

# 2023 Annual Grant Recommendations

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## Community Strengthening Stream

AG23-086: **North Richmond Community Health Limited**

*United Cooking Group*

**Project Description:** United Cooking group is a resident led project on the Richmond housing estate supported by North Richmond Community Health. The project sits under the Yarra public housing mental health project. The group encourages intercultural connection and sharing of cultural food, spices, and recipes. The group gathers every Wednesday 12 to 2 pm at the Salvation Army in Lennox St, Richmond to cook, and learn about ingredients and spices that are key in different cultural cuisines. Each week someone volunteers or is nominated by the group to cook a dish dear to their heart or an easy quick healthy meal, cooks are residents of Richmond and staff of NRCH. The project started with a small grant within the healthy communities program and so far, we have engaged up to 40 people. People are keen to keep and grow the cooking group as they have been positive feedback and engagement.

List of meals cooked so far:

- 1- Somali Lentil soup
- 2- Jollof rice (west African dish)
- 3- Sudanese lamb Molokhia soup
- 4- Vegetarian spring rolls
- 5- Somali Rice and Veggie curry
- 6- Tuna pasta
- 7- Segawat (spicy beef cubes) with Injera (Ethiopian food)

What we achieved so far-

- Group has been going for 6 weeks
- People have been asking for more sessions
- People are asking for recipes and when we serve the food from the caravan in the afternoon, we have residents come up to taste the food and ask if they can pay.
- Some of the backgrounds of the people involved in the group include Somali, Vietnamese, Ethiopian, Chinese and Hakka, Sudanese, and South Sudanese. The age range is from 25 to 80.

**Total Project Cost:** \$7389.00

**Amount Requested:** \$8000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$7000.00

**Recommendation:** \$3,500.00

**Panel Comments:** Cooking and food is a great way to break down social and cultural barriers and bring the community together.

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**AG23-062: AUST-CHINA WRITER'S ASSOCIATION**

*Publish a book titled as "The Story of Yarra"*

**Project Description:** The project is to strengthen the multiculturalism of the Yarra community with following steps:

1. In Nov 2022, we will organize a book club to introduce published articles written by the members to enhance the writing skills for the members;
2. In Dec. 2022, we will invite experts from Yarra City Council to introduce the History of Yarra;
3. In Jan. 2023, we will hold another book club meeting to help members to exchange writing thoughts and experiences to broaden the minds of members and improve their writing skills from different perspectives.
4. In March 2023, we will collect written works for "The story of Yarra" from the members for proofreading, editing, printing and publishing.
5. In June 2023, we will invite officials from Yarra Council to attend a new book launch to be held at a Yarra City venue to celebrate the achievement supported by Yarra community.

**Total Project Cost:** \$5000.00

**Amount Requested:** \$4000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$4000.00

**Recommendation:** \$4,000.00

**Panel Comments:** This project is well thought out and aligns well with the program objectives of strong community participation.

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**AG23-058: Fitzroy Somali Women's Group (Auspiced by Fitzroy Learning Network)**

*Community strengthening and social support for Somali women and their families living in Fitzroy*

**Project Description:** We propose to hold a range of social events and community celebrations where Somali women and their children can get to know each other, form networks and friendships, relax and enjoy each other's company, share food, spend time in the outdoors and celebrate the two main Muslim festivals of Eid Al Fitri and Eid Al Adha. Social activities will include regular, informal get-togethers at Atherton Gardens to share food, BBQs in local parks and possibly outings for children to adventure playgrounds and bus excursions to see other parts of Melbourne.

**Total Project Cost:** \$12414.00

**Amount Requested:** \$4000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$4000.00

**Recommendation:** \$4,000.00

**Panel Comments:** The panel liked the idea of the participants who are organising the activities learning new skills and building on connections and confidence.

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**AG23-050: Melbourne Committee of Chinese Literature Inc.**

*Essay Contest in both English and Chinese 2023*

**Project Description:** Main activities: We organise Yarra residents to write story and article essays in English and Chinese. We start from the foundation to become a large group of bilingual writers. At any time we should love life and Australia and improve the quality of life.

1. Based on the English and Chinese essay soliciting in the Yarra Library and the Fitzroy local family, we expanded our membership for the all Yarra residents in bilingual writing activities.
2. The preparation for the second edition of Australian Chinese writing has already begun. Although the epidemic has affected Victoria, it has made great achievements in epidemic prevention and control recently.
3. Before we registered, the first Chinese writing soliciting activity was held in cooperation with Yarra Chinese Mini Fiction Association, The North Richmond Chinese Elderly Friendship Association, the Fitzroy Chinese Federation for the Elderly and other communities, so as to further serve Yarra's community with writing in the future.

**Total Project Cost:** \$18576.00

**Amount Requested:** \$4000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$4000.00

**Recommendation:** \$3,000.00

**Panel Comments:** A great initiative to enhance and retain Chinese literature and culture.

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**AG23-209: Richmond Vietnamese Church of Christ**

*Community Walking Group*

**Project Description:** This project aims to gather a group of people together who have all struggled in the past years of isolation. We want people to get back on their feet both physically and mentally again. Providing support and people of talk to.

We will go on walks around the neighborhood weekly while talking, meeting and catching up with one another. Throughout the pandemic, a lot of us have become more inactive and physically weaker doing day to day activities. This program would encourage us to start thinking about our physical health again with the support of one another, knowing that we were all in the same boat and that we can journey in this rejuvenation together. Walking around the area with one another can also boost our mental health because we are outside closer to nature whilst socializing with others which will encourage us to persist in this lifestyle. A seemingly small routine such as weekly walks can have tremendous effects on our everyday life, making us more productive and joyful.

**Total Project Cost:** \$3655.00

**Amount Requested:** \$4000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$4000.00

**Recommendation:** \$1,000.00

**Panel Comments:** Walking and talking is great for wellbeing, bringing people together, not asking for much funding, happy to support.

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**AG23-027: Serbian Pensioners Group Fitzroy**

*Strengthening Serbian Seniors*

**Project Description:** We meet once a week for social and educational activities. Meals are provided weekly and the community members can gather to discuss the news of the day. We cook and serve our own meals - there are traditional dishes such as chicken soup and cabbage rolls. We also like to provide speakers to inform and educate members of the Serbian community. We celebrate special anniversaries and national days, with singing and performances. We also travel once a year as a group by bus to the countryside. The community are very happy in the new premises at North Fitzroy Library and appreciate Council's continued support.

**Total Project Cost:** \$15570.00

**Amount Requested:** \$4000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$3500.00

**Recommendation:** \$4,000.00

**Panel Comments:** It's encouraging to see this group has grown and remained strong to support the senior Serbian community.

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**AG23-035: Afghan and Iranian Women's Group in the City of Yarra (Auspiced by Fitzroy Learning Network)**

*Social and cultural activities for Afghan and Iranian women living in the City of Yarra*

**Project Description:** The group plans to hold the following activities:

Social get togethers, to be held at 125 Napier Street . Meetings to be held every week/fortnight.

Excursions: These could comprise: a trip to Dandenong to visit the markets and Afghan shops, excursions to the Dandenongs to go cherry-picking, and to the Melbourne Flower Show; and possibly one other excursion if funds permit

Creative activities such as embroidery, sewing and knitting, held at weekly meetings

Three celebrations: <sup>[1]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub> Nowruz (Afghan-Persian New Year) - Eid Al Fitri, end of Ramadan<sup>[1]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub> Eid Al Adha, Festival of Sacrifice

**Total Project Cost:** \$12312.00

**Amount Requested:** \$4000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$4000.00

**Recommendation:** \$4,000.00

**Comments:** Application by a credible local community organisation supporting migrant women in Yarra. For a modest contribution from Yarra the organisation can facilitate regular meetings, excursions, creative activities. This is a cost-effective way to engage members and build social cohesiveness.

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**AG23-264: Chinese Good Voice (Melbourne) Inc**

*Atherton Gardens Estate Chinese Choir*

**Project Description:** Chinese Good Voice (Melbourne) provides Chinese-born residents at Atherton Gardens Estate with the opportunity of performing in a choir. The health benefits of singing are well known and the friendships formed between the participants extend to outside the choir environment. We meet for weekly rehearsals and perform once a month at various events on the estate and at nursing homes to elderly people. The aim is to provide the opportunity for the local Chinese-born community to come together and share our love of music and singing. The purpose is to make people feel happy and connect them with the community. We intend to put on a series of performances for Yarra residents during 2022. We are performing at eight cultural events including Chinese New Year, Dragon Boat Festival, Mid Autumn Festival, Chinese National Day, Australia Day, Seniors' Week, Housing Week and Christmas.

**Total Project Cost:** \$ 24,440.00

**Amount Requested:** \$4,000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$4000.00

**Recommendation:** \$4,000.00

**Panel Comments:** A good project that meets the guidelines and is worthy of funding. Great work for the community, well done.

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## Community Support Stream

**AG23-225: Zonta Club of Melbourne on Yarra**

*Zonta Club of Melbourne on Yarra*

**Project Description:** Since 2005, Zonta Melbourne on Yarra has produced breast care cushions to support patients recovering from breast cancer surgery. The cushion is shaped like a croissant, and fits under the arm to provide comfort in the area where the surgery has taken place. The bag is worn over the shoulder to cover the drainage bag post surgery.

Quote from recipient July 2022. "... one of the women in the group was telling me that she had breast cancer a while ago and was delighted when she was given a Zonta breast cushion because she could see the care and attention that had gone into it..... she actually cried because she thought it was so lovely that women she didn't know cared so much about what she was going through, the breast cushion was a physical and an emotional aid - very comfortable, useful and cheered her up. She has kept her cushion because she is very attached to it now!" See attached photos.

Cushions are sewn and assembled by Zonta members and friends in their homes. We have been relying on donated fabric, donations from members and friends, and club fundraising activities for many years. The need for cushions has increased over the years from 50 in 2005 to over 600 in 2021, with 360 delivered so far in 2022.

This grant would provide a viable financial platform for cushion and bag production to meet this growing need. Each breast care cushion and bag costs \$8 - \$10 to produce with volunteer labour of club members. The need is 700+ cushions per year for 2023.

Cushions are mainly distributed in the City of Yarra to the following hospitals: Epworth Richmond, and Epworth Freemason's hospitals, as well as Warringal Hospital.

**Total Project Cost:** \$43100.00

**Amount Requested:** \$4000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$3000.00

**Recommendation:** \$4,000.00

**Panel Comments:** This is a great example of a great existing idea with simple support material that has a high impact in the application. This project has been run successfully before and there is strong demand due to increase in breast cancer surgeries. Budget while brief is clear and sound.

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**AG23-008: Green Karma**

*Heal with Food*

**Project Description:** Project "Heal with Food", will organise 10 health talks - one every month for a year except in January and December. The talks/discussion will be followed by dinner/lunch to show case the healing foods and demonstrate a healthy plate.

The speakers - doctors/dieticians will be provided by our partner - Doctors for Nutrition, a Health Promotion Charity in Australia that works to mainstream nutrition in prevention, management and treatment of diseases. The speakers will share their in-depth knowledge of how to use food as medicine. Every talk will address one chronic ailment and the foods that will help managing that disease and reduce the dependency on pills. We'll address top 10 chronic ailments affecting Australians such as arthritis, cancer, cardiovascular, obstructive pulmonary disease, diabetes, mental health conditions, etc.

Relevant handouts and recipe cards would be supplied.

To keep the inertia of healthy eating and using food as medicine, a facebook group will be created where more information on preventing, managing and reversing diseases would be shared and where members can share their health journeys and experiences to build a healthy community and organise regular meet ups. The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) states that 1 in 2 Australians had one or more chronic conditions and nearly 9 in 10 deaths were associated with chronic disease in 2018.

**Total Project Cost:** \$22428.00

**Amount Requested:** \$8750.00 **Minimum Required:** \$8060.00

**Recommendation:** \$8,060.00

**Panel Comments:** A good application delivering ten talks/discussions about health. Cost effective with realistic budget.

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**AG23-021: Clemente Fitzroy (Auspiced by Australian Catholic University)**

*Clemente Fitzroy*

**Project Description:** Clemente Fitzroy is a community-based program designed to empower marginalised or socially excluded members of society by re-engaging them with the community through an education in the humanities. Clemente Fitzroy sets itself apart from more traditional vocational or 'life-skills' courses that are offered to those suffering poverty or social exclusion. Clemente Fitzroy offers a pathway to think reflectively rather than reactively and, by doing so, empowers and enlightens students to engage critically with the systemic causes behind their situation in an authentic, respectful, and transformative way. This is a unique and empowering program that moves beyond simple training and into the realm of self-empowerment and improvement with lasting and life-changing effects.

Clemente Fitzroy operates under the principle that, in the words of founder Earl Shorris, 'the poor are human and that the proper celebration of their humanity is in the public world, as citizens'. The program is more than simply a gateway into further education; it aims, through the study of humanities subjects such as literature, history, philosophy, and art, to assist students in breaking out of their cycles of disadvantage and become fully participatory in the public world.

Clemente Fitzroy runs four units that run for 12 weeks each - a total of two years of study. The program is open to anyone over 18 who demonstrates a desire to learn, willingness to commit to the program, a literacy level sufficient to read a newspaper, and a degree of ongoing stability in their lives.

The program is free. Each student will be allocated a volunteer Learning Partner to aid them in their journey. Graduates, on completion of the course, receive a Certificate in Liberal Studies which can be used, if the student chooses, as a bridge into a Bachelor of Arts at ACU.

**Total Project Cost:** \$121400.00

**Amount Requested:** \$8000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$6000.00

**Recommendation:** \$8,000.00

**Panel Comments:** This is a good community program that tackles isolation of disadvantaged members of the community and has been successful in previous years. Great to see a co-contribution from ACU.

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**AG23-038: Community Free Haircuts (Auspiced by Belgium Avenue Neighbourhood House Incorporated)**

*Community Free Haircuts*

**Project Description:** We want to provide free haircuts for those experiencing disadvantage in the Yarra community, particularly those living in public housing.

Throughout 2022 we have developed partnerships with a number of programs. We attend these programs and provide free haircuts. There has been a very positive response to our haircuts program and a growing demand for the free haircuts. We are now in need of an injection of funds to grow our program and reach more people.

With this funding in 2023 we want to:

Provide free haircut for Orange Sky program organized by Yarra Libraries, 2 person, Orange Sky Project: mostly clients are man who need shave too, We calculate a little more time  $8*(1+70\%) = 13.6$  people monthly;

Provide haircuts at St Mark' site, monthly for 4 hours, 1 hairdresser mostly clients are man who need shave too, We calculate a little more time  $8*(1+70\%) = 13.6$  people monthly;

Local HR Salon provide haircut for those in need, mostly are aged, disadvantaged low income and homeless, estimate 36 haircuts monthly ;

Attend Fitzroy Food Relief event monthly to provide haircuts or distribute haircut coupons, 5 haircuts, 2 person;

Door to door service for elderly people with limited mobility ;

Provide training to those looking to learn about how to use tools for basic haircuts. In addition, unemployed people will be encouraged to do volunteer work as assistants by sweeping hair, disinfecting tools, and chatting with our guests, 5 volunteer assistance.

Yarra Libraries intend to work with Lin at several Markets, Festivals and Programs throughout the next financial year and beyond.

**Total Project Cost:** \$31706.00

**Amount Requested:** \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$10000.00

**Recommendation:** \$6,000.00

**Panel Comments:** A well prepared application for a great idea that clearly meets the stream priorities. Recommended to fund as a pilot program.

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**AG23-042: Project Respect**

*Community Connectedness: From Garden to Table*

**Project Description:** This project will create a therapeutic healing and wellbeing space for women and gender diverse people with experience in the sex industry, including experiences of trafficking for sexual exploitation. The space and activities will provide the opportunity for women to continue their healing from violence and trauma, regardless of their stage of healing. It will be a safe space for all involved to experience increased social inclusion, foster connections and build confidence. It will provide an opportunity for women to meet other women and share their similar, or different, lived experiences, and form bonds that will last well beyond the allocated times of the activities.

This will be achieved by holding regular social inclusion initiatives:

-A fortnightly therapeutic community gardening session delivered by a skilled worker from Cultivating Community, our partner organisation, to develop a welcoming, functional and therapeutic garden space.

-A monthly empowering and inclusive community lunch session that is peer-led and allows participants to

safely connect with their community and access other opportunities to participate in community life.

Women can assist in growing the food utilised in the monthly community lunch to promote a holistic approach to food, and to share in the process of cooking a tasty and nutritious meal as part of the community lunch program. This activity will also provide the opportunity to educate and build women's knowledge about gardening and sustainability.

The project will build on the current project with new engaging gardening workshops, such as the 'Making stress-relief tea' and 'Herbs Identification and Propagation' workshops piloted in 2022. The successful events received positive feedback, with participants requesting more community garden activities.

These relaxing, positive and therapeutic spaces will foster social inclusion, connection, and healing from trauma, while having a positive impact on the sustainability of our organisation and City of Yarra owned garden.

**Total Project Cost:** \$18748.44

**Amount Requested:** \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$8500.00

**Recommendation:** \$10,000.00

**Panel Comments:** A proven and worthwhile project that fits priorities to assist women and gender-diverse people.

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#### AG23-055: **The Country Women's Association of Victoria Inc Collingwood Branch**

*Collingwood - Farm to Fibre Workshops*

**Project Description:** Our project has a two-fold purpose:

1. to process the fleece of the sheep at the Collingwood Children's Farm (CCF) into yarn; and
2. to run a series of workshops at the CCF in collaboration with the Hand Weavers and Spinners Guild of Victoria (HWSG).

The CCF has donated another year of fleeces to our branch. We are excited to build on our learnings and accomplishments (we were highly commended in the Sustainable Cities Awards 2021) of the last year and reach more citizens of Yarra with our workshops in 2023.

During this year, we had to overcome some challenges. The mill that had our bale of wool informed us, after having our bale in their possession for approximately 11 months, that their carders were not able to deal with the vegetable matter content. As a result we have had to pivot and find another mill, which we have. The wool is now going to Cashmere Connections to be made into tops and then being sent to Fibre Naturally to be spun into yarn. Both businesses are run by women and are located in Victoria, so keeping as local as possible.

This year we would also like to partner with a local yarn dyer to produce some naturally dyed skeins. Work is under way to identify suitable candidates to partner with us.

The yarn will be used by our members to make projects that can be sold via our market stall or raffled. The funds we raised are donated to various charities within Yarra or are used to support our group's charitable initiatives in Yarra.

In 2022 we have run to date 2 of our 4 workshops which have been very well attended and successful. We plan to run another 4 or possibly more workshops in 2023.

**Total Project Cost:** \$11680.00

**Amount Requested:** \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$6700.00

**Recommendation:** \$10,000.00

**Panel Comments:** Great application with a sustainability lens, fitting our priorities with partnerships and assisting disadvantaged people in the community as well as supporting those requiring upskilling.

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#### AG23-070: **Oromo Community Women's Group in the City of Yarra Inc**

*Social, cultural and educational activities for Oromo women and families in the City of Yarra*

**Project Description:** The project aims to deliver a comprehensive range of activities to meet the social, cultural, information and educational needs of Oromo women and families living in the City of Yarra.

Proposed activities include:

1. Six information sessions to cover topics including women's and children's health, parenting in a cross-cultural context, mental health and children's safety .
2. Saturday social gatherings for women, fortnightly except during Ramadan
3. Craft activities such as knitting and sewing
4. An Iftar during Ramadan for the Oromo community and for members of the wider community
5. Oromo language and culture classes for young people
6. Excursions, and BBQs to be held locally

**Total Project Cost:** \$29700.00

**Amount Requested:** \$9540.00 **Minimum Required:** \$9540.00

**Recommendation:** \$9,540.00

**Panel Comments:** A worthwhile project to hold social, cultural and educational activities for Oromo women and families in the City of Yarra by a local community group.

