

Creative Yarra and Engage Yarra 2022-2023

CREATIVE YARRA: RECOMMENDED APPLICATIONS

CEY-014: **Liquid Architecture**

MONO-POLY: Liquid Architecture's monthly experiments at Collingwood Yards

Project Description: We request ongoing City of Yarra support for MONO-POLY, Liquid Architecture's monthly platform for experiments, performance and hospitality. Year-round, on the first Thursday of each month, we stage sonic, filmic, poetic and performative works in and around Collingwood Yards. Each event features a cohort of artists from divergent generations, disciplines and backgrounds, over 50 per year, selected for their originality and uncompromising distinctiveness. With these artists, and neighbourhood partners, we blend and stretch the possibilities of presentation, offering critical spaces for communities to come together and share the experience of experimental work.

Recommendation: \$20,000.00

Panel Comments: Exciting initiative to establish a routine of regular events at Collingwood Yards. Funds are principally invested in artists' fees and the project clearly demonstrates how it will benefit its communities of artists and audiences, while activating the local fabric of partner venues. Strong focus on experimental creativity from a strong base and diverse well-respected artists.

CEY-015: **Abbotsford Convent Foundation**

The Independents Series

Project Description: In 2022-2023 Abbotsford Convent Foundation (ACF) will deliver a multi-arts, artist-led, celebration of Melbourne's genre-bending and unique cultural scene, reconnecting artists with the audiences of the Yarra community. Through the Series we will provide vital support for diverse independent artists, collectives, curators and producers, at a pivotal moment in their career as we traverse the impacts of the pandemic. And through this collaboration with artists, our incredible indoor and outdoor spaces will be activated by experimental and artist-driven works that provide an enriching experience for Yarra's diverse communities.

Recommendation: \$20,000.00

Panel Comments: Proposed initiative directly invests in artists, some with existing audiences already established at/by the Convent. The range of artists supported is extremely diverse and the events proposed offer solid opportunities to engage a rich array of communities. Budget seems reasonable and the benefits for both artists and audiences are evident.

CEY-037: **The Boite (VIC) INC**

The Portfolio Project

Project Description: Centred around the City of Yarra's extensive network of music organisations, and supported by a range of fitting partnerships, this program will run in 4 activity streams. PASSPORT will provide musicians with targeted professional development and the resources required to develop a full suite of marketing materials. Altogether, these efforts will assist at least 36 artists each year to develop the capabilities they need to access opportunities in an industry that still needs much diversification before it can call itself truly inclusive.

Recommendation: \$20,000.00

Panel Comments: The project strongly meets the criteria of professional development and growth for emerging musicians. Strong application that focuses on professional development for emerging, diverse and underrepresented musicians which will support and grow opportunities for creatives in City of Yarra. Venues confirmed and a great opportunity for audiences in Yarra. Excellent budget with strong ticketing and support. Accessible and engaging program.

CEY-039: Contemporary Sculpture Association Inc

Exhibition and Residencies Program

Project Description: This proposal seeks funding to facilitate and support for a project with 3 distinct elements for 2 years:

2022/2023 Jan- Feb Summer Artist Residency Partnered with Arts Access Victoria

“Sculpture Now “October 2021/2022 – Relaunch and rebranding

2022/2023 July- Aug Open Call Artist Winter Residency

Recommendation: \$20,000.00

Panel Comments: Strong, inclusive project design not solely focusing on one aspect of inclusivity - disability, but aims for a level playing field in which disability artists are offered equal opportunities. Provides opportunities for artists to develop and engage. The organisation has the capacity and the potential to really develop and this proposal is ambitious and refreshing to see.

CEY-050: Polyglot Theatre

Polyglot Theatre: Generating Access

Project Description: Generating Access is a two-year creative capacity program that will deliver greater access and inclusion in Polyglot’s artistic practice to benefit both artists and audiences in the City of Yarra.

Through Generating Access, Polyglot will develop a highly focussed area of specialisation in theatre for children with disability within our local Yarra community. We have begun this work through our accessible season of one of Polyglot’s most loved projects Paper Planet at Abbotsford Convent, supported by City of Yarra project funding. Creative Yarra transforms this production into a springboard towards greater access and inclusion in all of our creative output, enabling us to share the potential of disability-led work in consultation and collaboration with our local community.

Recommendation: \$20,000.00

Panel Comments: Strong application, with a clear rationale and support from other organisations, focused on ensuring access for children with a disability with theatre development, professional development and deep engagement. Project tackles a very unique gap, with the capacity to deliver an accessible and creative program and open up future possibilities. The training of artists to work meaningfully in disabled spaces is essential, and not often funded. The project plan and timeline demonstrates its milestones with clarity and Yarra would benefit from supporting a project that has immense benefit to our younger members of the community.

CEY-031: SEVENTH Gallery

SEVENTH Community Access & Studio Residency Program

Project Description: SEVENTH is seeking funding to deliver a new Community Access and Studio Residency Program. This program will play a key role in establishing SEVENTH at our new site in Richmond, connecting us with local communities and building long lasting collaborative relationships

with community groups. The inaugural Community Access and Studio Residency Program, delivered across 2022-2024, will become a central pillar of SEVENTH's operating model at our new site.

Recommendation: \$20,000.00

Panel Comments: A strong application that addresses the needs of one of the few remaining ARI's in Melbourne. Clear argument for support to establish the gallery in a new venue. Good use of outreach and engagement as a way to assert its presence, supporting many local artists. Gallery has a strong track record and accessible curatorial policy.

