



2023 City of Melbourne Quick Response Arts Grants fact sheet

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

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 supports leaders with 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

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 and to build the city's profile

We value:

- experimentation, expression and excellence
- collaborative projects and partnerships
- being accessible for locals and visitors

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>

Important dates

Applications

Grants are for activities taking place between 16 November 2023 and 30 June 2024.

Applications open: 8 September 2023

Applications close: 11.59pm 1 October 2023

Notification to applicants: early November 2023

Are you eligible?

The applications are open to artists or small to medium arts organisations.

You can only submit one application.

You must undertake and deliver your project within seven months of grant notification.

Make sure your outcome is based in the [City of Melbourne](#)⁴. Applications with online outcomes or for creative development only must have a relationship to the City of Melbourne. More information is available in the full guidelines or contact the [City of Melbourne Arts Grants Team](#).

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

If you plan to present your work in at outdoor space, please contact the [City of Melbourne Arts Grants Team](#).

Not all types of projects are eligible for funding. Please contact the [City of Melbourne Arts Grants Team](#) to find out if your project is eligible.

Program Overview

Quick response grants provide funding to artists with a short turnaround time.

These grants are for small to medium arts organisations and individual artists. You can work in any artform or practice and be at any career stage.

The funding is to create and present activities that will be shared with the public. This can be online or at a venue within the City of Melbourne boundaries. Or the funding can support a period of creative development.

The program supports artists to:

- develop or present new work,
- develop specific elements of a larger project, or
- take a project to another level.

The quick nature of the grants enables artists to take advantage of unexpected opportunities that may arise at short notice. This could be an opportunity to collaborate, a last minute venue offer or to add a layer of depth to a project.

Grant categories

⁴ <https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/sitecollectiondocuments/suburb-map-boundary-city-of-melbourne.pdf>

- Projects: for the creation and presentation of projects resulting in a public outcome. This can be either online or at a venue or location within the City of Melbourne [boundaries](#)⁵.

A public outcome could be:

- a performance
 - exhibition
 - installation
 - artist talk
 - open studio
 - rehearsed reading
 - workshop or
 - development showing.
- Creative development only: for a period of development without a public outcome.

Applicants can apply for only one grant category.

Funding available

Grants of up to \$4,000 (excluding GST) are available.

Access costs of up to \$2,000 will be considered for Deaf and Disabled artists/arts workers. This is in addition to the funded amount. This could include transport, support worker, carer, Auslan, captioning, audio description.

Assessment criteria

Assessment of applications will consider the following:

- creative excellence, boldness and experimentation
- support for diverse and/or emerging artists
- activities by or genuine engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
- viability

Additionally, for projects presented online or in person activities that:

- are low cost or free to the public
- appeal to new or under-served audiences
- happen in new or unexpected places

Find out more about the Quick Response grants:

[City of Melbourne Website: Quick Response Grants](#)⁶ – You will find Frequently Asked Questions on this webpage.

[Quick Response Grants Guidelines \(PDF 345 KB\)](#)⁷

⁵ <https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/about-melbourne/melbourne-profile/Pages/City-maps.aspx>

⁶ <https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/arts-and-culture/strategies-support/funding/Pages/quick-response-arts-grants.aspx>

⁷ <https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/SiteCollectionDocuments/quick-response-arts-grants-guidelines.pdf>

[Quick Response Grants Guidelines \(DOCX 51 KB\)](#)⁸

How to apply

1. Go to the [website](#)⁹, read the guidelines thoroughly and preview the application form.
2. Contact the [City of Melbourne Arts Grants Team](#) with any queries.
3. Complete and submit your application online via SmartyGrants by the close date. You can access the application form here: [Quick Response Arts Grants application](#)¹⁰

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.

Access funding is available for Deaf and Disabled applicant project outcomes.

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

Help is available!

For more information check out the [FAQ's](#) or contact the [City of Melbourne Arts Grants team](#).

Get support with your application

If you need support to view, complete and apply please contact the [City of Melbourne Arts Grants team](#).

Contact us at the City of Melbourne Grants

Email: artsgrants@melbourne.vic.gov.au

Phone: 03 9658 9658 (voice only)

National Relay Service: 133 677

You can also get help if you are:

Deaf and Disabled

You can contact Arts Access Victoria (AAV) for auspice services and application support.

Contact AAV:

Email: info@artsaccess.com.au

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

You can also contact the City of Melbourne Arts grants team via the National Relay Service on 133 677.

Artists from multicultural communities

⁸ <https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/SiteCollectionDocuments/quick-response-arts-grants-guidelines.docx>

⁹ <https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/arts-and-culture/strategies-support/funding/Pages/quick-response-arts-grants.aspx>

¹⁰ <https://melbourne.smartygrants.com.au/ArtsResidencies2023>

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

Email: miriam@mav.org.au

The City of Melbourne has [Translation Services](#)¹¹ 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](#)¹²

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

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 to deliver a range of quality programs and activities including opportunities through:

- [Arts House](#)¹³
- [Signal](#)¹⁴
- [ArtPlay](#)¹⁵

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

- Visiting our [website](#)¹⁶
- Following us on [social media](#)¹⁷
- Subscribing to our [e-newsletters](#)¹⁸

¹¹ <https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/community/health-support-services/multicultural-services/Pages/translation-services.aspx>

¹² <https://applicanthelp.smartygrants.com.au/help-guide-for-applicants/>

¹³ <https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/arts-and-culture/arts-house/Pages/arts-house.aspx>

¹⁴ <https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/arts-and-culture/signal/Pages/signal.aspx>

¹⁵ <https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/arts-and-culture/artplay/Pages/ArtPlay.aspx>

¹⁶ <https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/about-council/governance-transparency/Pages/grants-and-sponsorships.aspx>

¹⁷ <https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/pages/social-media.aspx>

¹⁸ <https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/news-and-media/pages/news-and-media.aspx>