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Some of Baw Baw Shire's most talented artists and craftspeople are busy putting the final touches on creative works that will feature in The Johnston Collection's 2015 Christmas exhibition.

The Johnston Collection, a museum of fine and decorative arts housed in Fairhall in East Melbourne, has an annual Christmas show, which is presented by a different Victorian region each year.

This year it's Creative Gippsland's turn and more than 45 artists and craftspeople from six Gippsland municipalities are making their mark with over 180 exquisite new creations in the *Joyful and Triumphant* tour.

This is the first time that creatives from Gippsland have presented works at Fairhall. Other regions who have previously participated in The Johnston Collection Christmas tour include Geelong, Bendigo, Castlemaine, Ballarat, Wangaratta and north-east Victoria, Warrnambool and south-west Victoria, and the Mornington Peninsula.

Mayor Debbie Brown was delighted that Baw Baw Shire artists and craftspeople will have the opportunity to be a part of such a prestigious exhibition.

“It's certainly something that we can be proud of as a region; that the Baw Baw Shire arts scene and those of our neighbouring Gippsland municipalities have this occasion to showcase our best talent and creative minds,” said the Mayor.

The Gippsland participants include:

- Fusion FAN Inc.
- Gum Leaf Quilters
- Churchill Neighbourhood Centre Latrobe

- Paper Arts Gippsland East
- Primary Patchworkers of Sale
- Riviera Patchwork
- Sale Lacemakers
- The Bond Family
- The Cake Decorators Association of Victoria
- The Embroiderers Guild, Victoria (Leongatha Country Group)
- The Latrobe Embroiderers Group
- The West Gippy Group
- Yarragon Yarners The Woolly Yarns
- The East Gippsland Wool and Craft Group Inc.
- Independent artists Susan Cock, Heather Costigan, Marion Dawson, Cheryl Kane, Jackie McNamee, Gwenneth Poore, and Jenny Romano and friends.

The exhibition will be open from Thursday 5 November 2015 to Wednesday 24 February 2016.

For more information and bookings, please call 9416 1215.

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