CEY-066: un Projects

un Projects: art, text and talks

Project Description: Over the next two years, un Projects will focus on developing our existing publication projects with the aim of supporting arts writing, editorial excellence, supporting the local independent arts and finding new audiences within the broader community. un Magazine is our flagship biannual arts publication, a 112-page journal that features essays, interviews and artist works. Each year an editor is appointed to produce two issues, ensuring that each volume of the magazine is responsive and reflective of the local sector, as well as being a standalone editorially driven work.

Recommendation: \$15,000.00

Panel Comments: The funds would provide the stability needed to continue to deliver this excellent publication in professional conditions. Thoughtful print and online journal encouraging independent thought and creative expression. Strong vision for the future. Rotating editors a great opportunity to be inclusive and tackle relevant themes as they are identified. Very well considered budget, funding from multiple streams and contingency plans. Important work, and well supported by the community and arts ecology.

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ENGAGE YARRA: RECOMMENDED APPLICATIONS

CEY-004: **Dancehouse**

Dancehousing

Project Description: Dancehousing brings distinct communities together — often without formal structures or studios — creating shared spaces and an annual calendar of 12 public events, 48 micro-commissions supporting over 150 community members and over 1000 non-artists attending their events. This project is self-determined by six different dance cultures in 2022 and seven different dance cultures in 2023. The Dancehousing communities will work with Dancehouse to employ a community producer for Dancehousing.

Recommendation: \$20,000.00

Panel Comments: Project meets all the criteria for this stream of funding and responds to the needs of a diverse and under-represented community of practitioners. Proven self-organised dance groups across multiple community groups. Great to see so many communities having a place to engage people in dance with shared activities and outcomes.

CEY-019: **All The Queens Men Incorporated (Auspiced by Auspicious Arts Projects Inc.)**

LGBTIQ+ Elders Dance Club + Rainbow Families Dance Club 2022-2023

Project Description: For the last five years, ATQM has distinctively presented a dynamic body of work supporting the health and wellbeing of older Victorian communities, specifically older LGBTIQ+ people. Since 2017, ATQM has presented LGBTIQ+ Elders Dance Club in the City of Yarra, offering this community a free monthly social dance event that celebrates the social, cultural and recreational rights of older LGBTIQ+ people (55+).

Recommendation: \$20,000.00

Panel Comments: Funding allows to consolidate what has been achieved and build on additional grants secured. The new family initiative is strategic and timely. Budget is realistic and delivers a lot with little. Strong application that expands a strong foundation into new areas to incorporate families with strong benefits for the community and across generations.

CEY-021: **Drummond Street Services**

RYMS - Real Youth Music Studios

Project Description: Real Youth Music Studios (RYMS) is a free music and dance program for young people aged between 8 and 13 from the Collingwood and Fitzroy public housing estates. The program offers mentoring support for young people to build protective factors and resilience through skills development in electronic beat-making, lyric writing, recording, DJ-ing, dance, and connects them to performance opportunities.

Recommendation: \$20,000.00

Panel Comments: Strong application. Proven success seeking funding continuance and to re-engage and progress opportunities post-lockdown. Organisation specifically focuses on Middle Years cohort who can be under serviced in programming and coincides with interest in music emerges. Mentoring a strong approach with performance opportunities.

CEY-032: **Make it up Club Inc.**

MIUC 2022/2023 concert series

Project Description: Make it up Club (MIUC) is an artist-run and curated, avant garde and experimental improvised music and sound art concert series: the only regular event in Melbourne exclusively dedicated to presenting freely improvised music. Now 23 years old, it is the longest running series of its kind in the southern hemisphere. The 2022-23 MIUC series will comprise 100 concerts held on Tuesday nights (with a two week break at the end of each year) including our 24th and 25th Birthday Festivals in January 2022 and 2023. Each week comprises three to four sets of improvised, avant-garde, and experimental sound-making by a mixture of soloists, small and large groups, existing and new collaborators, local, (restrictions willing) interstate, and international performers.

Recommendation: \$20,000.00

Panel Comments: Direct investment in experimental music, its audiences and its musicians at a time when art genres like this are hardly commercially viable and may not survive without public funding. Well established and unique performers in experimental music with long history in City of Yarra. Range of events over the course of the year. All funding would be used for artist fees across 50 concerts, directly benefiting creatives. Large support network already established, accessible and well curated program. 100% essential part of the local musical ecosystem.

CEY-051: **Kids' Own Publishing**

Kids' Own Languages: Yarra

Project Description: Kids' Own Languages: Yarra is a bilingual/multilingual publishing program in which small groups of parents/carers and children under 5 years based in the City of Yarra are the authors and illustrators of culturally and geographically relevant children's picture storybooks in languages, other than English, that families use, alongside English. We aspire to co-create books that will support reading for pleasure for families and young children. The content for the books will be led by the parents/carers, drawing on their unique position as holders of family, cultural and linguistic knowledge. The subject matter and genre of the books will be decided upon by the participant group and local artists who guide parents/carers and their children in creative activities to produce the illustrations.

Recommendation: \$15,000.00

Panel Comments: Project responds to an urgent need for building literacy and knowledge transfer through written stories in languages of marginalised communities. Supporting a multi-lingual program for children aged under 5, with confirmed venues in Yarra, and diverse staff to lead the project. Well supported with proven track record of success in this area, and providing meaningful support to Yarra families. Presents an opportunity to develop multi-lingual books by the CALD community for the CALD community. These resources (and the process undertaken to produce these picture story books) will have far reaching positive effects, especially with the culturally diverse Yarra community.