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#### AG23-073: **Yarra Street Pastors Inc.**

*Swan Street safe street patrols*

**Project Description:** Our volunteers patrol pub/club areas on Saturday nights to provide first aid, watch over people made vulnerable by drugs or alcohol until they are recovered enough to be safe, and perform other acts to make the streets safe. An example of other activities is sweeping up broken glass on footpaths. When we first started in 2014, one of our volunteers was told by a friend at the Alfred Hospital that they had noticed a huge decline in the number of girls who had taken their shoes off in a dance venue on a Saturday night and then had to turn up at the Emergency department to be treated for cut feet. Also, we attempt to alleviate conflict by being a sympathetic voice to whom people can speak freely rather than venting their frustrations in other ways. (Sometimes the mere fact that we are watching a situation is enough to get someone to cool down.) That's a more complex task, though, and we are careful to work with police and door staff in those situations.

We hope to resume after having shut down because of covid. Initially we hope to patrol in Swan Street every second Saturday from about 10.00pm to a bit after 3.00 pm (being when most venues have shut down).

Ideally we will be recruiting with a view to more regular patrols, perhaps even resuming in Brunswick Street/Johnston Street.

Although this is a Christian organisation, it is not engaged in preaching or evangelising. If people ask us what we're doing and why we're happy to tell them and to answer any questions people have, but it is part of our operating procedure that we do not initiate any religious discussion with people.

**Total Project Cost:** \$28410.00

**Amount Requested:** \$3000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$0.00

**Recommendation:** \$3,000.00

**Panel Comments:** A clear application for a worthwhile community initiative working towards creating safer streets and a safer community.

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#### AG23-077: **Carringbush Adult Education**

*North Richmond Referral and Support Service*

**Project Description:** This project will deliver a North Richmond public housing resident-led Referral and Support Service, assisting residents in connecting to local services, programs and finding information. The service will be located on the public housing estate grounds and be available for walk-ins and appointments with multilingual support workers who are residents of the estate.

The service will be open 2 days a week, providing support with a range of issues, including form-filling, calling other services, understanding letters, or emails from services, getting connected to further support (e.g. legal, financial counselling, health, family support) and local programs for adults, families and children. The project will primarily target women of CALD background living on the Richmond public housing estate as CALD women, particularly those who are migrants and refugees, experience higher levels of disadvantage,



systemic barriers, economic and social exclusion (De Maio et al. 2017). The Referral and Support Service will provide support to migrant and refugee women who commonly experience the following barriers:

- Low levels of English language and literacy
- Low digital literacy and skills
- Lack of experience in navigating services and systems
- Complex personal circumstances that require triaging and advocacy to access supports

The service will assist with a wide range of issues, including connecting with the most appropriate and professional services, facilitating referrals and intake, form-filling, liaising with other service providers, and advocating on behalf of the individual where appropriate (e.g. getting access to an interpreter, accessing affordable payment plans).

The Referral and Support Service will increase access to support and information, increase the participant's confidence to navigate Australian services and systems, and promote inclusive service provision in Yarra through collaboration.

Empowering migrant and refugee women: Supporting and empowering women beyond five year post-settlement. (Research Report No. 38). Melbourne: Australian Institute of Family Studies.

**Total Project Cost:** \$23100.00

**Amount Requested:** \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$9000.00

**Recommendation:** \$10,000.00

**Panel Comments:** North Richmond Referral and Support Service - a very clear application for a solid project that already has good community relationships formed. Interested to see the potential future implementation at other towers!

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#### AG23-082: **Community Radio Federation**

##### *Darfur Community Radio Support*

**Project Description:** The Darfur Community Association of Australia is a 3CR member and weekly broadcast group. They produce and present 'Margin Voice' each Wednesday from 6.30-7pm. This is a unique and critically important program and platform for the Darfur community across Victoria. As a Yarra-based weekly radio show, the team at 'Margin Voice' require additional support, promotional assets and remote production hardware that the station is not able to provide. 3CR provides weekly airtime, online audio content distribution, training and resourcing support and much more, but the team at 'Margin Voice' require additional support in order to maintain and grow their vital show.

The Darfur Community Radio Support project is a modest request for mentoring, promotions support and remote production hardware. The weekly program is already of a high quality and reaches many in the Darfur community across Melbourne. The program is a combination of local news, international updates, health information, cultural presentations and other community content. However, the team needs support to develop some bespoke promotional assets; purchase remote production hardware to improve production options; be given mentoring and support to use the hardware and deliver promotions across relevant social media platforms. Unfortunately this level of support and additional equipment is beyond the means of the station.

"Margin Voice" is a Yarra-based activity, and the broadcast team are particularly interested in engaging more with their Yarra-based audience. Through the development of promotional material, this project intends to reach out to the Yarra-based audience via printed and online promotions to inform them of the show, and encourage their support and engagement with community-run media and specifically the weekly "Margin Voice" radio show.

**Total Project Cost:** \$6110.00

**Amount Requested:** \$3050.00 **Minimum Required:** \$2500.00

**Recommendation:** \$3,050.00

**Panel Comments:** A well-known group seeking funding for Darfur Community Radio support with well-defined goals and plan to achieve such.

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**AG23-083: Guide Dogs Victoria**

*Connecting people with low vision or blindness in City of Yarra*

**Project Description:** Guide Dogs Victoria (GDV) will actively engage at least 30 residents in the City of Yarra living with blindness or low vision, and their support networks. GDV will collaborate with people with low vision or blindness in the City of Yarra to develop local peer groups. These peer groups will then be supported to implement activities that increase the confidence of participants to access the wealth of social, cultural and sporting experiences offered throughout the City of Yarra.

GDV is invested in supporting people with low vision or blindness to re-engage with activities in community with the aim of building confidence, reducing social isolation, improving physical and mental health and, most of all, providing accessible and affordable opportunities to share lived experiences while pursuing their passions and interests. To this end, GDV has established a Connections Team, staffed by people with lived experience of low vision or blindness. This team aims to provide meaningful activities and services that connect people within the low vision community to each other.

This funding will enable local leaders to run activities that form the basis of the establishment of new peer groups. This project will aim to create at least three peer groups in The City of Yarra.

Activities will be determined by project participants. For example, this could include:

- parents of children in their early years with blindness or vision loss might connect by a group catch up at the Collingwood Children's Farm.
- for young adults, they might choose a walking tour through Brunswick St or Gertrude St or local community markets.
- for those in their later years, an audio described theatre performance may be the connecting experience, alternatively they may choose to meet as a group to enjoy the range of activities on offer during Senior Citizens Week.

**Total Project Cost:** \$32200.00

**Amount Requested:** \$8200.00 **Minimum Required:** \$

**Recommendation:** \$6,000.00

**Panel Comments:** Application is by a well known and credible organisation to develop three local peer groups supporting people with low vision or blindness in the City of Yarra. Budget (while brief) is sound and good to see evaluation built in.

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**AG23-087: cohealth**

*Connecting Our Communities*

**Project Description:** The 'Connecting Our Communities' project will work strategically with the African descent communities to plan and organise support social activities that build resilience, skills, confidence and support and provide healthy support socialising activities that increase the sense of belonging and pride in their place of living in Yarra. The project will provide opportunities for community members to share experiences, discuss issues and find solutions to priority local issues they identify. In addition, it will facilitate links to local services and council and build knowledge and confidence in community capacity to enable their voices to be heard and their needs considered in decisions that impact on their lives.

The project aims to provide the following:

- Fortnightly group meetings within culturally safe and supportive environments by utilising connections and partnerships with local neighbourhood houses, public housing community facilities, neighbourhood justice and other local services so (women, men and youth) can come together, connect and share their experiences, concerns and discuss common issues that are important to them so they can formulate constructive strategies to deal with it.
- Organise cultural sharing events to create awareness of diversity in the community to foster cross cultural understanding and collaboration.
- Provide intergenerational discussion sessions between respected elders and the young people for

mentoring, storytelling and traditional craft making to strengthen the relationship among youth and parents and elders to reduce Intergenerational tensions and facilitate common understanding that promote community wellbeing welfare.

- Facilitate connections between the community and their local service providers about services and programs that deal with issues that impact on their lives such as Council, Housing Office, Police, Neighbourhood Houses and Neighbourhood Justice Service and health services to discuss experiences and ventilate grievances and build mutual collaboration and understanding for ultimate co-design work and co-production

**Total Project Cost:** \$25000.00

**Amount Requested:** \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$9300.00

**Recommendation:** \$9,300.00

**Panel Comments:** A community capacity building project for Horn of Africa communities living in Yarra. Application has general though clear strategies addressing community needs.

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#### AG23-099: **Midsumma Festival Inc.**

##### *Ball*

**Project Description:** A ball, simply defined, is a celebration of house-ballroom culture drawing from the history of underground Black queer communities in New York City. Balls started in opposition to laws at the time that banned people wearing clothes associated with the opposite gender. Chosen families of queers, known as 'houses' would compete in different prize categories through the forms of voguing, dance, performance, drag and fashion. They have conceptually evolved to collectives forming all around the world, including in Australia.

In Melbourne, we have our own collectives including The House of Dévine. Midsumma Ball is a needed next step for artists and communities involved in ballroom culture in our city to come together and be elevated to larger audiences. Balls attract audiences and artists from across the LGBTIQ+ community and truly bring an intersectional lens to queer arts practice.

Similar to the work of The People of Cabaret, The House of Dévine is made up of people who have no traditional performance background or formal education. This community also does not actively participate as artists within the performing arts industry. Mike Nguyen and Mirasia are leaders in this space, both identifying as queer people of colour, and producing Midsumma Ball is a career development opportunity for their own practices. Ball is a community event bringing together First Nations, POC and LGBTIQ+ communities. A 'ball' draws on the freedom of movement, expression, and fashion to create a utopia of queer belonging.

Ball will not have houses compete, instead, it will be open for anyone to participate and to celebrate their identities. Leading up to the ball will be workshops hosted by houses externally in their own spaces/venues. Ball will be produced by Kin Francis, Mirasia and Mike Nguyen.

**Total Project Cost:** \$19358.00

**Amount Requested:** \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$8000.00

**Recommendation:** \$9,000.00

**Panel Comments:** A solid application to put on a much needed event for a marginalised group in City of Yarra. There's been a lot of talk about getting this event up and running in years past and we are so keen to see it come to fruition!

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#### AG23-102: **St Mary's House of Welcome**

##### *Connecting the Community*

**Project Description:** St Mary's House of Welcome is currently seeking funding to run a program that will connect the homeless and vulnerably-housed community with each other and our community support workers. This is especially important especially since the Covid pandemic. Because of lockdowns and public health mandates, St Mary's House of Welcome has been operating at a reduced service, the need is greater than ever for social connection. This has led to groups gathering in the streets and engaging in antisocial behaviour and congregating in large groups on footpaths and council parks and local retailers.

This program will address that need and will be based both onsite at St Mary's House of Welcome and offsite at the Carlton Gardens, if weather permits. There will be two sessions each week for 12 weeks (24 sessions in total) with up to ten clients attending each session. It is anticipated that some clients will attend every session, and some may attend fewer sessions, but there will be an average of ten per session. A picnic atmosphere will be created through the provision of food and drinks. There will be an open forum setting which will engage the clients to connect with each other while participating in fun activities. Activities will improve client's sense of self, social relationships as well as their connection to the community.

Activities undertaken during 12-week client engagement program will include:

- Sporting activities: Football, soccer, basketball
- Creative spaces: Painting, drawing, screen printing
- Games: Chess, cards, etc.
- Gardening: onsite at SMHOW courtyard and offsite

**Total Project Cost:** \$10000.00

**Amount Requested:** \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$7500.00

**Recommendation:** \$7,500.00

**Panel Comments:** A credible organisation with a project that is indeed very connected to community, running activities over twelve weeks.

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### AG23-118: **Cultivating Community**

#### *Meet and Eat Community Lunch*

**Project Description:** Meet and Eat is a weekly community lunch coordinated and facilitated by Cultivating Community in partnership with cohealth and the Fitzroy Learning Network and is held in the Fitzroy Community Food Centre at the Atherton Gardens public housing estate or the Clubhouse at FLN. The group offers opportunities to build social and health capital for participants as well as increasing understanding of the health and community services available locally. The group cook together for the first hour enabling participants to develop skills in food preparation, practice verbal and written English skills, learn meal planning skills and negotiate their contribution to the group. The second hour involves gathering to share the meal, practicing social and English skills, trying new foods, discussing topical issues and learning about local community services. Local organisations and projects are invited to discuss and promote relevant programs and events and the facilitators offer nutrition advice and information to participants. Running since 2016, the group is attended by the broader community including residents of local rooming houses as well as Fitzroy Learning Network students from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds who can extend their language skills in a real life setting. Participants take a lead and share recipes from their own cultures providing an opportunity for increasing cultural awareness and community building. The group has extended it's activities to include preparing larger scale culturally diverse feasts for community celebrations at significant times throughout the year marking events like Eid or the end of term. All are welcome with multiple levels of participation encouraged by facilitators. These types of community strengthening activities are much needed at this time as communities continue to slowly rebuild their social capital and cohesion after the disruptive impacts of Covid-19.

**Total Project Cost:** \$26040.00

**Amount Requested:** \$9800.00 **Minimum Required:** \$8800.00

**Recommendation:** \$8,000.00

**Panel Comments:** This is a strong application from an established group that identifies its targets and meets them. The diversity of accessibility is a strong point that really earmarks how they can use other elements to target growth and support building and networking for the groups.

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### AG23-138: **Girl Guides Australia Victoria**

#### *Female Leadership Workshop*

**Project Description:** Project aim : to inspire and empower women by sharing leadership experiences; to provide insights about leadership opportunities for females from different backgrounds and in different communities; to encourage women to identify and pursue leadership opportunities; provide a forum to

discuss and address the systemic issues facing women today

Project overview: Girl Guides Victoria to organise a workshop on female leadership. Girl Guides Victoria to invite inspiring female leaders as speakers to speak to community about different leadership opportunities. This will be held at Bargoonga-Nganjin,-North-Fitzroy-Library and will be open to public.

Target group: females of all ages willing to make difference

Project outcomes: more females to be involved in community activities/projects/events; more women will take up on opportunities at work and within community

**Total Project Cost:** \$2004.00

**Amount Requested:** \$1000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$600.00

**Recommendation:** \$738.00

**Panel Comments:** The proposed project is small scale but has the potential to deliver good value by increasing participation in the community by women.

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#### AG23-142: **Positive Attitude Inc**

*Refresh and sustain Positive Attitude Inc*

**Project Description:** The project is to refresh and sustain Positive Attitudes Inc:

Refresh our tools: we've been cooking for 40 years next year on hand-me-downs and second hand equipment that's getting close to unsafe, we need safer industrial grade cooking equipment and it's time for new, more durable dining implements.

Cope with high inflationary pressures and the rapid rising costs of food and transport in a post-pandemic situation: for the first time in 40 years our regular fundraising activities stopped because of Covid lockdowns so we are starting on the backfoot with these increased costs. Being able to offer lunch with security every Friday is at the core of Positive Attitude. Our group is built around this promise. So far we have used our savings, with volunteers giving additional funds to cover costs as they increase. This puts us on the backfoot for the next 12 months and at risk of intermitted, interrupted, or infrequent lunches.

The ongoing pandemic means we have increased support needs from within the group. These include assistance with covid safe transport methods or getting lunch delivered to them if they are sick, worried, or covid-positive. Some members who are very elderly and or frail because of AIDS-related comorbidities along with an increased chance of catching covid on public transport, the group would like to offer transport support to eligible persons in the group. Again, we have used our own funds to cover these costs, which is unsustainable.

Positive Attitude Inc receives gifts, donations and volunteer hours from the LGBTIQ+ communities to cover its costs and operations. In-person fundraising events have been impossible during Covid lockdowns along with the economic crisis and inflation people have had less disposable income to donate, leaving Positive Attitude in need of some assistance in the form of a Community Grant.

**Total Project Cost:** \$52740.00

**Amount Requested:** \$7000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$5000.00

**Recommendation:** \$7,000.00

**Panel Comments:** The organisation is the only one of its type in Yarra. It meets a clear need in the community. Funding will be used to purchase equipment so weekly Friday lunches can continue.

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#### AG23-161: **Solve-TAD Limited**

*Ready, Set, Ride*

**Project Description:** We are seeking funding for our new program that teaches people with a disability to confidently ride a bike. Everybody deserves the chance to ride a bike, so they can have fun and socialise with their family and friends. However, people with disabilities, have unique challenges to overcome like limited mobility, sensory difficulties, or communication/social deficiencies. Due to their unique challenges, they are unable to ride a conventional bike and require a bike custom-built to cater for physical and cognitive needs.

Solve-TAD provides custom-built Freedom Wheels bikes that enable people with disabilities to enjoy the benefits of cycling. We receive many requests from our clients to learn to cycle. The art of bike riding and balancing on a bike can be difficult for anyone. For people with disabilities, it is even more of a challenge and requires the use of custom-built bikes fitted with unique training wheels and the support of an occupational therapist. Learning the skill of balance greatly benefits people with disabilities, it improves muscle tone, fitness and long-term physical and cognitive abilities.

Participants in the program will be people with disabilities, cerebral palsy or on the Autism spectrum, stroke victims, and people with long-term illnesses. They will have purchased a custom-built bike or have been referred by an occupational therapist for cycling education.

Your donation will support six City of Yarra Residents to learn to ride a bike (one lesson per week for four weeks). Each session will consist of two hours of individual training with an occupational therapist. (\$194 per hour x 2 hours - \$388) i.e. \$1,552 per person. We have received seed funding from the Baxter Foundation of \$40,000 to develop the program. The remainder of the funding will be sourced from donations and philanthropic funding.

**Total Project Cost:** \$73080.00

**Amount Requested:** \$9312.00 **Minimum Required:** \$7760.00

**Recommendation:** \$9,312.00

**Panel Comments:** Innovative project providing opportunity for people with disabilities to ride a bike.

Organisation has experience running similar programs and there is good demonstration of need. Leverages \$40K grant from Baxter Foundation. Funding recommended.

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#### AG23-172: GR8 M8S Foundation

*Toolangi Adventure Sports Camps (TASC) to increase active participation among disadvantaged youth in Yarra City*

**Project Description:** We would like to request funding for a new year of the Toolangi Adventure Sports Camp (TASC). TASC will provide more young people aged 13-18yrs and living on the Yarra High Rise Estates (Richmond, Collingwood, Carlton & Fitzroy) with opportunities to engage in active sport, develop their skills and build strong community connections with other youth in their community. It will also provide ongoing mentorship to the participants and reduce their risk of criminal involvement.

TASC is a four-day recreational camp program, which involves visiting the idyllic bush setting of Toolangi and hosting a range of team-based activities - fostering soft skills development, sports-specific skills and broadening the experiences of young Yarra High Rise Estate residents. Participants are pooled from the youth at Blue Light Victoria's Yarra weekly after school and weekend programs. Many participants come from recently arrived immigrant or refugee backgrounds. The four day program provides uninterrupted participation, enabling deeper social learning without the regular distractions of home / city life.

TASC seeks funding to contribute to costs of 5 camps in 2023 during school holidays to engage a new set of youth participants. We were able to successfully hold camps in 2021, thanks to the funding allocated by the City of Yarra, however, due to the lack of any fundraising activities during COVID, we will need assistance again to run a new set of camps in 2023 to engage more youth.

Attendees are selected into teams according to their needs and are encouraged to develop teamworking skills throughout the camp in a series of tailored activities over the course of the program. The team-based activities centre on outdoor activities such as basketball, soccer and an Outdoors Inc. adventure-based activity, whilst also incorporating crucial life skills such as cooking, cleaning, activity planning and working in a team environment.

**Total Project Cost:** \$104088.00

**Amount Requested:** \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$6000.00

**Recommendation:** \$6,000.00

**Panel Comments:** A thorough application supporting physical activity for young people, especially at-risk, The activities and the expected delivery seem to be a good recipe to generate future community leaders that can disrupt some of the destructive cycles that are seen in vulnerable communities.

