

- Technology
- Focus Region



Shire of Mullewa: The Mingenew Project

Funding: Mid West Ignites

Amount Approved: \$10,000

Mid West

The Mingenew Project was the first of a series of Mid West Ignites Projects to take place.

Based on the successful model of the Digital Photography Project 'Blink' 2006, project coordinator Jocelyn Morgan invited photographer, graphic designer and community arts worker Natalija Brunovs to spend the month of May in residence in Mingenew.



The Mid West Ignites funding program aimed to give communities in the Mid West the chance to work with a professional artist/s to develop public, contemporary arts projects that explore a sense of place and to celebrate distinctive local events, people or places, while engaging a broad cross-section of the community.

Workshops were held across a range of digital photography themes including sports action, ways-of-seeing and finding beauty, technical 'how-tos', creative portraits, night shoots of stars, doing 'light graffiti' with laserlights and torches and sunset photography. The month long project attracted wide media coverage both within the region and the state and culminated in a community celebration and exhibition.

Many participants in the project had never used digital cameras before the residency commenced, however the availability of digital cameras for community use and the presence of a skilled artists who was able to work across new media artforms meant that by the end of the project **more than a third of the community** had taken part in the project and worked with the artist to develop new skills in photography and web applications.

A key element of the project was the development of a website by the artist and was designed as a way of using accessible technology for participants to share ideas and images and to keep connected.

The website is still active and can be accessed at www.mingenewproject.com

The Mingenew Project ran for one month and culminated in a community celebration and screening of images. Approximately 100 people were at the launch of the exhibition and many more have been able to access, view and be inspired by the photography through the project website.

The Mingenew Project received funding through the Mid West Ignites program, an initiative of Country Arts WA, the Mid West Development Commission and the Regional Arts Fund.

Above: Project participants in a portrait photography workshop. Photo: Rachel Bagshaw.



Government of Western Australia
Mid West Development Commission

