverse and talented members of the ScreenWest Board," Ms McHale said.

Ms Smyth's Board positions follow on from a successful career as a senior executive in the mining and petroleum industry. Among other high-level positions, Ms Smyth was the General Manager External Affairs with Woodside Petroleum Ltd for a five year period to 2004 where she had responsibility for government, community, media and reputation management for the Company and the North West Shelf Gas Project.

Outgoing Chairperson Debra Shorter completes her three-year term at the end of 2006, having served on the Board for a period of five years.

Ms McHale said the Western Australian screen industry is in excellent shape.

"During the past year the ScreenWest Board has been instrumental in leading the development of ScreenWest's Strategic Plan 2006 – 2011 and has guided ScreenWest and the Western Australian screen industry to develop a dynamic and strategic vision for the next five years," Ms McHale said.

"In contrast to a national decline in production, ScreenWest-funded production increased last year, with over 72 hours of ScreenWest-funded production commencing a significant increase from 32 hours five years ago. Production companies are producing



great work for national and international audiences. With a clear vision for the organisation, we believe the future for the Western Australian screen industry is really positive.”

Also joining the ScreenWest Board in 2007 will be established writer, director and Managing Director of production company Vue DC Pty Ltd, Alan Lindsay.

Mr Lindsay has produced, directed and written more than 100 television documentary and drama programs, was previously head of Television New Zealand’s Southern Documentary Unit and has consulted to Australian and New Zealand Governments and media companies on new production initiatives and management strategies.

Entertainment lawyer and executive producer Joan Peters and Dot West, Head of Production/Business Development and Director of Goolarri Media have been re-appointed for one year, joining continuing Board Members Catherine Ferrari, Robyn Kershaw, Andrew Lewis and Raphe Patmore. Board Member Andrew Ogilvie will be completing his three-year term at the end of 2006.

For more information on the ScreenWest Board, visit: www.screenwest.com.au

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