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**AG23-177: Collingwood Basketball Association**

*Community Engagement with Local public housing and the local CALD community*

**Project Description:** Collingwood Basketball Association has proactively engaged with players from local public housing and CALD communities for many years. We currently have a diverse membership with a large number of players and families participating in Club life from South Sudan. For a number of years we have employed a Community Liaison Officer (CLO) on a part time basis. However recently we have obtained funding from State and Federal Governments that allow us to employ a full time CLO until 30 June 2023. We are seeking funding to assist us to continue this work after 30 June 2023. The CLO plays a vital role at the Club and does the following;

- Visiting families in their homes to explain involvement with the club in their own language, organising events particularly focused on parents, encouraging families to attend training and games, Welcome Days and the club Presentation Day
  - Liaising with team managers and coaches to assist with communication, transport and understanding of individual player and family situations
  - Providing advice to the club and players in responding to racial discrimination from outside the club
  - Attending basketball tournaments such as Eltham and Ballarat, providing confidence to African families whose children are attending, - mentoring players and liaising with team managers and coaches
- In addition to the above, we are keen to facilitate has sensitive discussions with families about making a contribution to registration fees, regardless of size to ensure the viability of this important work.

**Total Project Cost:** \$277000.00

**Amount Requested:** \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$10000.00

**Recommendation:** \$10,000.00

**Panel Comments:** A thorough application for a worthwhile project  
Community Liaison Officers are an important part of engaging the CALD community.

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**AG23-196: The Wellington Collingwood**

*Swing in to Health - Year Two*

**Project Description:** Building on the success of the first year of "Swing in to Health", The Wellington will run a weekly dance exercise program. The program will expand to showcase additional dance styles and community cultural music. This will incorporate a bollywood style class, an african style class, and community led groups with video support. The weekly class will be scheduled to coincide with a community meal following. This will provide the opportunity to discuss healthy eating and fitness in a wholistic framework. It will also enhance socialization between community members.

**Total Project Cost:** \$20720.00

**Amount Requested:** \$16760.00 **Minimum Required:** \$8000.00

**Recommendation:** \$6,000.00

**Panel Comments:** A clearly written application seeking to conduct dance lessons and also provide a community meal.

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## Community Celebrations Stream

**AG23-158: cohealth**

*Breaking Fast and Eid Celebration*

**Project Description:** Celebrate and preserve cultural traditions in meaningful ways;  
Foster cross cultural exchanges that help to build intercultural relationships;  
Promote mutual respect, awareness and understanding of cultural diversity;  
Highlight the contribution to our State by multicultural communities.

The planned activities include inviting different speakers including religious and community leaders to talk about diversity, history and culture, sharing food and conversation children entertainment activities like jumping castle and face painting, and multiple activities such as African coffee celebration .

**Total Project Cost:** \$6858.00

**Amount Requested:** \$3000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$2900.00

**Recommendation:** \$2,900.00

**Panel Comments:** This event has been successful run in previous years and is an important way that the NRCH connects with community on the Richmond estate.

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#### AG23-113: **Melbourne Irish Festival Committee**

*St. Patrick's family Fun Day*

**Project Description:** We will organize a Sunday afternoon of Irish related activities in a city park. The Edinburgh Gardens has been used since 2006. This is an annual Festival on a Sunday afternoon near St Patrick's Day (17th March)

In 2023 this will be Sunday 26th March

Our Festival always attracts large numbers of people from all cultures. Everyone is happy to be Irish for St Patrick's Day.

The Festival will run from 12 noon to 5 pm. The activities will include a main stage where local talent in music

and dance will be displayed. The schools of Irish Dance will put on displays during the afternoon. Irish music groups such as Comhaltas will have a gig. Entry is free and families come from all over to picnic on the grass and enjoy catching up with friends and enjoying Irish culture. Activities will be organised for the children such as face painting, craft activities, music, theatre, sporting events such as team games and also fun type races. Vendors will be selling Irish type food (baked potatoes) also coffee, ice cream and cold drinks.

No alcohol will be sold. All the Irish groups will be invited to be present. Many will have their own tent or stall and will be promoting their activities, for example the Irish Families Group, Irish Language group, Irish History Circle, Irish Mothers' Group, the Home from Home Parents' Group and all the sporting clubs. The Celtic Club have a marquee and also the Irish Australian Support and Resource Bureau.

This day is especially valuable to new and smaller Irish community groups as a chance to promote themselves and build partnerships.

**Total Project Cost:** \$29200.00

**Amount Requested:** \$3000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$1500.00

**Recommendation:** \$1,500.00

**Panel Comments:** The proposal clearly outlines how the project will be delivered and how it will work towards the dual aims of bringing the Irish community together while also being a vehicle to share their culture with the broader community.

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#### AG23-068: **Melbourne Comhaltas Inc**

*Comhaltas St Patrick's Day celebrations*

**Project Description:** The aim of the project is to celebrate St Patrick's Day, a day of special cultural significance for the Irish community. This is an Irish festival but is now known and celebrated all over the world, enjoyed by many cultures. It is always on 17th March. In 2023 this will be on a Friday night. We will hire St Philip's Hall on Hoddle Street. We hope to start at 6 pm to make it easier for young families who need to go home early with children. We will finish at 10.30 so as not to interfere with the local communities' sleep time.

Our night will consist of Irish cultural activities, such as music, dancing, storytelling and poetry.

We will have activities and games for the children, prizes for the children dressed in green and prizes for children who wish to show their talents in music or dance.

We will have a nice supper and tea and coffee will be available all night. It will be a real family night, where grandparents will be partying with their grand-kids. It is a night when young and old come together to celebrate their culture and preserve the traditions.

It will be advertised widely, among many different communities who wish to share the day with the Irish.

This promotes cultural diversity and helps us to develop an enjoyment and appreciation of what different cultures have to offer. Many of the Collingwood communities join us and celebrate with us.

We are presuming that we will not be in lockdown then but If we cannot meet in person, this will have to be online.



It would not be as good but it would be possible to have a successful celebration online, as we have had to do in recent years.

**Total Project Cost:** \$5580.00

**Amount Requested:** \$1800.00 **Minimum Required:** \$800.00

**Recommendation:** \$1,800.00

**Panel Comments:** A clear and comprehensive application in support of their community celebration.

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#### AG23-071: **Oromo Community Women's Group in the City of Yarra Inc**

*Celebration of Eid Al Adha, Festival of Sacrifice*

**Project Description:** We plan to hold our successful annual Eid Al Adha celebration in the grounds of the Elizabeth Street Richmond housing estate. It will be held on a Saturday near the actual festival dates (Eid Al Adha is between 19 and 23 July) but when the weather is fine. It will run from lunchtime until late afternoon. It will be open to all the residents of the estate <sup>[SEP]</sup>plus other Yarra residents, members of the City of Yarra council, representatives from other local organisations as well as members of the Oromo community from other parts of Melbourne. It will include a BBQ lunch and a range of play activities for children, including face-painting and jumping castles.

**Total Project Cost:** \$12400.00

**Amount Requested:** \$3000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$

**Recommendation:** \$3,000.00

**Panel Comments:** A great plan for an important cultural celebration.

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#### AG23-149: **Abbotsford Primary School**

*Moon Lantern Festival 2023*

**Project Description:** As a leading bilingual primary school in Abbotsford, we partner with creative experts to create an annual Moon Lantern Festival concert that is presented to the school community and to the City of Yarra community as a whole. This concert celebrates the cultural traditions of many cultures, focusing particularly on Chinese traditions but recognises the various other different cultures that contribute to the City of Yarra community. This is done through the design of the choreography, food made by the community, and the in-class learning leading up to the performance. This grant from the City of Yarra will allow Abbotsford Primary School to develop closer links with the community in the City of Yarra at large. Abbotsford Primary School supports students who live in assisted living accommodation in the City of Yarra and this event enables Abbotsford Primary School to not only provide dance and music training to those disadvantaged students but fosters a sense of community and an opportunity for gathering. The students and their families gain respect for different cultures through participation, and intercultural understanding and capabilities in interacting with different cultures. The Moon Lantern Festival creates a sense of place within the school. The community gathers and it assists students across the Abbotsford community to develop healthy and respectful relationships amongst their student peers.

**Total Project Cost:** \$15500.00

**Amount Requested:** \$4000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$2000.00

**Recommendation:** \$2,500.00

**Panel Comments:** The proposal would appear to be a good experience for the students and also the school community.

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#### AG23-130: **Mei's Art (Mei Lan Fang's Art Chinese Beijing Opera Friendship Association) Inc**

*Celebrating Mid -Autumn Festival*

**Project Description:** We are planning to have a performance in Richmond library Theatre to celebrate Mid-Autumn Festival .and Mei's Art Anniversary. Mid-Autumn Festival is an important festival for Chinese people . It's time for family reunion. We will perform Chinese traditional culture by singing Beijing Opera .Many people living in Yarra will enjoy our performance and have a wonderful time with us.

**Total Project Cost:** \$5680.00

**Amount Requested:** \$4000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$3500.00

**Recommendation:** \$3,000.00

**Panel Comments:** A celebration such as this highlights the strength of the cultural diversity we have in Yarra.

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**AG23-143: CHEAC (Collingwood Housing Estate Arts Committee) (Auspiced by Belgium Avenue Neighbourhood House Incorporated)**

*Collingwood Gala Ball 2023*

**Project Description:** 2023 Gala Ball for residents of the Collingwood and North Richmond public housing estates and the wider community. A time to get together and celebrate with community and agencies working with local community in the area.

To celebrate and nurture the partnerships that have been formed over the years within the community residents/groups and organisations within the City of Yarra.

In 2023 we are planning to produce Gala ball in conjunction with the established community organisation METAC (Melbourne East Timorese Activity Centre) who have a track record of producing activities and events within the City of Yarra.

The activities include:

- Welcome speech by the new elected CoY mayor
- Music performances from local arts groups
- Dinner prepared and served by a local enterprise catering group
- Live music from local artists
- Dance activities led by community members

This is an affordable gala event that provides residents from all backgrounds to engage with their community in a healthy and fun way.

**Total Project Cost:** \$10975.80

**Amount Requested:** \$3000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$2800.00

**Recommendation:** \$3,000.00

**Panel Comments:** One of Yarra's premier events and this is a modest request to put on Gala Ball.

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**AG23-019: Friends of Baucau Inc**

*Celebrating Timor Leste Culture*

**Project Description:** Friends of Baucau will hold a one day family friendly event to celebrate Timorese culture - music, food, and dancing, and photographic displays, with Timorese residents of Yarra, and the Timorese diaspora in Melbourne, interested residents who have an association with Timor or who would like to develop a greater understanding and connection with local Timorese people and their culture.

The aim of the celebration is to provide an opportunity for local Timorese residents and visiting students to showcase their cultural traditions, to introduce local residents to Timorese culture and to connect and reconnect people who support Timor or who have had a connection to Timor through the Friendship group in Yarra and Darebin.

The event forms part of the Advocacy effort of Friends of Baucau in helping Australian citizens to further their interest and support of the Timorese. The photographic display will showcase the varied projects funded by Friends of Baucau that support women's empowerment, sustainable food, and teacher training scholarships. And it will further contribute to the capacity building efforts of Friends of Baucau and partner organisations.

**Total Project Cost:** \$5190.00

**Amount Requested:** \$3000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$2500.00

**Recommendation:** \$2,500.00

**Panel Comments:** A thorough application for a worthwhile project.

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## Arts Development Stream

AG23-037: **no more poetry**

*'no more poetry' 2023 Publications*

**Project Description:** 'nmp' will continue to provide a welcome and supportive space for emerging artists to write, edit, publish and perform a debut publication of original poetry or visual art. We want to continue to provide the Yarra City community with vibrant, engaging poetry and performance events to coincide with these publications. We will continue to produce bi-monthly single-author publications from emerging writers, along with a range of collaborative magazines & smaller printed ephemera.

The generous support of Yarra City Arts 2022 Grant has meant that just this year we have supported more than 60 LGBTQIA+ writers, first-nations voices and emerging artists. Most of the artists we work with have been given an opportunity to publish their work for the first time. We are passionate about continuing our support of early-career writers, with the aim to platform and expand the representation of emerging voices within the local literature market of Yarra City and beyond.

Our broader community support has rapidly grown, with more stockists for our publications both locally and internationally. We now stock our books in Sydney, Perth, NYC, Berlin, Brussels, Glasgow and all across Melbourne, allowing the reach of emerging voices to expand far beyond our initial expectations. We believe the chance to offer emerging artists with such an expansive cultural reach to be an invaluable resource to the artists themselves and the local Yarra community. Going into our third year we are more determined than ever to continue to produce exciting and experimental titles within the field of printed matter and share these with the Yarra City community at large. This year we have expanded our reach into the community by offering an Open Submission for manuscripts, which we have received over 30 submissions for to date. These submissions will coincide with a curated selection of authors.

**Total Project Cost:** \$83554.40

**Amount Requested:** \$25904.00 **Minimum Required:** \$18555.40

**Recommendation:** \$18,555.00

**Panel Comments:** Very exciting and innovative project, well planned, great organic community support, strong impact and value.

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AG23-216: **Debris Magazine**

*Debris: Issue 03*

**Project Description:** The project we are proposing is the third issue of Debris magazine, 'Complaint', guest edited by Cher Tan and Jon Tjihia. Issue 03 would involve commissioned and pitched submissions that listens to complaint and interrogates the powers and structures that shape the reception, processing and refusal of complaint.

Debris refers to remains, leftovers, scattered pieces, detritus, refuse. We adopt 'debris' as a name to reflect the stories and voices that are not traditionally heard in contemporary Australian society. When it comes to complaint, it is the stories and voices on the margins of Australian society that are least likely to be heard: First Nations, precarious workers, migrants, women, the disabled, regional and unemployed. As feminist scholar Sara Ahmed writes, "those who have the most need to complain are those who can least afford to complain".

In 2022, we believe it is the right time to consider complaint. Over the last few years, we have seen Australia meet its 'Me Too' moment. Conversation around complaint and its limits and potential has opened up in a significant way in the last year, through the work of 2021 Australian of the Year Grace Tame, and ex-parliamentary staffer Brittany Higgins. Meanwhile, 'Karen' has become a familiar figure. Facilitated by social media, this phenomenon has sparked jest, yet it also weaponizes complaint, in turn shaping the narrative of what a complaint is and how it is managed. Early 2022 saw the very public trial of Novak Djokovic, his complaint and brief detainment at the Park Hotel, at the same time the complaint of refugee residents were

ignored. Detained refugee Mehdi Ali writes that Djokovic “was a miracle for us, because before that few people came to us and asked about our current situation”, casting light on broader racial, cultural and institutional

**Total Project Cost:** \$34340.00

**Amount Requested:** \$20000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$10000.00

**Recommendation:** \$8,595.00

**Panel Comments:** Exquisite publication, well articulated project and budget . Great support for emerging and underrepresented authors. The panel suggested a lesser amount as the impact on their work will be minimal.

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#### AG23-221: Ms Carolyn Lewens

*Photosynthetic*

**Project Description:** Rivers are the lifeblood of the earth whether flowing through natural or urban environments, bringing meaningful connection to place on their downward journey to the ocean. Yarra’s waterways hold secrets to their rich history, geography and cultural identity. These important areas will be explored alongside the darker, more sobering effects of historical pollution and effects of climate-change.

This project will check out Yarra’s waterways with local environmental scientists to better understand its current state of health and underlying problems: water quality and diversity of life in the water and along riparian zones. I will engage with local environment groups: Waterwatch, Friends of Merri Creek and Yarra Riverkeepers to get a better idea on river health then hone ideas, creative processes and techniques on how best to present these findings through art

The project involves image creation using cameraless photography, a combination of cyanotype and photogram processes. My proposed artworks will show a diversity of potential lifeforms in the Merri Creek/Yarra waterways, perhaps in a melancholic mood. The works will present issues and invite people to care and act for change. Knowledge about the system’s current demise as an urban, industrial river will be evaluated with local scientists to open up ‘Green windows via Blue Thinking’ to better understand its current state before fine-tuning the visual focus around ideas of photosynthesis, the process where sunlight, biochemistry and water assist in creating life.

With key themes the decline of nature, climate change, industrialisation and pollution, I ask how much the system has become ‘denatured’ with poor water quality supporting low biodiversity and whether art can make a difference by using its potential for innovation. I will conduct walks and talks with scientists and local interested groups; run artist-talks and workshops with the outcome displaying finished works in an exhibition at Climarte Gallery.

**Total Project Cost:** \$20000.00

**Amount Requested:** \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$9000.00

**Recommendation:** \$9,000.00

**Panel Comments:** An excellent concept meeting Yarra's environmental priorities and examining the river. Brings together science and art in interesting ways. Carolyn's work has high artistic merit and is a unique take on photography.

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#### AG23-095: Ms Christine McFetridge

*Co- Extended: a series of public programs and projects.*

**Project Description:** Co– will facilitate a series of public programs and online publications exploring notions of care in the arts, titled 'Co– Extended'. Following the success of Co–'s publications, we have reflected and taken stock of how we can actively contribute to the financial, cultural, artistic and social output of our sector. Our strength lies in bringing community together and facilitating platforms for creative exchange.

Co– Extended will present new literary/visual local artistic practice, create space for online/in-person discourse for community, build new audiences, examine how we can hold safe space, and challenge modes of publishing.

Programs (2023):

- > April: Co- Discourse (in-person: Composite): Symposium about "care" in the arts. Keynote lectures: Jacina Leong & Channon Goodwin.
- > June: Co- Unfolded (online): edition of Co- that will publish the work of local artists/writers relating to care, curated by Jacina Leong. Designed by Josephine Mead.
- > August: Co- Repair (in-person: Seventh): Working group with local arts professionals that examines what needs to be repaired in our creative sector. Participants will be diverse arts-workers and past Co- contributors, which includes Amaara Raheem, Timmah Ball & Jodie Haines.
- > November: Findings from all programs published on Co- website with design work by Josephine Mead.

A debrief session will follow each program allowing critical examination of how we've connected with community. Documentation shared through the Co- website will offer digital accessibility for those unable to attend events. Audience members for in-person events will be invited by presenters—ensuring that they can present their work within a safe space. All programs will be artist-led.

Josephine Mead will update and re-design the Co- website so it has greater design functionality/accessibility (including video capability) and publish findings, artworks and transcripts from the programs. This will build a suite of free online resources for our local community and extended global communities.

**Total Project Cost:** \$6650.00

**Amount Requested:** \$5300.00 **Minimum Required:** \$5000.00

**Recommendation:** \$5,300.00

**Panel Comments:** A modest project with clear and ambitious outcomes and an excellent line up of professionals involved.

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#### AG23-211: Ms Shini Pararajasingham

*Walking the Wood 2023*

**Project Description:** Walking the Wood (2023) is a continuation of Walking the Wood 2019 ([www.walkingthewood.com](http://www.walkingthewood.com)) designed to be an annual event before Covid-19 wiped out the last two years. It was a new and vibrant Arts & Culture Experience to invigorate and draw audiences to the lower Johnston Street locale where a strong creative vibrancy exists but is hidden and un-explored. Walking the Wood 2023 will celebrate and illuminate the revival and recovery of our arts and culture offering, cementing Collingwood as a destination for audiences and visitors.

EXHIBITION OPENINGS – Backwoods / Off the Kerb / Hindsight Gallery/ Lamington Drive

Four new exhibition offerings will launch on Friday 24 November 2023 6pm – 9pm at these galleries located in the lower Johnston Street locale.

ARTISTS MARKET – Collingwood Yards

Over the weekend 25 – 26 November 2023 Walking the Wood Artists Market will be open to the public 11am – 5pm, showcasing 18 of Melbourne's vibrant creatives and makers with a variety of offerings from screen printed t-shirts, ceramic wares, textiles and accessories in the courtyard at Collingwood Yards.

STREET ART TOUR

On Saturday 25 November 2023 from 11am – 1pm Walking the Wood hosts a guided street art tour by Melbourne Street Tours of Collingwood's dynamic street art and graffiti covered lane-ways. Fittingly the tour finishes at the heritage Keith Haring mural on Johnston Street.

ARTIST TALK – Off the Kerb and Backwoods

At 2:00pm on Sunday 26 November Melbourne's prolific miniatures street artist, Tinky will give an artist talk at Off the Kerb gallery. This will be followed by an artist talk at 3:30pm by Internationally renowned photographer Tom Blachford at Backwoods gallery.

## THE AFTER PARTY – Bodriggy Brewery

Walking the Wood will culminate on Sunday 26 November from 5pm -10pm in an after-party at Bodriggy Brewery.

