2024 City of Melbourne Annual Arts Grants Accessible Fact Sheet

Acknowledgement

The City of Melbourne respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land we govern, the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung and Bunurong Boon Wurrung peoples of the Eastern Kulin and pays respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.

We acknowledge and honour the unbroken spiritual, cultural and political connection the Wurundjeri, Bunurong, Dja Dja Wurrung, Taungurung and Wadawurrung peoples of the Eastern Kulin have to this unique place for more than 2000 generations.

We are committed to our reconciliation journey, because at its heart, reconciliation is about strengthening relationships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples, for the benefit of all Victorians.

Overview

The City of Melbourne Council supports Melbourne to be a vibrant centre of experimentation, innovation and artistic creativity that fosters leaders of ideas and courage.

City of Melbourne's Council Plan 2021-25[1] is based on values of integrity, courage, accountability, respect and excellence.

Read our Creative Strategy 2018-28[2]

Read our Creative Funding Framework 2019-24[3]

The City of Melbourne welcomes grant applications from culturally diverse artists and Deaf and Disabled artists.

Our creative funding aims to support:

- artists of all backgrounds
- artists at all stages of their careers
- all artforms and practices to test, develop and realise ideas that build the city's profile as a creative city

We value:

- experimentation, expression and excellence

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[1] https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/about-council/vision-goals/Pages/council-plan.aspx
[2] https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/arts-and-culture/strategies-support/Pages/creative-strategy-2018-28.aspx
[3] https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/arts-and-culture/strategies-support/Pages/creative-funding-framework.aspx

- bold and challenging works
- collaborative projects and partnerships
- being accessible for locals and visitors
- contributing to artistic, cultural and heritage outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

In 2023, our annual arts grants provided over $1,000,000 in funding to 94 applicants.

Application dates

Applications open: 1 May 2023

Applications close: 5pm, 13 June 2023

Notification to applicants: October 2023

Aboriginal artists please note: Applications for Aboriginal Arts Project grants will open on 21 August 2023 for activities taking place in 2024.

Visit Aboriginal Arts Grants[4] for more information and to view the guidelines.

Are you eligible?

The applications are open to artists or small to medium arts organisation who plan to develop or present work in 2024.

You can only apply to one of the grant categories, for either an arts project or an arts residency.

Not all types of projects are eligible for funding. Contact the City of Melbourne Arts Grants team to find out if your project is eligible for funding.

You cannot apply if you have an unfinished acquittal or unpaid debts to the City of Melbourne.

Make sure your outcome or outside work is based in the City of Melbourne Council boundaries[5]

Note: There are extra eligibility requirements for applicants with online outcomes or for a creative development only or for your specific grant category.

Grant categories

The following grants are available for activities taking place in 2024.

Arts projects

Arts project grants are open to artists and small to medium arts organisations.

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[4] https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/arts-and-culture/strategies-support/funding/Pages/aboriginal-arts-projects.aspx
[5] https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/about-melbourne/melbourne-profile/Pages/city-maps.aspx

You can apply for:

- up to $20,000 for the creation and presentation of projects that are shared with the public or
- up to $5,000 for a creative development with no public outcome needed.

Arts residency: Boyd Studio-1

This residency is open to artists and small to medium arts organisations.

Successful applicants will receive $10,000 plus studio space in-kind.

There will be two six-month residencies:

- 12 January to 30 June 2024
- 4 July to 15 December 2024

Writing residency: Boyd Garret

The Garret writing residency is open to writers of any genre.

The successful applicant will receive $10,000 plus studio space in-kind.

There will be one 12-month residency from 12 January to 15 December 2024.

Note: The Garret studio space is at the top of the building. The only way to access the studio is via a steep staircase.

Writing residency: Libraries

The Writing residency is open to writers of any genre.

Successful applicants will receive $5,000 plus studio space in-kind.

There will be two three-month residency during 2024 (dates to be negotiated).