**Total Project Cost:** \$11714.00

**Amount Requested:** \$5468.00 **Minimum Required:** \$5000.00

**Recommendation:** \$5,468.00

**Panel Comments:** Great initiative to promote lower Johnstone Street galleries and their artists and provide further opportunities through the market. Well written and clearly articulated proposal. Strong collaboration between the partnering arts orgs. Clear and reasonable budget. Strong letters of support and paying good rates for artists as per NAVA.

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## AG23-047: **Adjadura Art**

### *Adjadura ART Exhibition*

**Project Description:** We're proposing to produce a new Augmented Reality artwork exhibition 'Adjadura ART' at Portable's office for a period of time in 2023, along with a launch event that will serve as an opportunity to engage with the local community. Given the medium and the theme, we can also explore how to leverage technology to include participants who cannot attend physically.

To promote this exhibition to new audiences, Adjadura ART is partnering with ColourSpace Gallery and Portable. ColourSpace is a certified social enterprise who helps local artists access corporate spaces, by transforming offices and shared spaces across Melbourne into galleries. They help curate artworks for clients, as well as facilitating the logistics and gallery hanging systems to make it easy for artists to bring their art into offices.

ColourSpace facilitated an introduction to Portable, who are a certified B-Corporation which seeks out opportunities to support areas of societal need through ethical design and technology. They work closely with creatives in the community to engage, interact, and learn from the unique experiences of those around them.

Portable is offering their office space at 5 Easey Street, Collingwood to host this exhibition exhibition, and will engage with their network and the local community to amplify the presence of this event.

Upon a successful Exhibition and event we plan on utilising produce media and art to create a touring immersive art experience that could find multiple venues between the partners of ColourSpace, Portable and local council throughout 2023.

**Total Project Cost:** \$18000.00

**Amount Requested:** \$9000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$

**Recommendation:** \$9,000.00

**Panel Comments:** Clearly articulated project which explores how new technology can be used for cultural preservation and its relationship to traditional practice.

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## AG23-048: **West Space**

### *West Space Community Engagement Programs 2023*

**Project Description:** In 2023, with the support of the City of Yarra and through partnership with multiple organisations, West Space will deliver a program of exhibitions in the West Space Window (WSW) and a suite of community engagement activities around our exhibition program. This will include two community days to coincide with planned group exhibitions celebrating our 30th year anniversary. These will fulfil our 2020-2024 strategic goals of connecting with three target communities: early career artists, local Yarra communities, and secondary and tertiary students.

Our community engagement programs are informed by the commissioned artists within our artistic program, and are intended to extend the themes of our exhibitions whilst connecting with new audiences. Each set of programs will be presented in partnership with peer organisations in Collingwood Yards and the

greater City of Yarra.

Running alongside, and complementing these programs, we will run a year-long suite of exhibitions in the WSW. Conceived as an accessible entry point to contemporary art for the general public, WSW is a public-facing micro gallery on the exterior of our space in Collingwood Yards. Programmed entirely through open call, WSW provides presentation opportunities to 9 early career artists across the year, offering them an exhibition in a highly visible location and support in their artwork planning and development.

Next year marks West Space's 30th anniversary. To celebrate, we are organising two group exhibitions, one involving influential practitioners from the organisation's past, as well as those representative of our new and future context in Collingwood Yards. The second will be in collaboration with Yarra Youth Centre's artists in residence program. A community day for each of these exhibitions will connect old histories with new futures, bridging the gap between the organisation's audience of artists and arts workers with local community groups with whom we are deepening our relationships.

**Total Project Cost:** \$102918.00

**Amount Requested:** \$12450.00 **Minimum Required:** \$11250.00

**Recommendation:** \$12,450.00

**Panel Comments:** Well established organisation working across multiple demographics and supporting ongoing work. Strong program of varied artists and mediums. Well articulated budget.

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#### AG23-191: **Mr Coady Green**

##### *Herring Island Piano Sonata*

**Project Description:** Renowned Melbourne composer and musicologist Professor Linda Kouvaras has written a large scale new Piano Sonata - the Herring Island Piano Sonata for piano, recorded sound and narrator - in conjunction with pianist Coady Green, sound designer Roger Alsop, head of the Boon Wurrung Foundation N'arweet Dr Carolyn Briggs AM, and Head of the Wilin Centre for Indigenous Arts and Cultural Development Tiriki Onus. The Herring Island Piano Sonata evokes a selection of Indigenous stories and landmarks within a 5km radius of the man-made Herring Island in the Yarra, not far from Melbourne's CBD. Senior Boon Wurrung elder N'arweet Dr Briggs has written beautifully moving text about a variety of Indigenous histories within this area of Melbourne, and as narrated by Tiriki Onus, these words become a contrapuntal feature of the Herring Island Piano Sonata, merging with the virtuosity of the piano. Roger Alsop's sound design is also a feature - with the soundscapes taken from the various locations. This project will see a grand piano transported onto Herring Island, and the piece performed on Herring Island's main lawn in an outdoor public concert in 2023. It will be the first time a piano has been taken onto the island, and the first time a musical event such as this has occurred there. The Herring Island Piano Sonata was commissioned with funds from Australia Council, APRA/Amcos, City of Melbourne and Creative Victoria. We propose to pair this performance with Jane Hammonds Australia Council award winning work "Songs of the Helmeted Honeyeater" for soprano saxophone, piano and recorded sound. This is another major work by a Melbourne based composer. It focuses on the story of our avifaunal emblem - the Helmeted Honeyeater - now an endangered species - and its habitat at Yellingbo Reserve.

**Total Project Cost:** \$40310.00

**Amount Requested:** \$5650.00 **Minimum Required:** \$

**Recommendation:** \$5,650.00

**Panel Comments:** This is a beautiful project with highly esteemed contributors. A well put together and articulated budget with funding also from OzCo.

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#### AG23-205: **Forest Collective**

##### *Fountain - Max Lawrence & Forest Collective for Midsumma*

**Project Description:** Celebrated City of Yarra-based alt-pop artist Max Lawrence will collaborate with the highly successful New Music ensemble Forest Collective on Fountain - a unique musical exploration of humanity's desperate need for 'fluidity' in our interactions between ourselves and the environment. Combining Lawrence's intimate vocal artistry with Forest Collective's lush classical and New Music timbres, Fountain explores our inner and outer worlds, creating a lush baroque pop sound with an experimental

edge, while expressing vulnerability as a form of resistance. Fountain creates an aqueous expression of sonic humanity, encouraging catharsis on a personal level.

For this project, Lawrence will write new songs (approx 60 minutes of music), which will be orchestrated by Forest Collective's Artistic Director Evan J Lawson. Lawrence and Forest Collective will workshop and rehearse these songs, before presenting several performances at Abbotsford Convent - located within the City of Yarra - with Lawson conducting the ensemble. Fountain builds on Lawrence, Lawson and Forest Collective's previous successful collaboration on Chlorophyll - a haunting and highly-acclaimed musical event which took place in early 2020.

**Total Project Cost:** \$80461.00

**Amount Requested:** \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$9000.00

**Recommendation:** \$9,000.00

**Panel Comments:** This is a well articulated project that is interesting in its interest in blending music genres and exploring forms of presentation. Partners have been consulted and the budget is very detailed. A company with a lot of longevity and track history of great projects including diverse abilities. Without this funding they would not be able to do this final development.

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#### AG23-060: **Composite Moving Image Agency & Media Bank**

*Composite 2023 Creative Program*

**Project Description:** Composite will collaborate with over 45 artists, curators, and guest speakers to develop and deliver overlapping programs of solo exhibitions of new work, curated screening seasons, and community events. This interrelated activity contributes to the visibility of Victorian artists working at the intersection of contemporary visual arts, media arts and film sectors, the preeminent expressive form in contemporary visual culture.

Our 2023 program will feature:

- 15 solo exhibitions;
- 12 emerging artists screening events with SEVENTH Gallery;
- 6 Anthology screenings exploring artists filmographies;
- 6 Documentary Meets screenings with key-note lectures;
- Ongoing First Nations screening program with Agency and this mob;
- 3-part international program of Australian video art with Circuit (NZ);
- 12 month Moving Image Curatorial Resident;

Artists to be presented within our 2023 program include: Amalia Lindo, Archie Barry, Trent Crawford, Allison Chhorn, Daniel Jenatsch, Sancintya Mohini Simpson, Avni Dauti & Rebecca Vaughan, Eugene Choi, Lillian Steiner, Hannah Meerman, Azza Zein, Ruth Höflich, Emile Zile, Leyla Stevens, Jaquie Shelton, Audrey Lam, & Zanny Begg. Our 2023 curatorial resident will be Xen Nhà, a documentary maker and artist with a background in creating intimate dialogues and storytelling across sound, film and text. We will also launch our new distribution collection of Australian artists' film and video.

**Total Project Cost:** \$170200.00

**Amount Requested:** \$9500.00 **Minimum Required:** \$5000.00

**Recommendation:** \$9,500.00

**Panel Comments:** Clearly articulated purpose and objectives that supports over 45 artists who work in moving image media-based disciplines. Co-funding confirmed from OzCo and CoY funds earmarked towards artist fees. Their approach and planning is strong across the board.

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#### AG23-056: **Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces Inc**

*Gertrude Glasshouse Exhibition and Audience Engagement Program 2023*

**Project Description:** This project's purpose is to provide transformative, career-building support to artists, enhance opportunities for our community to connect with their work, and to increase audience engagement with our programs. This funding will enable Gertrude Glasshouse to build on its strong reputation and expand its level of support to artists, including broadening public engagement activities with the Yarra community. Glasshouse opened in 2015. In 2021, 60,000 people experienced our street-facing exhibitions



during pandemic closures — one third of these were in Collingwood – and our digital impact expanded to over 45,000 followers. In the first half of 2022 Glasshouse attendance reached 2000 visitors — an increase of 30% on the same time period in 2019. Our dedicated audience base continues to grow in the City of Yarra.

The Glasshouse Program creates an opportunity for our studio artists to present risk-taking work – the outcome of the support they have received during their time in the Gertrude Studio Program. Providing this platform to present their work is a core responsibility of our organisation.

Eight artists are invited annually into the highly-subsidised studio program at Gertrude Contemporary through a competitive open call process. Space to conceive and create is critical for contemporary artists, especially at key moments in the development of their careers. Each studio artist is offered the opportunity and financial resources to develop a new project for Glasshouse.

This funding will directly support these presentation outcomes. The 2023 program consists of 8 artist-driven solo projects, one exhibition presenting the outcome of the Glasshouse Stonehouse Residency, and a summer program consisting of two public performance events.

Admission is always free. Local engagement is deepened through public programs including performances, talks and workshops accompanying each exhibition. Funding will go directly to artist fees, production budgets and speaker or performance fees.

**Total Project Cost:** \$164669.00

**Amount Requested:** \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$10000.00

**Recommendation:** \$10,000.00

**Panel Comments:** A strong application, with Yarra funds being used to support artist fees. Additional contributions from the organisation are confirmed.

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**AG23-188: Mr Michael Fikaris (Auspiced by Newlands and East Coburg Community Hubs Inc.)**

*Silent Army Reading Room*

**Project Description:** This project is about developing a new events program showcasing an online archive and temporary library situated in a studio warehouse open to the general public. Silent Army Storeroom is located at the rear entrance of 1-5 Perry St, under commercial lease as Everfresh Studio. The Storeroom was purpose built in 2019 as the third rendition of an event & meeting place for local artists working in the medium of comics, zines and print making. Due to the pandemic it was never launched but is now ready to be realised as Silent Army Reading Room.

I want to:

- Incorporate Silent Army as a not-for-profit company
- Produce new content of the existing archive eg. showreels and video pieces for marketing, exhibitions and social media
- Continue the Silent Army Archive database i.e documentation and online title additions
- Commence a membership drive
- Promote a series of 3 events programmed for 2023 - online & local poster/flyer runs
- Host the 3 events at the space - two launches and an archive showcase/exhibition
- Engage assistance to promote the program with a videographer, photographer & volunteers
- Produce documentation of the program

Through reading sessions, artist talks, and the production of temporary library/reading spaces, Silent Army Reading Room will document and reflect on our ongoing comic art and illustrated zines archive with the goal to provide a resonating chamber for works and practices that are little known outside of the comics community.

**Total Project Cost:** \$26580.00

**Amount Requested:** \$12000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$10000.00

**Recommendation:** \$10,000.00

**Panel Comments:** A solid and well-thought through application. The ask seems appropriate to the activity and the space feels like an interesting addition to the Yarra arts scene.

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**AG23-198: Rubiks Collective**

*A Book of Hours: a study in time and motion*

**Project Description:** New music ensemble Rubiks Collective, composer Kate Neal, visual artist/ animator Sal Cooper, choreographer Gerard Van Dyck and a trio of dancers will collaborate on the final development and premiere public presentation of 'A Book of Hours: a study in time and motion'.

Inspired by the construct of a Book of Hours (a reflective text that marks stages of the day into canonical hours with associated reflections), dancers and musicians perform live together with projected imagery to explore various frameworks of time and order (linear, elastic, relative, etc) through dance, sound and film projection.

This application will support a final development to be undertaken in early 2023 and the confirmed premiere season at Dancehouse (Carlton North) later in the year, building on previous developments undertaken in 2021 and 2022. In this final stage, the creative team will build a 50 minute work exploring the interface between live performance and the manipulation of footage created during the previous developments.

Key activities to occur during this period are as follows:

- Neal will compose and rehearse the musical score in collaboration with Rubiks and create the remaining electronic backing tracks required for the show
- Cooper will storyboard a film shoot and capture materials during the rehearsal period using stop-motion, time-lapse techniques and forced perspective illusions with the dancers and musicians. This footage will be edited and projected as part of the live theatre experience. As examples, we have been exploring composite footage that simultaneously shows bodies in normal time, slow motion and double speed, or filmed material played forwards and backwards simultaneously to create uncanny effects.
- Van Dyck will conduct the dance rehearsal process with three dancers, advise choreography of the musicians according to their instrument mobility, and manage the costume design and fabrication with costume designer Harriet Oxley.

**Total Project Cost:** \$94160.00

**Amount Requested:** \$13000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$10000.00

**Recommendation:** \$10,000.00

**Panel Comments:** A clear project with a clear and confirmed outcome and support and a highly reputed artistic team.

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**AG23-199: Weave Movement Theatre (Auspiced by Auspicious Arts Projects Inc)**

*Sense of Place*

**Project Description:** The first creative development of a new work, SENSE OF PLACE by WEAVE Movement Theatre took place in May 2022, finishing with a small showing at Dancehouse. Though it was a short time (7 days spread over a month) a large amount of creative material was generated by the 2 co-directors and Weave cast. We worked also with Lisa Greenaway, Sound artist and Kang Tang Wei, Videographer and digital artist. Zya Kane, long time associate of Weave and Janice Florence, AD of Weave will continue as co-directors together with these creatives. The 2022 showing was strong although, so early, demonstrating the strength of this material and the performers. Strong solos and group work have emerged. We wish to hold a second creative development in January 2023 at Dancehouse. They have offered us space in kind and willingness to discuss presentation opportunities there later in 2023. We will hold a small showing for feedback .

Weave artists are exploring places in our hearts, minds, memories and lived reality. We explore a sense of place, meaningful in a world where there is displacement, disorientation, migration, reaction to restriction and original inhabitants displaced from their spiritual homelands. Disabled people in our society are often seen as and are made to feel out of place, invisible, yet like all fellow humans they have places they feel deeply connected to. We saw authentic connection to, perhaps unexpected places and their stories, emerge in the first development We investigate these themes through an approach called Sensory Theatre, which uses the senses to discover story - What place does this smell evoke, this sound, this sight, this texture? The

developing narrative will be expressed in collaboratively devised movement, dance and theatre interpretations of these sensory experiences of place. Digital projections proved a strong visual element in development

**Total Project Cost:** \$17888.00

**Amount Requested:** \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$

**Recommendation:** \$10,000.00

**Panel Comments:** A company with a lot of longevity and track history of great projects including diverse abilities. Without this funding they would not be able to do this final development.

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#### AG23-219: Ms Matilda (Tilly) Glascodine-Hutchison

*Utopian Visions Course 2*

**Project Description:** In 2022 Another World Library ran Utopian Visions Course One, a free short course based on utopian theory, speculative fiction, and collective imaginings. The course focused on family abolition, queer and feminist ecology, and Ursula Le Guin's Carrier Bag Theory of Fiction approach to story telling.

In 2023 Another World Library is back with Utopian Visions Course Two, a course spanning 10 weeks focused on queer and feminist ecology, expanded notions of kinship and care, eco-feminism, First Nations environmental philosophies, post-humanism, and radical ecological stories of the future.

Together we will research and imagine socially and ecologically just futures through reading theory and fiction alongside experimental writing activities, meeting every second Tuesday night at Composite Site at Collingwood Yards, from 6-8pm.

**Total Project Cost:** \$11700.00

**Amount Requested:** \$7650.00 **Minimum Required:** \$5400.00

**Recommendation:** \$5,400.00

**Panel Comments:** This project directly considers social and ecological matters through collective exchange and writing. It was clearly articulated in its purpose and ability to be delivered.

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#### AG23-024: Ms Cher Tan

*ONLINE/OFFLINE: Notes on (Un)belonging*

**Project Description:** From January to June 2023, I will enter intensive creative development for

ONLINE/OFFLINE: Notes on (Un)belonging, my

debut full-length work of literary nonfiction. It is an experimental essay collection that centres my lived experience as a

first-generation migrant woman who has resisted a linear life narrative: as a queer, working-class, non-tertiary

educated autodidact schooled in sub-cultural settings, particularly the Punk and Do-It-Yourself subcultures across both

Asia and Australia since the 2000s.

ONLINE/OFFLINE: Notes on (Un)belonging has been a work-in-progress since 2021, a collection of ten essays about globalised identities that are always in flux. It explores concepts surrounding culture, identity, and the sociology of the internet, as well as how the existence of the internet changes how globalised citizens and migrants see ourselves. Despite the limitless nature of new media, the Australian literary landscape has yet to see many writers adequately express our personal and cultural histories connected to it, let alone one tied to globalised narratives.

The collection moves between various essayistic forms, including cultural criticism, experimental writing and memoir. From an experimental essay on the tropes surrounding the cultural signifiers of "normal" vs "weird", to an extended critique on the tensions the term "authenticity" presents, ONLINE/OFFLINE pays homage to the many fellow hyphenated artists, punks, drop-outs & rogue philosophers who came before me. Other essays include one (see Sample) on my relationship with the English language—my only language,

yet I know it within four different contexts—and another on digital piracy and intellectual property as viewed through my experiences as an autodidact growing up in authoritarian-yet-cosmopolitan Singapore. The book wishes to trouble the idea of "belonging" and unsettle tropes surrounding stark binaries, in a way that is formally playful, speaking to a generation of people who are "extremely online" and who are not beholden to conceptions of a nation-state.

**Total Project Cost:** \$30720.00

**Amount Requested:** \$17472.00 **Minimum Required:** \$10000.00

**Recommendation:** \$10,000.00

**Panel Comments:** Cher Tan is a talented creative with a unique practice and this is the perfect example of a grant fellowship. A strong artistic proposal backed up with an excellent sample of writing.

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#### AG23-036: Ms Vita Carbone

##### *Northsiders Meets*

**Project Description:** 'Northsiders Meets' is a web-based (Instagram, TikTok & Youtube) variety show hosted by northside character Sian Taylor. We will create 6 x 3-4 minute episodes where we interview Northside talents including Confidence Man, Chantelle Otten, Lucinda Price (Froomes), Mild Life, DJ C-Frim & comedian Josh Thomas.

Each episode will cut between interviews and the interlacing of segments where our hosts visit different hospitality and retail venues across the City of Yarra. Some of these spaces will include Collingwood's Hope Street Radio, Skydiver Records, Runner Up Bar, Bodriggy Brewing Company, Falcos Bakery & Carlton North's Florian.

We want to add to our original mockumentary series and create an out-of-the-box variety show titled 'Northsiders Meets'. Our aim is to entertain the audience and shine an unfiltered spotlight on the ridiculous humorous nature of our hosts, whilst showcasing the local talent and vibrant hospitality and retail scene here in the city of Yarra.

Our project will drive our local economy and shine a spotlight on local retail, and individuals in the arts, who work and perform locally. 'Northsiders Meets' is centred around creating local employment opportunities in this region and highlighting all it has to offer. We want to attract Melbournians to our community and drive our local economy.

The project will engage a production crew consisting of a cinematographer, director, camera assistant, gaffer, runner, sound engineer and editor. We will also engage with Magnetizer in Abbotsford and hire their equipment and studio. The project will be shot over four days in February, 2023, both in studio and across the local retail stores and venues we will be showcasing.

Our key demographic are millennials aged 26-41 living in the City of Melbourne. Our demographic are interested in arts, culture, music, their local community and nightlife.

**Total Project Cost:** \$20850.00

**Amount Requested:** \$9000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$5000.00

**Recommendation:** \$7,000.00

**Panel Comments:** This is a well developed proposal with clear budget and letters of support and connection to Yarra.

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## Community Arts Stream

#### AG23-166: Ms Chaco Kato

##### *Slow Art Collective Pavilion 2023*

**Project Description:** SAC will develop and present Pavilion 2023 with the Abbotsford Convent - generating a rich collaboration with young children (ages 3+), their families and carers through immersive installations that "take over" the Convent. Children inherit public spaces (e.g. galleries) and are rarely given agency to

shape them, but Pavilion 2023 will shift this dynamic, enabling children to add their own creative layers to the Convent. The project, supported by Convent investment, includes three stages: A creative development period of two weeks at the Convent, the 2-week presentation, and a project debrief to build on learnings for future collaboration with the Convent. This “take-over” occurs through artistic collaborations creating an interdisciplinary world across visual arts, craft, sound and performance as stimulus for co-authorship. The participatory nature of this work will demonstrate the power of collaboration, as adults work with children, and children work alongside artists through co-play and co-creation.

The installations will be of scale throughout the North Magdalen Laundry and Sacred Heart Courtyard which will be transformed using a DIY aesthetic to re-envision public space through the lens of a child. Key to achieving this are artist facilitators supporting visitors’ experiences, trained in line with best practice standards for working with children. Each installation features an architectural structure where children, alongside artists, immerse themselves and co-create adding to their physical surroundings. Interactive touch technologies, robotics and household lighting devices, will invite visitors to create newly imagined atmospheres that constantly evolve over the 2-week presentation period.

Having worked with multiple, well-regarded national and international arts organisations, SAC has a sophisticated understanding of the requirements of concept development, pre-production and exhibition execution. This proven track record demonstrates our ability to ensure successful delivery of this unique project.

**Total Project Cost:** \$67053.75

**Amount Requested:** \$8700.00 **Minimum Required:** \$8000.00

**Recommendation:** \$8,000.00

**Panel Comments:** It is a clearly articulated project and clear budget with investment from Abbotsford Convent. Slow Art Collective are well known and have a proven track record in these types of projects that have strong engagement.

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#### AG23-153: Ms Frances Loriente

*The Colour And Sound Of My Totem /seeded at Art Play*

**Project Description:** Imagine yourself roaming through the bush - scurrying across the red earth of the desert – climbing rocks along the shoreline. What native animal would you choose to be? A totem is a spiritual guide that an Indigenous Australian has to connect them to their Country.

Join visual artist Frances Loriente, Wiradjuri Soprano Shauntai Batzke ,Yvonne Rigney Ngarrindjeri/Kokatha dancer and guest Taungwurrung, Yorta Yorta elder Maxine Briggs to explore your totem through various art forms. Kokatha /Mirning musician Bart Willoughby .

Children are invited to join us for one or more workshops where they can develop their skills and experiment through different art forms, learn about indigenous culture sustainable practices and reconnect with their natural environment.

##### Workshop 1 - Introduction to Native Animals

Brainstorming, participants explore the idea of totems and discover the importance of animal choices,with images, word associations and colour. Together participants create a collaborative painting showcasing their totems habitat each participant adding an ‘in-print’ on the work. Participants enjoy a basic percussive sound making exploration to capture the sound of the of the animals , bush. The session will provide an introduction to dance and singing techniques.

Workshop 2 - Creation of the Animal Totem Participants development of individual totem/ musical instrument . Exploring instruments, participants learn how music, dance movements and lyric writing are defined and come together to create a magical collaborative dance, and song .

Workshop 3 - Rehearsal for Exhibition/ Performance In this workshop, lyrics, singing and instrumentation dance and music are practiced and brought together. a large sculptural totem using recycled material created to be part of the show, .

- Workshop 4 Performance and Exhibition Children will put the finishing touches on art works and prepare to showcase their collection visual art, dance, music and song for family and friends.

**Total Project Cost:** \$13970.00

**Amount Requested:** \$9950.00 **Minimum Required:** \$8900.00

**Recommendation:** \$8,900.00

**Panel Comments:** Frances is a highly competent and incredibly organised artist and workshop facilitator. Application and budget are clearly articulated. Aware of her strong connections to all of her collaborators.

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#### AG23-045: **Mr David Woods (Auspiced by Auspicious Arts Projects Inc)**

*THIS.*

**Project Description:** I would like to work on a live performance project with community members from the North Carlton estate in Princes Hill.

I have a longstanding relationship with the community on the estate through various voluntary roles at the North Carlton Railway Neighbourhood House and they are proud of their connection to me and my work on stage and in television and film.

In 2021, a core group of residents from the estate approached me to help facilitate their involvement in the authorship and performance of a theatre play that responded to issues around public housing locally and globally. This work involved devising, writing and rehearsing outputs that became a part of a large scale work that we were due to perform for Rising Festival 2021 called THIS. Despite being frustrated at the time by the rolling lockdowns and having the performances cancelled the participants felt enriched by the process of making the work and our collaboration instilled great pride in their families, friends and communities.

Since then I have been able to support two of the group, Seble Girma and Warsame Ali, in an unfunded voluntary capacity to develop their artistic careers, securing gigs, representation and work for them since our collaboration. With Seble, I helped develop a showreel, audition for television and film roles and gain representation by an artist agency and with Warsame, fundraise for him to develop a documentary about the experience of the Somali community in the Flemington tower lockdowns through Australian Plays Transform.

In partnership with the Railway House I would like to consolidate and expand this work within the community, providing performance training, career guidance, networking and creative outlets in the form of showings, gatherings and plays in the first half of 2023 and culminating in a remount of THIS. in Rising 2023.

**Total Project Cost:** \$16184.00

**Amount Requested:** \$9000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$8000.00

**Recommendation:** \$9,000.00

**Panel Comments:** Excellent project, well supported and giving meaningful collaborative experiences to participants.

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#### AG23-051: **The Social Studio**

*Cross-Stitch by The Social Studio*

**Project Description:** This project draws on the value of art and craft to promote community connection through a celebration of handmaking traditions.

This project will engage culturally and linguistically diverse artists including Archibald Prize finalist Kate Beynon, multi-award winning artist Jenna Lee, ceramicist Nabilah Nordin, fashion designer Tamara Leacock, Somali weaver Muhubo Sulieman, and jewellery maker/designer Kristy Dickinson, to revitalise and celebrate diverse craft practices.

From January to June 2023, each artist will lead a monthly community craft session which will be open to the public. During the sessions, participants will be guided by the lead artist to create individual and collaborative pieces which draw on the traditional handmaking skills of the lead artist, such as weaving, pottery and natural dying. Participants will be able to take home their individual craft pieces created during

the monthly craft sessions, while the collaborative pieces developed during each craft session will remain at The Social Studio. These collaborative pieces will then feature in an exhibition at a gallery within the Collingwood Yards (likely to be WestSpace gallery, but this is TBC) in July 2023, translating the stories and traditions behind the works into a contemporary installation and transforming understanding about the richness of contemporary craft in Australia.

This project highlights the contemporary value of traditional hand making skills across cultures and traditions - from traditional Somali weaving with Muhubo Sulieman; to embracing wonky craftwork with Singaporean/Australian sculptor Nabilah Nordin; exploring how communities of colour have created imaginative worlds through art with ethical fashion designer Tamara Leacock; to addressing ideas of mixed cultural identity and family connections with 2021 Archibald Prize finalist Kate Beynon.

**Total Project Cost:** \$45948.00

**Amount Requested:** \$8100.00 **Minimum Required:** \$

**Recommendation:** \$8,100.00

**Panel Comments:** An incredibly strong cohort of artists, with COY funds used to pay artists. Strong concept, application and budget although they should consider making the sessions free.

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#### AG23-080: **Midsumma Festival Inc.**

*Stranger Than Usual (previously Asphyxia and the HOMOSapiens)*

**Project Description:** Asphyxia and the HOMOSapiens was a work in development that received a grant from City of Yarra in 2022. Unfortunately due to artist health it was not possible to proceed with the presentation. The team is back together and looking forward to presenting this ground breaking project in 2023. Asphyxia is a queer, Deaf and disabled artist, writer, activist and public speaker. She is the author of the children's series The Grimstones, which won the APA Book Design Awards Best Designed Children's Series in 2013. Her most recent book, Future Girl (published by Allen & Unwin in 2020), is the art journal of Deaf sixteen-year-old Piper, a visual extravaganza of text, paint, collage and drawings, woven into a deeply engaging coming-of-age story set in near-future Melbourne. Deaf since the age of three, Asphyxia learnt to sign when she was eighteen. She is now a Deaf activist, raising awareness of the oppression of Deaf people, and what we can do to change this.

In 2019, Asphyxia collaborated with hearing cabaret artist Sarah Ward to create an innovative, access-embedded bilingual Auslan-English rock cabaret called The Legend of Queen Kong (presented at the 2019 Midsumma Festival). Since then, Asphyxia and Sarah Ward have developed a practise of song writing for Asphyxia, making practices embedded in the d/Deaf relationship to music, with original compositions by Asphyxia to be performed by Sarah Ward with Musical Director and access co-ordinator Bec Matthews, alongside projected visual art by Asphyxia.

The culmination of two years of work documenting sound qualities, instruments and arrangements that made music both accessible and pleasurable for d/Deaf, hard of hearing, and hearing audiences, Asphyxia along side Sarah, Bec and small band will present a 3-night concert of this new, original music during the 2023 Midsumma Festival at Abbotsford Convent.

**Total Project Cost:** \$37295.00

**Amount Requested:** \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$8000.00

**Recommendation:** \$10,000.00

**Panel Comments:** This is a strong application with a clear budget and confirmed co-funding from Midsumma, venue in Abbotsford. The panel appreciated that the application includes a consideration of the artist's health and wellbeing.

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#### AG23-186: **The Wellington Collingwood**

*Wellington Indigenous Mural*

**Project Description:** The Wellington Indigenous Mural project aims to increase representation, awareness and ownership of indigenous culture through a highly visible art display opposite the Collingwood Housing Estate. The project aims to address concerns regarding representation in Collingwood, involve indigenous residents directly in self directed art expression, and increase ownership of the area indigenous residents live in. Engaging professional artists to facilitate the project will allow an exchange of skills between

participants and artists, a mutually beneficial educational experience. The mural will be displayed on the front wall of 9-11 Vere St, Collingwood. This site will be visible from the 240 Wellington Housing Estate, and directly opposite the entrance to the proposed new public housing apartments.

**Total Project Cost:** \$19935.00

**Amount Requested:** \$19935.00 **Minimum Required:** \$12000.00

**Recommendation:** \$12,000.00

**Panel Comments:** The objectives and consultation process for this project to involved the Wellington Community are very strong. The budget is well put together and acknowledge that for a First Nations focused project budgeting for the cost of seeking expertise from Wurundjeri Elders and Yana Ngargna advisory group is an essential cost. It's a realistic budget for a mural that takes into account things often left out like permits and traffic management.

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#### AG23-090: **Melbourne Electronic Sound Studio**

*Mobile MESS at Convent Kids*

**Project Description:** Funding sought will support the delivery of 4 inclusive and accessible workshops in electronic music creation at Abbotsford Convent's Linen & Community Rooms venue. MESS have designed outreach workshops specifically for children and families which were piloted at Abbotsford Convent in November 2021 as part of the Convent's popular Convent Kids program which attracts over 7200+ children and families each year. These workshops (partly supported by a Yarra City Community Arts 2021 grant) engaged children and young people of upper primary school age (8-12) and their parents and guardians in a hands-on exploration of electronic sound creation. All three 2021 workshops sold out, and both children and their parents relished the creativity and fun they had learning about the basic physical properties of sound and creating electronic soundscapes. Abbotsford Convent/Convent Kids are keen for MESS to return and hold 4 more workshops for their community in 2023.

In our Mobile MESS workshops, we bring synthesizers, drum machines, DIY synth-building kits and audio equipment from our studio to spaces where children of upper primary school age (8-12) become the artist-music creators, supported by their parents and guardians. Experienced MESS staff (all practising artists) guide participants in a hands-on exploration of electronic sound creation, showing participants how to use electronic musical equipment and experience a direct link between electronic music, STEM and creativity. Abbotsford Convent are again offering the venue at a subsidised rate, and also offering specialist support from the ACF Producer Marketing and Communications Manager, and subsidised venue and facilities rates, totalling over \$3000 in-kind.

**Total Project Cost:** \$17394.00

**Amount Requested:** \$5742.00 **Minimum Required:** \$5742.00

**Recommendation:** \$5,742.00

**Panel Comments:** Strong application from good operators that engage across cultural communities. Also catering to often underrepresented kids age group of upper primary.

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## **Festivals and Events Stream**

#### AG23-220: **Mr Erik Yvon**

*Erik Yvon x The Social Studio: Queer Dance Party*

**Project Description:** Designer Erik Yvon will transform Collingwood Yards into a celebration of queer joy and creativity during the 2023 Melbourne Fashion Festival in March. Presented with not-for-profit social enterprise The Social Studio, Erik Yvon's Queer Dance Party will be an arts extravaganza and fashion show in one; a safe space for Melbourne's LGBTQIA+ community and allies to gather and explore a queer utopia of fashion, performance, flower installation, dance, music and light.

The event will kick off MFF's "independent weekend" of festival programming and draw on the talents of the Collingwood Yards artistic community (including xxFlos, Centre for Projection Art, Hope St Radio) as well as engage some of Melbourne's leading queer performers including Drandogyny, The Huxleys, Scotty So and Luke George. Yvon, who is known for his vibrant, ecstatic fashion shows and diverse casts of models, will



eschew a traditional runway for this event, instead dressing roving dancers and performers in custom garments and items from his 2023 autumn-winter collection (manufactured within his studio in the City of Yarra).

Community engagement is built into the purpose and outcomes of the event: Refugee and asylum seeker members of LGBTQIA+ peer support group Many Coloured Sky will work with The Social Studio on a textile-based artwork, while the DJ lineup aims to be all-First Nations and POC-led including acts such as C.Frim, Soju Gang, Umami and Ayebatonye.

Core to the event is Yvon's mission to spread joy and elevate community, bringing together people of all identities, genders and self-expressions to celebrate the diversity and brilliance of Melbourne's queer community.

**Total Project Cost:** \$55520.00

**Amount Requested:** \$8500.00 **Minimum Required:** \$6000.00

**Recommendation:** \$8,500.00

**Panel Comments:** This is strong application that is clearly defined, has a clearly articulated budget and demonstrates strong support from partner organisations. It looks like it would be amazing and so much fun but also addressing really important issues around inclusion and opportunities.

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### **AG23-100: Collingwood Housing Estate Arts Committee (CHEAC) (Auspiced by Belgium Avenue Neighbourhood House Incorporated)**

*Harvest Festival 2023*

**Project Description:** In 2023 the Collingwood Housing Estate Arts Committee (CHEAC) will deliver its two key community celebrations - Harvest Festival and Gala Ball.

The two celebrations will be designed and delivered in partnership with housing estate residents, local agencies and partner organisations.

We will engage local people in paid roles to help with the creation and delivery of both events. The events will be a celebration of the local public housing estate communities in Richmond and Collingwood, and the varied cultures represented across both estates.

Both events will feature opening speeches by local estate resident, a dignitary from the local council and an MP

(In 2021 this included Adam Bandt, Richard Wynne and Yarra Deputy Mayor Cr Claudia Nguyen).

Aboriginal sacred fire and Welcome to Country from local Wurundjeri Elder

Performances by local estate residents including 'Yuling Chinese Choir,' 'Race-Rage Rhymes' and professional acts encouraging crowd participation. PBS DJs to play between performances. Professional sound engineer / stage manager engaged and professional equipment hired to ensure high production quality.

Arts and crafts workshops facilitated by partner agencies including Drummond Street, Stitches, Carringbush, The Wellington and CHEAC.

Stalls by local agencies and groups providing information about their services  
Food stalls (food by donation) provided by BANH Inc.'s Cultural Catering team. Includes Somali, Vietnamese, Chinese and East-Timorese cuisine.

"Conversation Pit" - a community engagement space for anyone to connect and mingle with the community

Art installations made by local artists

Stalls from local businesses in and around Collingwood, Abbotsford, and Fitzroy. These may include second-hand clothing stalls, jewellery stalls, food and tea stalls.

**Total Project Cost:** \$27220.00

**Amount Requested:** \$15000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$13000.00

**Recommendation:** \$13,000.00

**Panel Comments:** This is a unique event with a long history in the City of Yarra. CoY grant going to creative activities which are broad from PBS deejays to craft activities. It provides multiple options for the community and creatives.

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#### AG23-039: **Alphington & Fairfield Civic Association Inc. (AFCA)**

*Music From The Wetlands 2023 Festival*

**Project Description:** The project involves the planning, organisation and management of a range of activities focussed around the Yarra River Flats and Alphington Wetlands. The Festival, celebrating music, the environment and community will be held on November 19, 2023. It includes a free concert showcasing a diverse range of performers with a connection to the local community. There will be a range of interactive displays by local and community organisations such as the Darebin Parklands Association, Waterwatch and the Yarra River Keeper as part of an environmentally focussed event intended to build local knowledge, education and appreciation of the value of our wetlands.

The day will commence with a music march through the streets of Alphington to the festival site gathering local residents and friends along the way. The concert will commence with a Welcome to Country and feature professional and community performers of all ages, including bands, solo performers and choirs. Complementing the concert will be ancillary activities with a strong focus on the natural environment and the importance of the wetlands to our community such as storytelling, music workshops, children's art and craft activities etc.

Local community organisations such as the Alphington Community Centre, the Scouts, and the Alphington Branch of the CWA, together with sporting clubs and traders will be invited to provide locally sourced produce and activities. There will be a strong focus on sustainability and low waste.

A festival village will be created with temporary stages, performance spaces, activity areas and market stalls where the local community can meet and enjoy performances, activities and refreshments.

**Total Project Cost:** \$59050.00

**Amount Requested:** \$18000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$15000.00

**Recommendation:** \$15,000.00

**Panel Comments:** A strong proposal for an event that brings together a community, with a focus on music and environment. The panel especially like that it has connections to CoY's environmental priorities and that it connects with a growing residential community on the ex-AMCOR site

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#### AG23-136: **Fitzroy Learning Network (Auspiced by Fitzroy Learning Network)**

*Yarra Bandwagon GigFest*

**Project Description:** The Bandwagon GigFest is an outdoor mini stage pop-up concert series that provides paid performance opportunities for Yarra musicians under the age of 20, and enlivens public spaces with free music events. Covid robbed the current crop of upcoming musicians of 2-3 years worth of performance opportunities. When music is a young person's jam, having a performance to work towards becomes a key motivator and source of confidence building, as well as an opportunity to meet other musicians and connect with an audience. Having live music in public spaces is celebratory and connects passers-by and artists/audiences, building community.

In 2022 assisted by the City of Yarra (council arts officer Olivia Allen) we staged five concerts providing paid performance opportunities for 110 musicians/performers and free performances to audiences in public spaces. We collaborated with the Richmond High School Year 9 entrepreneurial program - those students sold their products and promoted their businesses at the events. We also collaborated with YoWo Music and The Push to present YoWo musicians at a music expo showcase event put on by The Push as part of the

Leaps & Bounds Festival.