Arts residency: Art and Heritage Collection

This residency is open to individual artists.

The successful applicant will receive $10,000 plus access to the Art and Heritage Collection at the Melbourne Town Hall.

There will be one residency of up to 12 months during 2024 (dates to be negotiated).

Find out more about the grant categories

City of Melbourne Website: Arts Grants[6] – you will find the guidelines, links to the application forms and FAQs on this webpage.

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[6] https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/arts-and-culture/strategies-support/funding/arts-grants/Pages/arts-grants.aspx

SmartyGrants online application forms

[2024 Arts projects SmartyGrants application](#)[7]

[2024 Arts residencies SmartyGrants Application](#)[8]

How to apply

1. Read the guidelines thoroughly
2. Watch the grants briefing presentation and the applicant top tips video on the website
3. Preview the application form
4. Contact the arts grants team with any queries
5. Allow ample time to plan, research, gather support material and to draft your application.
6. Apply via SmartyGrants online application form (log in or create an account)
7. Complete and submit your online application by 5pm 13 June. Late applications will not be accepted.

Accessibility

We aim to make the arts grants accessible to all people.

Applicants should do their best to make their project accessible.

Access support is available for Deaf and Disabled people when applying.

Deaf and Disabled artists can apply for an extra $2,000 to cover access costs.

For more information, please [contact us.](#)

Help is available

For more information check out the FAQs or contact the Arts Grants team.

Contact the City of Melbourne Arts Grants team

Email: artsgrants@melbourne.vic.gov.au

Phone: 03 9658 9658 (voice only)

The National Relay Service: 133 677

Get help with your application

If the application form is not accessible to you please contact the City of Melbourne Program Manager to discuss alternative ways of submitting an application (such as by video or audio).

Phone the Program Manger on 0481 099 439 (text or voice).

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[7] https://melbourne.smartygrants.com.au/ArtsGrants2024

[8] https://melbourne.smartygrants.com.au/ArtsResidencies2024

You can also get help if you are:

Deaf and Disabled applicants

You can contact the City of Melbourne Program Manager for application support.

Phone the Program Manager on 0481 099 439 (text or voice).

Phone the Program Manager via the National Relay Service on 133 677.

You can also contact Arts Access Victoria (AAV) for auspicing services.

Contact AAV

Email: info@artsaccess.com.au

Phone (03) 9699 8299 (voice only) / 0477 860 955 (text or voice).

Artists from culturally diverse backgrounds

You can contact Multicultural Arts Victoria (MAV) for application support.

Contact MAV

Email: miriam@mav.org.au

The City of Melbourne has Translation Services[9] for telephone support. You will be able to access translators and information in different languages.

Get help with the SmartyGrants online application

Check out the SmartyGrants Help Guide[10]

You can contact the support desk 9am - 5pm Monday to Friday

Email: service@smartygrants.com.au

Phone: 03 9320 6888 (voice only)

Other funding opportunities

The City of Melbourne offers a wide range of opportunities to support artists and the broader Melbourne community to deliver a range of quality programs and activities including opportunities through:

- Arts House[11]
- Signal[12]
- ArtPlay[13]

Stay up to date on the latest city of Melbourne opportunities by:

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[9] https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/community/health-support-services/multicultural-services/Pages/translation-services.aspx

[10] https://applicanthelp.smartygrants.com.au/help-guide-for-applicants/

[11] https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/arts-and-culture/arts-house/Pages/arts-house.aspx

[12] https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/arts-and-culture/signal/Pages/signal.aspx

[13] https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/arts-and-culture/artplay/Pages/ArtPlay.aspx

Visiting our [website](#)[14]

Following us on [social media](#)[15]

Subscribing to our [e-newsletters](#)[16]

[14] https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/about-council/governance-transparency/Pages/grants-and-sponsorships.aspx

[15] https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/pages/social-media.aspx

[16] https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/news-and-media/pages/news-and-media.aspx