In 2023 we plan to continue this program, staging six outdoor pop-up concert events (Feb/March/April/Sept/Oct/Nov) providing paid performance spots for 24 acts (approximately 100 young musicians). When the funding is sorted we will consult with the council, and our collaborating partners YoWo Music, The Bandwagon Ute/Stage and Fitzroy Learning Network to choose dates and sites for the events. Part of the 2023 plan is to train up a young producer from within Yarra who can take over my producer role in 2024. I have an apprentice I have begun to mentor for this role, a young woman in my Fitzroy neighbourhood.

**Total Project Cost:** \$38530.00

**Amount Requested:** \$25000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$15000.00

**Recommendation:** \$15,000.00

**Panel Comments:** This is a clever project that is beneficial to young musicians and the community from multiple perspectives and across the municipality. It will bring music to Yarra from emerging female musicians whilst also assisting to develop their careers. Appreciate the musicians have been drawn from schools from across Yarra. The application is clear and the budget reasonable to the scale of what they are seeking to achieve.

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### AG23-169: SEVENTH Gallery

*Artist\* Cinemas (\*diy, non-artists, creative folk, community campaigners, dog people, garden lovers etc)*

**Project Description:** We are seeking support to develop Artist\* Cinemas as an exciting expansion of our community program this summer. Artist\* Cinemas will be a series of film programs focused on exploring cinema as a space of social discourse, exchange and solidarity. Running from January - April 2023 guest artists and collectives will be invited to work with SEVENTH to curate a thematic, monthly program of films screened on a public cinema installed on the north facade of our gallery, facing out to our lawn and Citizens Park. The temporary cinema will also become the focus of a free program season of cultural events and interventions, talks, performances, workshops and experiences, hosted by SEVENTH and its community partners.

Artist\* Cinemas will curate screenings, events and other public and education programs around four (monthly) open-ended themes, inviting our community partners, studio artists and exhibition program artists to extend their projects and connect into the Artist\* Cinemas summer program. Please refer to our attached draft program for information on the themes we are seeking to explore.

Through our curated program of Artist\* Cinemas, and by inviting our community partners to utilise the temporary infrastructure for their own independent projects, this project aims to position cinema as an important public site of sociality, considering film history as crucial to the work of cultural memory, public discourse and urban heritage. We are interested in how these principles compliment and celebrate the adjacent Citizens Park as a vernacular space for everyday participation and cultural value. Artist\* Cinemas will overtake our lawn during the warmer months of 2023, creating a bustling hive of activity, activating our new Richmond site with exciting, accessible experiences for Yarra communities to participate in arts and culture. We aim for this program to become a fixture in Yarra's annual festival and events calendar.

**Total Project Cost:** \$53284.00

**Amount Requested:** \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$8000.00

**Recommendation:** \$10,000.00

**Panel Comments:** This is a fresh idea that could certainly help to connect seventh gallery and activate its surrounding space more strongly to the local community.

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## Climate Action Stream

AG23-101: Alphington Community Centre (Auspiced by Alphington Community Centre)

*PillowTalk*

**Project Description:** Climate action and waste awareness are daily more urgent. PillowTalk is about one discard in the waste stream - pillows - and uses a community arts approach. Given resident population (99.5K), manufacturer advice regarding pillow life (18 months-3 years), City of Yarra may deal with over 10K pillow discards per year.

The focus is workshops with two Neighbourhood Houses, and partnership building. There are huge creative possibilities to re-love pillow fabric using natural dyes and inks. Participants will learn how to care for pillows better, what to do with them when their time is up, how to upcycle their cloth, and to ask common-sense questions about manufacturer advice.

Project will:

Circulate information and best pillow care and best reuse and disposal through NC newsletters and networks.

Invite cotton pillow fabric donations through NCs.

Strip cotton pillows as necessary.

Circulate information and conduct demonstrations of eco dyeing to upcycle cotton pillow fabric at Alphington Show.

Run two workshops - at Alphington Neighbourhood Centre and Belgium Neighbourhood House, in which participants upcycle 1-2 pieces of fabric.

Create 'pillow letters' to at least one manufacturer, Ikea, requesting longer lasting pillows.

Make climate relevant dyed cloth products (volunteer NC groups).

Display upcycled work and information on best pillow care and best reuse and disposal through appropriate local venues.

The project will give limited attention to polyester fillings given time constraints.

PillowTalk activities are a starting point for advocacy. They're a fun way of learning and practicing eco-dye techniques, and a pathway to advocacy for: 1. upcycling old pillow components 2. extended producer responsibility by manufacturers. This project is envisaged as a first stage to build a platform for a further stage that would invite commissions from selected artists, build further partnerships and take a systematic approach to advocacy with manufacturers.

**Total Project Cost:** \$9947.00

**Amount Requested:** \$5000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$4700.00

**Recommendation:** \$5,000.00

**Panel Comments:**

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**AG23-053: Friends of Merri Creek Labyrinth (Auspiced by Friends of Merri Creek Incorporated)**

*Labyrinth biodiversity restoration - rehabilitation of Third Garden Bed with indigenous planting*

**Project Description:** This project builds on the successful restoration of "Bed 2" in 2022

The Merri Creek Labyrinth is located at Hewson's Hollow on the Merri Creek trail between the Quarries Park playground to the south, and the wetlands and rotunda to the north.

Weed removal, shaping, mulching and planting with indigenous flowering heath plants and grasses in Bed 1 (2021, to the east of the Labyrinth) and Bed 2 (2022, to the north of the Labyrinth) has begun the process of revegetation to re-create a biodiverse habitat in this urban natural oasis.

Our 2022 project was the second stage of a multi-year project to rehabilitate and transform the Labyrinth surrounds from mounds of fill, tipped there many years ago, which have become infested with invasive plant species, for example, Kikuyu and Pampas Lily of the Valley environmental weedy grasses.

This project application is the third stage of this ongoing collaborative project - to transform the site of Bed 3 (to the west of the Labyrinth, along the base of the escarpment - see attached Image), through site rehabilitation by weed removal, land/soil shaping, mulching and then planting on a community volunteer planting day in May 2023, to improve the ecological diversity of this area.

As with previous years' projects, planting of grasses must be deferred for 12 months, due to effects of herbicide treatments for weed control. Hence this year's project includes infill planting of 200 indigenous grasses in Bed 2 - in total, 880 indigenous flowers and grasses. (see the attached quote from Felix Botanica)

**Total Project Cost:** \$12540.00  
**Amount Requested:** \$5755.00 **Minimum Required:** \$5000.00  
**Recommendation:** \$5,755.00

**Panel Comments:**

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**AG23-164: Commune And Co Pty Ltd ta: Cirque du Soil (Auspiced by Circular Economy Victoria (CEV))**

*Circular Transitions*

**Project Description:** This project will develop and introduce a tailored circular economy educational program (Circular Transitions) targeted at food business operators as well as CDS staff and volunteers.

Our goal is to support the City of Yarra in their transition to the circular economy, by creating educated micro-communities working together towards a zero carbon footprint. This course aims to overcome knowledge barriers by building capability and applying new skills to circular economy transformations.

Participants will explore how the circular economy fosters sustainable urban systems of production, consumption, and circulation. Leveraging CDS's experience and partnerships we will train course participants to:

1. Develop a base understanding of the Circular Economy, including linear systems and their impact on climate change, circular system design principles, practices, lifecycle analysis and barriers to implementation.
2. Develop advanced practical skills to apply circular economy thinking to food systems, stakeholder engagement, assessment, measurement, reporting and value proposition development.
3. Develop and apply knowledge in community engagement, needs and opportunity assessment, waste assessment, production and consumable material evaluation, and spatial analysis. Practice implementation of solutions, overcome barriers including behavioural change, monitoring and reporting.

CDS was recently awarded a Bank Australia 2022 community grant to further support the development and publication of a Circular Hospitality Best Practice Guide which will now include a series of short video production reels featuring Yarra hospitality case studies. This will be a valuable tool to use in conjunction with our Circular Economy Transformation Education course.

Outputs:

1. Develop and launch the CDS Circular Economy Transformation Education course to CDS staff and volunteers.
2. Market and Promote the course to food business operators within the City of Yarra.
3. Educate and support food business operators to apply their new knowledge and skills to their own business as they are supported by CDS trainers and mentors.

**Total Project Cost:** \$28944.00  
**Amount Requested:** \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$8500.00  
**Recommendation:** \$10,000.00

**Panel Comments:**

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**AG23-084: YCAN. Yarra Climate Action Now**

*YCAN Communications Review*

**Project Description:** YCAN is the only generalist climate action group with a specific focus on the City of Yarra. Yarra's 2035 Vision, developed through extensive community consultation, shows that climate change is a major concern. We want to grow and strengthen community networks to work on co-ordinated and effective climate action across Yarra.

We have a core committee of 10-12 people and a mailing list of around 1,200 people.

Our vision is to establish working groups around specific issues such as electric vehicles, energy projects,

energy literacy, improving household efficiency, especially for renters. We are keen to work with Council in implementing components of the 2020-24 Climate Emergency Plan (CEP), and to encourage and support active involvement from a range of community groups in the development of the next CEP, due in 2024.

But we know that our external communications need updating and strengthening, and we don't have the expertise within our group to do this. We've talked to other organisations facing similar issues, and recognise that people with those skills need (and deserve) fair pay for their work.

We want to employ a person with a comms background to

- Collaborate with the committee to develop and implement a communications strategy based on our target audience
- Review and update the website: [ycan.com.au](http://ycan.com.au)
- Assist and train committee members to write, edit and distribute content for our website, Facebook page and other promotional material as required (such as event posters)
- Review and advise on our newsletter

We estimate these tasks would require the equivalent of 12 days' work, starting as early as possible in 2023, and spread over 2-3 months. We would advertise for someone with relevant skills, preferably living in Yarra, and preferably with an active interest in climate action.

**Total Project Cost:** \$12440.00

**Amount Requested:** \$6750.00 **Minimum Required:** \$5000.00

**Recommendation:** \$6,750.00

**Panel Comments:**

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#### AG23-147: **Cultivating Community**

*Greening Cromwell Street - Phase 2 - Embedding Green Thinking Culturally*

**Project Description:** We will build upon the current 6 months of development and mapping work over the remains of this year - pathing the way for Phase 2.

During Phase 2 we will continue to enhance the collaboration of private, public and non profit organisations led by the working group via a series of work shops, the installation of infrastructure for suitable planting and growing, the installation of Cromwell Street information and learning activities trail and passive customer waiting experiences that enhance climate knowledge and how to help concepts.

Workshops will cover ongoing topics such as Indigenous Grasses, Benefits of Wicking Beds, creating work based workable soil, insect hotels and bee accommodation.

Investment will be made into growing spaces that are now mapped - so soil, seeds, working bees and paid team work to sow and grow.

Phase 1 has identified some possible customer wait times - we would like to turn these passive waits into time to have a go at activities and will create a series of these along the street with relevant sites to develop learning and education.

Developing a trail and story along the street with key information points will also be an aspiration of Phase 2.

**Total Project Cost:** \$38076.00

**Amount Requested:** \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$6000.00

**Recommendation:** \$6,000.00

**Panel Comments:**

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#### AG23-117: **Melbourne Girls' College**

*Creating a climate for reconciliation*

**Project Description:** Melbourne Girls' College is a community committed to environmental sustainability. We have worked with various partners since 2009 to install a bush tucker garden on the banks of the Birrarung adjacent to the school that provides an opportunity for our students to connect with nature and

learn about Wurundjeri culture and connection to country. This project aims to further develop this space, improve the habitat corridor and most importantly, a self-sustaining population of bush foods for the education and use by the general public and our students. We have a well-established link with the Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation and through this project, look to extend our work of revegetation and reconciliation under the expert guidance of Wurundjeri elders and ecologists from partner organisations. In 2017, The city of Yarra funded a community partnership that saw the development of education materials for the community and MGC students, significant planting, weeding and landscaping of the area and the scarring of a Beal (red gum tree) by the Wurundjeri Narrap team under the guidance of elder Uncle Dave Wandin.

Throughout 2023 we aim to work with the education and Narrap teams from Wurundjeri along with the Australian Conservation Foundation Inner-Melbourne volunteers to further landscape and install traditional signage in the form of ring trees more interactive interpretive signage. We will engage professionals to conduct weed removal of a noxious weed species that will allow our community volunteers to get the upper hand on the weed issue and establish a clear revegetation plan. We will also be in a better position to collaborate with other community groups working in other patches along the Birrarung and share our learnings and by working collaboratively, have a greater chance of effectively removing weeds and establishing a connected biodiverse wildlife corridor.

**Total Project Cost:** \$122901.00

**Amount Requested:** \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$6000.00

**Recommendation:** \$10,000.00

**Panel Comments:**

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**AG23-029: Jaques Owners Corporation Committee (Auspiced by Finbar Neighbourhood House Inc)**

*Bee Friendly - Jaques Community Rooftop Beehives. Maximising green space biodiversity. Supporting community food production.*

**Project Description:** Pursue the following activities to support local community food production within a 5km radius:

1. Install 2 rooftop beehives on the Jaques premises. We are informed that these beehives will service local agriculture within a 5km radius. The quote received from our selected Apiarist includes 12 months maintenance, and training for those Jaques residents who wish to be trained to take over the beehive maintenance or simply learn more about the process. We already have a lot-owner/residents who have expressed enthusiastic interest in being trained to take over the management after the 12-month initiation period.
2. Install indigenous bee/bird-friendly plantings in our two courtyard gardens and all garden beds in 1 Dyer St, to support these rooftop beehives. We consider these plantings in the Dyer St nature strip a good fit with existing food planter boxes situated immediately across the road in Palmer St, as well as in the adjoining section of Murphy St.
3. Install indigenous food plantings in the same green spaces mentioned in dot point 2.
4. For educational purposes, install signage at the sites of these new plantings, listing the following:
  - Pay tribute to the Wurundjeri people.
  - Describe the landscape of Jaques prior to European settlement, including indigenous food collection practices via hunter-gatherer/agriculture methods, used to sustain the health and wellbeing of their communities and the natural environment – Care of Country.
  - List the indigenous species planted in the garden beds/courtyards and their relationship with the Bee Friendly project (based on the Care of Country principals in an urban environment).

We believe signage amongst the 1 Dyer St Garden beds would capture an additional audience of passers-by. We would very much like to work with the Wurundjeri Corporation to best promote this history through signage.

See attached aerial Project Map in "Supporting Documentation"

**Total Project Cost:** \$15160.00

**Amount Requested:** \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$7850.00

**Recommendation:** \$10,000.00

**Panel Comments:**

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AG23-014: **CLIMARTE Inc.**

*CLIMARTE Projects 2023*

**Project Description:** CLIMARTE seeks to continue its essential work in our designated gallery space where we expand on our long established model of collaborating with other organisations, groups, and individuals to harness the power of the arts to produce and present exhibitions and other public forums exploring all aspects of the Climate Emergency.

Since opening in November 2021, the CLIMARTE Gallery has produced and/or presented six participatory exhibitions addressing the interconnected and interdependent impacts of the climate crisis as well as effective easily available, justice-based solutions. In doing so, the Gallery has created a space where City of Yarra residents, as well as people visiting from other places, can contemplate and engage in critical discourse at the intersections of art, climate science and civil society. An Annual Grant in 2023 will allow us to continue as well as expand on projects presented in the CLIMARTE Gallery, and the local area.

In 2023 CLIMARTE projects will continue to advocate for a 'just transition' to a regenerative economy in response to the ecological and social impacts of the climate crisis. In doing so, the exhibitions and forums will challenge the traditional extractive and exploitative modes of operating whilst advancing understanding of and engagement with socially and ecologically sustainable models that are best and fair for all. In 2023 this will involve a larger focus on the use of the Gallery for projects that bring groups of City of Yarra residents into the space for collaborative and participatory activities. This will involve workshops, seminars and forums with creative workers and experts in the arts and climate emergency spaces. An example of such an event was the FIRE Forum held in March 2022 in association with the FIRE Exhibition.

**Total Project Cost:** \$307500.00

**Amount Requested:** \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$10000.00

**Recommendation:** \$10,000.00

**Panel Comments:**

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AG23-006: **The Rochester Community of Residents (Auspiced by CENTRE FOR EDUCATION AND RESEARCH IN ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGIES)**

*Vertical Village Sustainability at The Rochester - We Can Do It Too!*

**Project Description:** At a recent Lobby Mingle, residents of The Rochester ranked activities they would like to do as a community - sustainability activities came close to the top (after pub quiz)!

What we would like to do:

1. Scope infrastructure needed at The Rochester for Electric Vehicles (EVs), e-Bikes and mobility scooters – what is needed and how to do it.
2. Help individuals to reduce their personal carbon footprint by identifying actions, benchmarking, setting goals, and following-up on targets achieved. This would cover high mitigation potential activities (car use, type of car, air travel, energy use, choice of diet) and moderate mitigation potential activities (consumption of goods/services, waste, energy intensive household appliances).
3. Build social sustainability – activities that build a community who “cares”: garden, swap/sharing zone, car sharing, cooking low carbon meals, waste minimisation, how does our building work tour and induction for new residents, sustainability challenge, teaching sewing skills to recycle clothes.
4. Identify actions for common property – benchmarking (electricity, solar PV generation, water and waste) and identifying actions. e.g. refining waste streams at The Rochester to reduce landfill and divert organics to food production.
5. Share knowledge and experiences with other apartments, community groups and like-minded citizens through active and broad partnerships built by the project.

We will partner with Lifecycles ([www.lifecycles.com.au](http://www.lifecycles.com.au)) and RMIT on development of a national carbon calculator for households (YourCarbonChoice), using it as a benchmarking tool and providing feedback on



ease of use. This will form a conduit for our experiences to feed into a broader platform of knowledge. Our project will be a case study for other apartments, and we will share learnings through groups such as CERES, Hip v.Hype, Strata Community Association Vic, Nightingale Housing, Urban Design Forum, and the growing number of ZNET community initiatives.

**Total Project Cost:** \$31330.00

**Amount Requested:** \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$8800.00

**Recommendation:** \$10,000.00

**Panel Comments:**

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AG23-171: **Green Karma**

*Wildlife Warrior Workshop*

**Project Description:** Wildlife Warrior workshop is a 2 days workshop run during the school holidays for secondary school students. The workshop is designed to engage secondary school students in meaningful activities during their school breaks. The workshop will educate students on interconnection between species extinction, climate change, deforestation, food production and our personal choices. It will also empower students with tools they can use and actions they can take to reduce their impact on environment and play a big role in climate change mitigation. The workshop is a combination of presentations, hands-on activities, group discussions and role playing scenarios. These activities are designed to enhance their social skills and lateral thinking. A couple of guest speakers would also be invited from wildlife organisations which will expose students to such organisations, inspire them to work in environment and wildlife domain and give them insights what these organisations do. The workshop will share resources with children to deepen their knowledge in wildlife sector and guide them on how to get involved in the environment conservation.

**Total Project Cost:** \$62756.00

**Amount Requested:** \$9500.00 **Minimum Required:** \$7600.00

**Recommendation:** \$3,000.00

**Panel Comments:**

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AG23-069: **MKA Theatre of New Writing**

*1800ClimateEmergency*

**Project Description:** This project is a climate action information and networking service; connecting people in the community in order to strengthen climate actions, networks and community groups.

Participants will book in for 30 minute one-on-one interviews/chats with Tenfingerz. These will take place online and in-person at libraries around Yarra. The interview questions will establish where the participant is at in their climate action journey. For example what their experience is, what ideas they have, and whether they are looking to join a group or have a group that is looking for others to join.

Using information gathered in the interviews, Tenfingerz will match participants with other individuals, groups, and organisations whose climate action plans align with each other.

Tenfingerz will also offer advice on how to make actions most effective in terms of engaging the public, creating marketing campaigns and using technology such as live streams and film, photography and sound for campaigns.

The interviews will be followed up by an email with advice and contacts for the participant to follow up.

The aim of the project is to help alleviate climate anxiety by offering support to make taking climate action more accessible and easy.

The emotions and overwhelm that can arise from thinking about and coming to terms with the state of climate change can leave people in despair. Despair can be reduced by connecting with others and taking action on climate change. This project aims to make taking climate action as easy as possible.

A website will be created to host information on the project including an instruction manual for others to enact the 1800ClimateEmergency project in their local communities.

The project will run for three months. It will have a research stage, weekly sessions for interviews, then a project wrap up stage.

**Total Project Cost:** \$9250.00

**Amount Requested:** \$7250.00 **Minimum Required:** \$5000.00

**Recommendation:** \$7,250.00

**Panel Comments:**

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## Community Housing Stream

### AG23-033: Unison Housing

*The Park Place*

**Project Description:** Unison is committed to not only providing affordable housing but also to support the tenants in their home and community.

Unison would like to support a community tenancy program that offers further support on site with the access to brokerage funds that will sustain tenancies to prevent isolation, mental health issues and build a circle of community support.

Unison provides secure long-term self contained housing to 24 tenants at 1 Park Place, North Fitzroy, all aged over 55.

Unison is applying for the grant funding to facilitate a Tenant Lunch once a month at the property. The invitation will be open to the Unison tenants and their outreach support workers.

Each month the following food service will provide lunch:

Waverley Industries Catering - who provides employment and industry supported training for people living with a disability, creating opportunities to achieve greater independence, choice and confidence.

The HACC Support Worker will utilize the outside BBQ facilities onsite with the support of the tenants depending on the weather.

The property has a recreation room that can be utilized all year round.

We are also requesting brokerage funding for the 24 tenants for home and community care, eg. new bedding, a radio, an outdoor chair, a shower chair or incontinence management items. Additionally the tenants have different interests that they would like to pursue, however, due to living on a pension, they cannot make their vision come true. This includes things like having a vegetable garden or an art canvas and paints.

Please note, a high percentage of tenants do not ever leave their homes, and their isolation has increased during the pandemic due to limitations around supports visiting sites.

**Total Project Cost:** \$10000.00

**Amount Requested:** \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$6000.00

**Recommendation:** \$6,000.00

**Panel Comments:** The application demonstrates that the community at Park Place clearly benefits from the current lunch program and that it would be positive to the tenant's well being that this continues in the future.

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### AG23-121: Centre for Building Better Community (CBBC)

*Residents Road to Flourishing*

**Project Description:** CBBC has been approached by a number of residents residing in a Community Housing building at 150 Brunswick St, Fitzroy to help them establish a formal resident's group and to help them create an environment of community and safety where everyone can flourish.

Through engagement already undertaken with a group of community members, support could include:

- Registering and incorporating a residents group
- Regular monthly barbecues or other community building activity chosen by residents
- Regular bi-monthly formal meetings
- Arranging and supporting training sessions including:
  - Mental Health First Aid

- Naloxone Training
- First Aid Training

These sessions have been requested to enable residents the ability to deal with situations that occur with some frequency

- Running a 'Flourishing Pathways' training with residents which will teach the skills that will enable residents to continue building and developing their community after CBBC is no longer involved.
- Other community-building activities requested by the residents

**Total Project Cost:** \$53920.69

**Amount Requested:** \$36645.00 **Minimum Required:** \$12600.00

**Recommendation:** \$24,000.00

**Panel Comments:** This is a well constructed program that will improve the safety and isolation of all residents, across all ages, gender and cultural groups.

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#### AG23-031: **Unison Housing**

##### *Home Sweet Home Stability*

**Project Description:** Unison provides secure long term self contained and rooming house housing to people that are disadvantaged members of our community due to mental health and other complex issues, with many having previously experienced homelessness. Unison manage 71 x rooms and 407 x studios/units in the City of Yarra, under Patch 4 & 5.

Unison is committed to not only providing affordable housing but also to support the tenant in their home and community. Most people experiencing mental health and homelessness will require intermittent multidisciplinary support and on-site services. Unison would like to support an expansion program that offers further support during tenant crisis with the access to brokerage funds that will sustain tenancies, prevent homelessness and build a cohesive and resilient community.

Unison is applying for grant funding for when the tenant requires Home Care support such as: Pest control, room cleaning, tenant damage repairs and apartment modifications due to disability/ageing. All the tenants are living on a low income and cannot afford to fund modifications or repair tenant damage items that fall outside of landlord's responsibility. This places tenants under financial pressure, affecting all aspects of their physical and mental health. The HACC support worker would utilize grant funding to assist with alleviating these multiple pressures during such times.

**Total Project Cost:** \$15000.00

**Amount Requested:** \$15000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$8000.00

**Recommendation:** \$8,000.00

**Panel Comments:** This is a thoughtful and practical project that would provide tangible material support to maintain tenancies, as demonstrated from the data collected when the project has run previously.

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#### AG23-030: **Unison Housing**

##### *Rooming House Communities*

**Project Description:** Unison provides secure long term rooming house accommodation to:

171 -183 Hoddle St Richmond for 14 male tenants

64 Gertrude St, Fitzroy for 12 male tenants

403-405 Johnston St, Abbotsford for 8 Male Tenants

The tenants are disadvantaged members of our community, a majority due to mental health, and many of whom have previously experienced homelessness.

Unison is committed to not only providing affordable housing but also to support the tenant in their home and community. Most people experiencing mental health and homelessness will require intermittent multidisciplinary support and on-site services. Unison would like to support a community tenancy program that offers further support on site with the access to brokerage funds that will sustain tenancies to prevent homelessness and build a housing community.

Unison is applying for grant funding to facilitate a Tenant Lunch once a month for each of the three rooming houses.

The invitation will to be open to the Unison tenants and their outreach support workers.

Each month the lunches will be catered by Waverley Catering who provide employment for people living with a disability

**Total Project Cost:** \$10000.00

**Amount Requested:** \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$10000.00

**Recommendation:** \$10,000.00

**Panel Comments:** Very good application- articulates the needs of the community and also highlights the importance of coming togetherness of rooming house residents and support services.

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#### AG23-032: **Unison Housing**

*Osborne Community*

**Project Description:** Unison provides secure long term rooming house accommodation to:

38-42 Nicholson St, Fitzroy

The tenants are disadvantaged members of our community, a majority due to complex mental health issues, and many of whom have previously experienced homelessness.

Unison is committed to not only providing affordable housing but also to support the tenant in their home and community. Most people experiencing mental health and homelessness will require intermittent multidisciplinary support and on-site services. Unison would like to support a community tenancy program that offers further support on site with the access to brokerage funds that will sustain tenancies to prevent homelessness and build a housing community.

Unison is applying for grant funding to facilitate a Tenant Lunch once a month for the rooming houses. The invitation will to be open to the Unison tenants and their outreach support workers.

Each month one the Lunch will be catered by catered by Waverley Catering who provide employment to people living with a disability, creating opportunities to achieve greater independence, choice and confidence. We will also use the facilities BBQ with the assistance of the tenants.

**Total Project Cost:** \$10000.00

**Amount Requested:** \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$6000.00

**Recommendation:** \$6,000.00

**Panel Comments:** This application has clearly articulated the needs and benefits for improving the engagement, connections and physical and mental well being of rooming house residents.

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## Social Enterprise Stream

### AG23-146: Ngarrimili

#### *Young Aunties Haus Open Studio Days*

**Project Description:** Young Aunties Haus is a newly launched creative space for First Nations community in the City of Yarra. It is a collaboration between Haus of Dizzy, Gammin threads and Ngarrimili. It is a safe space for First Nations women and young people and aims to foster the next generation of creatives and entrepreneurs. We celebrate female leaders - the Matriarchs of our community and celebrate entrepreneurial and creative Blak excellence.

Young Aunties Haus Open Studio Days is a series of public facing events that will offer development and entrepreneurial opportunities to the First Nations community as well as providing opportunity for the wider community to engage in the space- including;

- Workshops for First Nations community to explore their own creative work and receive business mentoring and support from Ngarrimili. This will include support around specific creative areas of business development for eg: photoshoots of products, branding and marketing
- A platform for a rotating network of First Nations businesses to sell and promote their products and services with a focus on female and queer led businesses. This will create ongoing revenue opportunities for businesses who are still impacted by COVID.
- Interactive creative workshops for the general public to experience making their own products under the guidance of First Nations creatives.
- Events and performances that are open to the general public that celebrate Blak creative excellence and again provide income to a range of creatives and businesses impacted by COVID.

**Total Project Cost:** \$39200.00

**Amount Requested:** \$15000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$10000.00

**Recommendation:** \$11,000.00

**Panel Comments:** Strong application, and strength based approach.

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### AG23-148: Jigsaw Group (Aus) Limited

#### *Accelerating Jigsaw's growth: traineeships and job creation for people with disability in Abbotsford*

**Project Description:** This project builds on support from City of Yarra last year, when you funded two scanners and the accompanying computers to be able to create six FTE award-wage jobs and up to 18 traineeships. It is targeted at the Jigsaw Digital stage of our model, where people with disability undertake a paid traineeship with Jigsaw in our digitisation business, earning wages and continuing to develop their work skills before transitioning to a mainstream job. The business offers end-to-end document and data management services including preparation and conversion of paper records to digital files, quality control and information management of the new digital records. We are requesting support to purchase two further scanners and accompanying computers as part of a new "work zone" to grow Jigsaw's digitisation business and ability to take on more clients, leading to more job opportunities for paid trainees within Jigsaw, and greater revenue from business clients.

When we applied to you last year for support, Jigsaw Melbourne was supporting 40 people through Jigsaw Academy (training in core soft skills for the workplace and work experience). One year on, we have now welcomed 86 trainees into Jigsaw Academy, of whom 16 have been promoted into a paid traineeship, working on business client contracts. Additionally, from five business partners and \$3000 in monthly revenue at the time of application last year, we have since secured 7 additional business clients, so we now work with Allianz, Australian Unity, Foxtel, Yarra Libraries, Melton City Council, International Specialised Skills Institute, Gymnastics Australia, Klasev, EcoDynamics, YMCA and Adam's Pest Control. Our monthly revenue is now averaging \$37,500 - growth of 125x.

A new "work zone" at Jigsaw Melbourne will drive continued revenue growth and support us to reach our full capacity of 110 trainees and 60 paid trainees at any one time.

**Total Project Cost:** \$40688.60

**Amount Requested:** \$15000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$2796.00

**Recommendation:** \$11,000.00

**Panel Comments:** A strong application with clear outcomes focussed on employment.

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#### AG23-007: **Arts Project Australia**

*Public programs for Yarra residents, hosted and developed by Arts Project artists*

**Project Description:** Our gallery at Collingwood Yards opened in March 2021 but was closed for much of the year due to the lockdowns. In 2022 we have seen significant increase in visitor numbers (1,739 visitors in May 2022) and strong sales of our artists' work. Income is generated for our artists through sales (they receive 60% on every sale) but we want to introduce more paid professional development for our artists based around engaging with audiences.

In 2023 we will create opportunities for APA artists to work in the gallery, curate exhibitions and host vibrant public programs for Yarra residents.

The activities for this project are:

- Acknowledge Me, an exhibition curated by APA artist Adrian Lazzaro in collaboration with staff artist Caroline Wylds (Mar/April 2023),
- Artist-led public programs in association with Acknowledge Me, and for APA solo shows (April/June 2023) and Within My Skin (Sept/Oct 2023). For each exhibition this will include: a weekend floor talk or art making workshop with morning tea, promoted to Yarra residents
- Employment of an artist with an intellectual disability in a gallery administration role (8 hours per week). Key duties: meet and greet customers, assist with public programs, data entry, documentation of exhibitions.
- Public programs led by the Penguins. The Penguins are a group of 8-10 APA artists who participate in a program designed to build knowledge and awareness of ideas and issues in contemporary arts practice. They meet weekly at the gallery and in 2023 they will plan and host two sessions for the public. Indicative topics:
  - o presenting an alternative art history – images and ideas that inspire our artists and discussion about contemporary art
  - o movie night – screening of videos created in the studio
  - o spend some time with us – come and sit for a portrait

**Total Project Cost:** \$33120.00

**Amount Requested:** \$15000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$11000.00

**Recommendation:** \$11,000.00

**Panel Comments:** Great program with an organisation that can deliver.

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#### AG23-140: **Merchant Road Events Inc / Trading as The Beautiful Bunch**

*The Beautiful Bunch - Open Studio*

**Project Description:** The Beautiful Bunch - Open Studio will host a series of workshops, co-developed and led by our trainees. In these workshops, our trainees will share their own personal stories and that of The Beautiful Bunch, as well as teaching participants the basics of floral knowledge and design. The Beautiful Bunch Open Studio will enable us to offer flower arranging workshops to our corporate clients and individual supporters, who are eager to learn floristry basics, immerse themselves in the beauty of floral design, and to meet and support our team. The Beautiful Bunch Open Studio will allow us to welcome the general public into our current studio space for the first time. The current fit-out is very rudimentary and consists of mostly donated equipment that is not well-suited to the space or the work we do, and consequently, limits the number of people the space can accommodate, as well as the activities that take place. i.e., a lot of work that should take place on proper benches, is done on low trestle tables, seating, and the floor. To be able to host workshops in our space, we need to re-design the current fit out. At present, we can only accommodate

a very limited number of people in our studio space as we have donated work benches that are not fit-for-purpose. To accommodate more than a couple of people in our space, we need new studio benches, adequate storage, and seating for workshop participants.

**Total Project Cost:** \$43672.00

**Amount Requested:** \$11000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$6200.00

**Recommendation:** \$11,000.00

**Panel Comments:** A strong application which supports employment opportunities after the completion of the program.

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## Family and Early Years Stream

**AG23-078: Kids Space in Yarra (homework club) (Auspiced by Belgium Avenue Neighbourhood House Incorporated)**

*home work club*

**Project Description:** The Kids Space in Yarra project, will provide a twice weekly onsite or ( online in case of Covid19 pandemic restrictions ) opportunity throughout the school term for primary and early high school children to access educational support in the form of homework and reading assistance. Also children will have good time of interacting with their parents to connect with each other a long with culturally diverse volunteers. There will be holiday programs to engage these kids in fun & indirect education activities.

**Total Project Cost:** \$60500.00

**Amount Requested:** \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$9200.00

**Recommendation:** \$9,200.00

**Panel Comments:** A clear application with thoughtful contingency plans in case of pandemic issues.

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**AG23-218: Drummond Street Services**

*LITTLE&BIG- The multicultural/multi generational musical playgroup on the Collingwood estate*

**Project Description:** We hope to continue the very successful multicultural/intergenerational playgroup we have been running since March 2022. It is called LITTLE&BIG and targets CALD elderly adults living alone in the Collingwood public housing estate and the preschoolers and their parents, (mostly single mothers). It has been a delightful and exciting program full of laughter, growing, learning, connection and friendship. We hope to continue the program in a slightly different format, offering a program that mixes up other activities each week with the high energy musical show the participants love (but which is quite costly), combined with the more casual pop-up playgroup of activities and pre schoolers obstacle course. This will ensure the budget stretches further. We hope to run these weekly sessions for 90 minutes, for 24 weeks (when weather is better), during school terms 1 and 2 in 2023.

This health promoting initiative focuses on CALD elderly people living on Collingwood housing estate who are isolated, and young/sole parents on the same estate who need community connection and support to come out of lock-downs and re-establish healthy routines for their children and themselves.

Each week will use the same simple format:

Some lively songs to start – incorporating stretching (elderly stay in chairs).

A sharing activity on our theme of the week -

These themes have been further developed over the past 16 weeks of running this program and are now co-designed by participants.

Weekly themes will include:

-I love being me!

-My family

-My community

-My culture

-My wishes for the future

-My support people

We have also incorporated themes of respectful relationships and encourage parents to tune into children's

feelings and guide them rather than use harsh discipline with pre schoolers.  
We finish with some songs and a healthy morning tea. Families go home with fresh fruit.

**Total Project Cost:** \$21224.00

**Amount Requested:** \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$

**Recommendation:** \$10,000.00

**Panel Comments:** Both research based evidence and local anecdotal reporting has been well used to describe the rationale for the project. Group was careful to consult with Council, program will be engaging with the elderly residents.

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#### AG23-085: **North Richmond Community Health Limited**

*Therapy Resources & Inclusion (TRI) Library & DIY Toy Workshops for Children's Development*

**Project Description:** The NRCH CHAD Team provides Community Health (CH) funded Speech Pathology (SP) and Occupational Therapy (OT) to children who have mild to moderate developmental difficulties and behavioural issues. Families who attend therapy are provided with strategies and recommended resources to practice at home. This proposal aims to build on this work through the establishment of a TRI Library and DIY Toy Workshops for Children's Development.

Our project has two parts – specialist and universal.

Part A: Establishment of a 'Therapy Resources & Inclusion' (TRI) Library to offer families access to specialist therapeutic toys. The TRI Library differs from a traditional Toy Library in that it provides specialist therapeutic resources as well as parent training. The specialist therapeutic toys and equipment recommended by therapists that support motor, communication, sensory and cognitive skill acquisition are often expensive, and many families are unable to purchase them. Currently, there is not an option for families to borrow these resources in the City of Yarra.

To be eligible for the TRI Library, families will need to be accessing NRCH CHAD Community Health SP or OT Services. The TRI Library will be accessible as part of the child's therapy session.

Part B: A universal community engagement component involving the delivery of four Parent Education Sessions (Quarterly) on creating and/ using Do It Yourself (DIY) toys at home. The toys will be created using low-cost materials that families have access to in their everyday lives. These sessions will be open to ALL families of children aged 1-5 years in the City of Yarra. It will compliment part A by ensuring broader reach in the community for families not eligible or not yet accessing CH services. These Workshops will be delivered by therapists to provide training to families on how the DIY toys can support their child's development

**Total Project Cost:** \$6600.00

**Amount Requested:** \$5000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$1700.00

**Recommendation:** \$5,000.00

**Panel Comments:** Very well presented application with clear project plan, outcomes, measurements and budget. This grant will be a great "value add" to existing service delivery by NRCH and provide resources and impact for community beyond this year.

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#### AG23-088: **Collingwood Toy Library**

*A new website to discover the toy library*

**Project Description:** We will engage a design agency to develop a new website for Collingwood Toy Library. The new website will be user friendly, providing clear navigation that is accessible for anyone discovering the toy library for the first time or using it to navigate to renew loans or contact our team.

There are 3 key drivers for a new website:

1. Improved accessibility - we will reduce wording and use a design that makes it easier for families with low English background to navigate.
2. Align with new branding - we are currently in the process of updating our branding (expected Spring 2022) and so this project will bring our website in line with all our other promotional assets.



3. Simple to maintain - we need a website template that is simple to maintain and update so that our volunteer committee members, none of whom have web backgrounds, can manage updates.

**Total Project Cost:** \$8058.00

**Amount Requested:** \$6000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$3000.00

**Recommendation:** \$6,000.00

**Panel Comments:** CTL has a long history servicing Yarra families and it is great to hear of their involvement at Connie Benn. This is not just a "website redevelopment" process for the sake of it, but has clear intentions to ensure increased accessibility to those families with low English and tech literacy/accessibility. A design that is easy to maintain & update is an important tool for a volunteer run organisation - this has been clearly thought through.

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#### AG23-089: **Northern and Inner Melbourne Multiple Birth Association**

*Connecting and caring for multiple birth families in the City of Yarra*

**Project Description:** We would like to request the support of the City of Yarra to continue our work supporting multiple birth families within the City of Yarra. Our project "Connecting and caring for multiple birth families in the City of Yarra" incorporates three different elements that will each serve a different purpose and target a different age range within our membership. Our volunteer association brings together families with twins, triplets and higher order multiples and provides support during pregnancy and the newborn period, and ongoing access to information, resources and social connection. The three elements of this project are:

1. Meals and support for multiple birth families during the newborn period. We are seeking funding to meet the costs of providing a home-cooked meal to families when they arrive home after their twin or triplets are born. In addition to the practical support and comfort of a homecooked meal, this offers an important opportunity for connection and support from another multiple birth family during a particularly challenging time for many families.

2. Behaviour support information session with a psychologist. We respond to families needs for support and provide access to information sessions with health professionals. We would like to engage a very well regarded educational psychologist, Sandhya Menon, to provide an evening session for parents about responding to challenging behaviour and supporting children. Sandhya works in a neuro-affirmative, trauma informed way and will meet the specific needs of our multiple birth community.

3. An accessible social event for families to come together in the City of Yarra. We would like to host a family fun day in Edinburgh Gardens in approximately April 2023. This may coincide with the 2023 Multiple Birth Awareness Week. These events are typically well attended by our families and provide a valuable opportunity for families to connect.

**Total Project Cost:** \$10079.50

**Amount Requested:** \$2330.00 **Minimum Required:** \$975.00

**Recommendation:** \$2,330.00

**Panel Comments:** A very well presented application including detailed budget with quotes. For a small financial amount they will deliver significant outcomes with each of the three parts of their project.

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#### AG23-017: **ACACIA INDOCHINESE COMMUNITY SUPPORT ASSOCIATION INC.**

*Learning for Life (L4L) Program: Acacia Childcare*

**Project Description:** The L4L (previously Ready 4 School Program funded by COY 2022) is designed to support children's transition from early childhood to early primary.

Last year, R4S worked with three ELC's (Acacia, Connie Benn and John St) to develop teacher and learner knowledge in evidence based practices employed to deliver a set of learning sessions targeting school readiness including emerging literacy and numeracy skills within the context of play.

This year, Acacia hopes to extend the excellent work started in Fitzroy to the centre in Richmond, but also include 3yr olds in the program so that these skills are embedded early but in developmentally appropriate ways.

Many other areas of development are also addressed:

- social emotional learning (SEL)
- fine motor skills
- metacognition
- critical and creative thinking
- pragmatic, semantic and syntactic language development

SEL is a particular areas of focus in the program, especially in the context of the pandemic and previous lockdowns. At the start of the program, consultations held throughout Term 1 to contextualise the learning within the centres sessions prior to delivery, ensuring lessons are adapted to the needs of each room. Learning intentions are further clarified through collaborative support between program facilitators and early years educators post-delivery throughout the year.

The process of inquiry through play-based learning is honoured through the incorporation of art and music based activities. Early intervention strategies are incorporated into the Early Years Learning Framework to support all children, in particular those who will later struggle in school due to a range of issues including neurodevelopmental delays, ASD, ADHD, learning difficulties, CALD background and/or trauma.

The L4L program seeks to address the behavioural and language barriers to learning in the early years to assist children by building positive associations with learning as well as strategies for negotiating social emotional difficulties for years to come.

**Total Project Cost:** \$44960.00

**Amount Requested:** \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$

**Recommendation:** \$10,000.00

**Panel Comments:** A good service to employ a speech pathologist for disadvantaged children.

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#### AG23-159: **Abbotsford Primary School**

*Abbotsford Primary School – Connecting Fathers*

**Project Description:** Led by two fathers, with the support of the school and the not for profit, Fathering Project, “Connecting Fathers”, was established in Term 2 2022 to help fathers and other male role models engage with their children’s education journey by connecting with and supporting each other. We want to support our school’s dads to be the best fathers that they can be. To do this, our initiative leaders plan events that bring dads and in some cases their children together to socialise, connect and learn.

One of the key challenges of the initiative is engaging fathers from culturally and linguistically diverse and less economically advantaged backgrounds. 35% of our students speak English as a second or third language. Approximately 23% of our student population live in local public housing and 33% of our families are in the bottom 25% percentile, socioeconomically.

To engage this diverse group, we propose to run targeted events across each term. For example, our 2022 Term 4 event will bring dads together to have skateboard lessons at Richmond High School. Such an event could help fathers connect in an informal way and build friendships in a more authentic manner. The opportunity to host the event at Richmond High School would also allow fathers to be informed about pathways and secondary school choices, which is a common problem all families share.

For the four terms in 2023 we want to run events at a subsidised cost. These events will bring fathers together to connect with each other, their children and children’s education. This grant submission seeks funding to enable our father volunteers to organise and deliver four Connecting Fathers events each term.

**Total Project Cost:** \$3336.00

**Amount Requested:** \$2000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$1200.00

**Recommendation:** \$2,000.00

**Panel Comments:** Great use of research to support the important role of fathering. Good partnerships.

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#### AG23-115: **Mums In Yarra (Auspiced by Richmond Community Learning Centre Inc.)**

*Mums in Yarra Community Wellbeing and Play Education Program*

**Project Description:** Mums in Yarra (MiY) Community Group will organize and host a program of events curated to support parents/carers, and children's wellbeing/development. The program will be educational, skills-based, provide space for safe discussions and sharing, and social connections and play.

MiY will integrate the learnings from our 2022 program, and continue to partner with Richmond Community Learning Centre (RCLC), and local wellbeing and childhood development experts.

The events will be structured into two inextricably linked themes; maternal wellbeing, and infant and child attachment, wellbeing, and development.

Each of the two series within the program will be divided into 4/5 events, with each series run twice in 2023 (Term 2 & Term 3 or 4). The program will be evaluated for reach, accessibility, feasibility and utility.

-Maternal (and primary carer) health and wellbeing:

-Dynamic combination of education, sharing of experiences and skills practices across:

-Post-Partum Mental Health (drawing on resourcing and training by Perinatal Anxiety & Depression Australia, PANDA),

-Self-Care in Motherhood (including focus on wellbeing in wake of Melbourne's lockdowns and ongoing impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic),

-Supporting physical wellbeing, pre-and-post partum

-Dads Connect - Saturday morning playgroup and wellbeing session

Infant/Child Attachment, Wellbeing & Development:

-Dynamic combination of education, skills practices, and take-away resources across following areas:

-Circle of Security Parenting Roadmap

-Improve Security for Children - positively shifting intergenerational parenting practices

-Social-emotional development in the first 5 years - enhancing responsiveness to children's behaviours

-Learning Through Play Everyday

-Supporting Literacy and Numeracy Through Play

Sessions will be held at Richmond Community Learning Centre, and targeted at families across Yarra. Groups will be small – medium and after completion of the program participants will be encouraged and supported to keep meeting at Richmond Community Learning Centre for social and play groups, and join Mum's in Yarra's Saturday Playgroup.

**Total Project Cost:** \$20390.00

**Amount Requested:** \$9830.00 **Minimum Required:** \$8600.00

**Recommendation:** \$9,830.00

**Panel Comments:** A very well-written application with clear goals and expected outcomes.

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#### AG23-125: Princes Hill Parents' Group (Auspiced by North Carlton Railway Neighbourhood House)

##### *School Holiday Fun*

**Project Description:** We are seeking funding to provide school holiday activities for children residing at the Princes Hill Public Housing Estate, with support from staff at the North Carlton Railway Neighbourhood House (which is located directly across the road from the estate). Most of the children at the estate have an established relationship with the Railway House through the after school children's programs that the House offers.

We are seeking funding for school holiday activities (to be run on site at Railway House or elsewhere) because the majority of families who live at the estate are low income families and do not have the financial means for costly school holiday activities for their children. This is in stark contrast to other children in Princes Hill, our children's classmates, who are from more privileged backgrounds. We want to provide our children with the same defining childhood experiences as their more affluent peers.

We hope to secure funding for 2-4 activities during each of the school holidays in 2023, including one special

excursion each school holidays. The activities will include things like art and craft programs, visits to the zoo, indoor play centres, etc.

**Total Project Cost:** \$11428.00

**Amount Requested:** \$7940.00 **Minimum Required:** \$5000.00

**Recommendation:** \$7,940.00

**Panel Comments:** A succinct, well written application. Great to see children involved in decision-making about activities.

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## Youth & Middle Years Stream

AG23-079: **Rotary Club of Richmond**

*Rotary Club of Richmond Next Step Project*

**Project Description:** To support disadvantaged young people in Year 10 who attend the Collingwood Secondary College within the City of Yarra, as recommended by the school's Year Level Coordinator/s.

The Career Advisor case manages and mentors the young people, helps them to identify short and long term career goals and develop career plans to achieve their nominated goals; assists them in preparation of resume's and job applications for Mock Job and real industry interviews; Identifies and organises targeted workshops, for example financial literacy; tutoring support to ensure that curriculum work relating to career education is completed; identifies and arranges appropriate work experience.

**Total Project Cost:** \$23123.00

**Amount Requested:** \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$

**Recommendation:** \$10,000.00

**Panel Comments:** A really worthwhile project with history of funding through Yarra grants. The panel would like to see Rotary contacts used (even more) to provide work experience and job opportunities to students.

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AG23-094: **Belgium Avenue Neighbourhood House Incorporated**

*Living Out Loud*

**Project Description:** Living Out Loud is a program for youth aged 12-25 years old and will be held every Saturday from 1pm to 5pm at Yarra Youth Services in Fitzroy. The program aims to create an inclusive space for local youth that will result in a positive outcome for both the youth and the wider community. Through a wide range of activities, young people will build their confidence and become more connected. Through delivering a safe space that young people want to join, it will assist in preventing young people to be out on the streets.

Gaining new knowledge and experiences whilst working together and with the community, young people will discover, connect and inspire, ultimately leading them to develop and/or expand on interests and passions that will assist them to navigate their future's.

The project will work in partnership with Yarra Youth Services to deliver the following services to young people:

- career pathways specialists to provide one on one advice and workshops to improve study and employment prospects
- recreational activities to address contemporary social issues, improve relationships between community members and improve the physical and mental health of participants
- cooking and preparing meals to increase life skills of participants, encourage healthy eating and provide a space for positive social engagement
- workshops chosen by participants, such as: fixing bikes, your rights and the law and mental health.

**Total Project Cost:** \$98000.00

**Amount Requested:** \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$8000.00

**Recommendation:** \$10,000.00

**Panel Comments:** A worthy project and good to see some weekend activities run by locals and good partnerships.

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## AG23-065: Collingwood Basketball Association

### *Youth Development Program*

**Project Description:** The Program follows a 4 Pillar Approach for participant growth and development.

**BASKETBALL:** We provide a structured program of Training and games (including two Tournaments per year) to develop advanced basketball skills.

- Weekly Training - 4 hr
- Strength and Conditioning - 1 hr
- Games - 2 hr
- School Holidays (4 times per year) will include:
- Basketball Camp Participant - 12 hours
- Basketball Camp Coaching - 6 hours

The program provides a regular schedule, building commitment, teamwork, and work ethic skills.

**LIFE SKILLS:** To play Basketball, participants must attend life skills sessions. These are designed to give participants critical personal and academic skills to improve their prospects as they enter society as young adults. Participant obligations include:

- Weekly Study Hall
- Soft Skills and Career Guidance
- Work Experience and Employment pathways

**HEALTH AND WELLNESS:** We provide meals to participants 3 nights per week to support their overall nutrition and to give many members access to high-quality and healthy meals that they may not be able to access at home. This is supported by a Dietitian who develops the meals along with working with and running specific sessions with teams and individuals to help them understand the importance of meals and healthy food. This program is also combined with Mental Health awareness both at a team level and through one-on-one support and access to a qualified professional.

**COMMUNITY:** Combining the Basketball and Life Skills learnt throughout the program, participants will then give back to the community by participating in activities within the club, including:

- assisting and running basketball clinics
- refereeing
- coaching
- volunteering in the canteen
- participating in nominated club community projects.

**Total Project Cost:** \$60000.00

**Amount Requested:** \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$10000.00

**Recommendation:** \$10,000.00

**Panel Comments:** The program that Collingwood Basketball Assoc runs meets a very important community need and is well attended and regarded in the community. Substantial funding has already been secured by both federal and state grants. The expected number of participants is quite large (250) meaning the funding has a large reach.

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## AG23-059: Operation Newstart Incorporated

### *Operation Newstart Yarra*

**Project Description:** - Outdoor adventure activities of mountain bike riding, caving, canoeing, skiing, hiking, high ropes course to promote characters strengths and leadership  
- Camps including an overnight hike camp and a three day expedition ski camp.  
- Community engagement workshops with Headspace and REACH on mental health and wellbeing, YSAS workshop on drugs and alcohol, Yarra Youth Centre sessions to do a project in Street Art and Hip Hop writing, a volunteer session at Collingwood Children's Farm making kookaburra boxes to place in surrounding trees, Community Bike project teaching newly arrived primary school students from the Collingwood English Language School Bike safety and building a new bike to donate to them.  
Weekly Gym sessions with a trainer from Yarra Leisure Centres at Richmond, Fitzroy and Collingwood.

- Pathway exploration through TAFE visits/workshops of Floristry and Landscaping at Melbourne Polytechnic.
- Personal development skills through goal setting, character strength workshops and growth mindset work.
- First aid certificate through South Melbourne Life Saving Club

**Total Project Cost:** \$53265.00

**Amount Requested:** \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$9500.00

**Recommendation:** \$9,500.00

**Panel Comments:** The project defines a group with a clear need, shows engagement with relevant local services to access the target cohort, and sets a realistic financial request from City of Yarra as part of the total budget. There is scope for additional networking with community groups, and development of activities to address inter-generational issues.

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#### **AG23-046: Breath Circle (Auspiced by Sacred Heart Primary School)**

##### *Breath Circle Programs*

**Project Description:** Breath Circle 6-week School Programs:

**Children:** Breath Circle's 6 week programs involve working with children for one session per week. During the 1hour sessions conducted by a trained and experienced facilitator, children engage in play-based group learning through movement, mindful breathing and singing, to create clear minds, regulate emotions, and build resilience. Children will be supported to develop greater self-awareness which can have positive impacts on their personal relationships, education and learning, and sense of wellbeing.

**Educators/Teachers:** Breath Circle's school programs include an educators training component which empowers educators to use breath awareness as a tool for self-regulation, allowing them to better handle stress and control impulses, resulting in calm, harmonious classrooms for educators and children. We build capacity of educators to teach mindful breathing to children, as a daily wellbeing practice.

**Parents/Carers:** Our programs include a 1 hour parent meeting/training session to create community connection, enhance community participation and empower individuals to be resourceful in relation to their own mental health and wellbeing, as well as the health and wellbeing of their children and community. We offer parent participation throughout our program.

**Total Project Cost:** \$12780.00

**Amount Requested:** \$9900.00 **Minimum Required:** \$9900.00

**Recommendation:** \$6,600.00

**Panel Comments:** This application builds on last year's funding for one program in partnership with Sacred Heart PS, which indicates success and positive partnership. This application is for the roll out of 3 programs with EOIs from Sacred Heart and additional schools. The applicant has demonstrated interest from local schools for this program.

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#### **AG23-098: African Australian Community Development Association (Auspiced by Belgium Avenue Neighbourhood House Incorporated)**

##### *Yarra public housing estate curriculum support and homework program*

**Project Description:** This project has been a collaboration between AACDA, BANH, and local families within the City of Yarra. The project continues to expand in both content and reach. In the previous funding period, the project was funded for Collingwood and Richmond. This project will build on the success of the project and deliver curriculum and homework support to school-aged children (6-18yrs) from African backgrounds for people living in Richmond, Collingwood, and Fitzroy public housing estates. The project aims to strengthen their learning foundations and build their confidence and self-esteem by:

- Assisting primary and secondary students with their studies in a friendly and supportive environment
- Providing a safe, inclusive, and culturally appropriate learning environment outside of school hours
- Improving literacy, numeracy, and communication skills
- To improve social connectedness and the emotional and mental development
- Developing student's positive attitude toward learning
- Improving student's skills to become independent learners and critical thinkers

**Total Project Cost:** \$19128.00

**Amount Requested:** \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$9000.00

**Recommendation:** \$9,000.00

**Panel Comments:** The continued need for culturally appropriate education support and nutrition has been identified. The program offers excellent value for money and has the potential for promotion of other relevant services and community networking.

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#### AG23-108: **Drummond Street Services**

*OVER THE TOP! Lifeskills Camp (young people may choose a name they prefer )*

**Project Description:** As young people attempt to recover from the isolation and disruption of COVID-19, the proposed youth designed lifeskills camp will bring together participants of our weekly youth programs run by The DRUM for fun and life skill development.

The purpose of this 3 night/4 day camp is to provide young people with the opportunity to explore social interaction in a challenging outdoor adventure establishment outside of their community. They will also learn to co operate and manage themselves in a context involving sleeping away from their families.

Through utilizing adventure activities (suggested by our Youth Committee), such as games, rock climbing, ropes courses and make your own raft etc. we will provide opportunities to become more aware of inclusion, social awareness and relationship management. The camp will also be promoting physical fitness and practical skills that will better prepare our young people for life challenges in the future.

The camp schedule of activities will be designed and co-delivered by young people from our Yarra Youth Committee working groups. We hope the experience will build their capacity to enhance the 4 domains of emotional intelligence: Self Awareness, Self Management, Social Awareness and Relationship Management. This will be an intensive funding period of 10 weeks which will include planning, running the camp and pack up and debriefing (including evaluation report). The Youth Committee were very keen for the camp to happen just before school returns for 2023, so it is likely to be in last week of January.

**Total Project Cost:** \$34600.00

**Amount Requested:** \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$10000.00

**Recommendation:** \$10,000.00

**Panel Comments:** The projected outcome addresses a clear need in youth in City of Yarra. A wider cohort of identified potential participants would be beneficial in ensuring access for youth across the City of Yarra.

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#### AG23-182: **GR8 M8S Foundation**

*Yarra Challenge Cups - (YCC)*

**Project Description:** The Challenge Cups (Soccer) are a coming together of the 3 weekly Soccer Programs (CASP, FASTA/Street Soccer, PACSEL ) held on the Fitzroy, Collingwood & Richmond Housing Estates.

Held on the first weekend of each school holidays (4 events in total) at the Atherton Gardens Reserve. The Challenge Cup Soccer Competitions give young people (5-18yrs) the opportunity to play against the other Yarra Housing Estates.

The Cups are assisted by other services in Yarra and feature a Showcase Exhibition Game at each cup. This game is made up of local service providers, volunteers and local young people.

In 2023 we will increase the number of pitches and utilise an additional inflation pitch. This will increase the number of participants.

**Total Project Cost:** \$25502.00

**Amount Requested:** \$4600.00 **Minimum Required:** \$3800.00

**Recommendation:** \$4,600.00

**Panel Comments:** The application has shown a good understanding of the local youth community, liaised with appropriate local organizations, and proposed an effective program at a minimal cost.

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#### AG23-179: **Fitzroy Lions Soccer Club (Auspiced by Fitzroy Learning Network)**

**Project Description:** Fitzroy Lions offers young people the opportunity to participate in physical activity in a team environment. Our teams come from ethnically diverse communities that would often not mix. We wish to continue bringing together culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) young people living in social housing and provide them with a platform to be active, develop a positive sense of identity, build confidence, connect with community, learn new skills and develop a passion for soccer. The demand is high and we are expanding the number of teams to ensure youth get the opportunity to participate. We are developing youth to be a productive member of the greater community as majority of the youth have very difficult personal situations and poor role models. The club provides a community and connection they often lack in their personal lives. We are positively changing young people's perception of their skills and their place in the community.

Due to the impacts of COVID-19 and compounding pre-existing economic challenges, right now for many people in our community being able to access community sport and recreation is a lifeline.

**Total Project Cost:** \$67740.00

**Amount Requested:** \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$9000.00

**Recommendation:** \$10,000.00

**Panel Comments:** A grass-roots community org which is meeting a significant community need through sport and community building. A worthwhile project for Council to partner with.

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#### AG23-093: **Mzuri Dance Artistree Fund Inc.**

*Culture Club - space to dance, dream and connect*

**Project Description:** Through community consultation, Mzuri Dance Artistree Fund Inc. has designed a yoga, dance and drum program for young people (middle years / youth 8 - 18yrs) of African descent living in the Fitzroy and Richmond housing Estates.

Suzanne Watts (professional artist and teacher) of Mzuri Dance along with her experienced staff will run a weekly dance program, after school hours, during the four school terms of 2023, at the Florence Peel Center. This program will provide opportunities for participation, social connection and meaningful community engagement by offering young people from disadvantaged or marginalized groups a safe place to explore culture, build confidence and participate in fun creative social activities. The classes will begin with a yoga warm up, followed by developing and learning new dance choreography and drumming, working towards a contemporary dance performance to be shared with the wider community. This final performance will increase participant, self-confidence, cultural pride and community engagement along with cultural awareness and lots of fun and satisfaction.

Through the arts we will engage young people in a culturally rich community while nurturing individual well-being through the yoga, dance and music program. Healthy meals provided will also be part of the program to help support healthy eating habits and give the young people energy for full concentration and participation.

Culture Club will be an African Australian cultural project that will utilize contemporary dance and music to provide African young people in both Richmond and Fitzroy access to engagement in a creative and fun social activity, improving mental health and physical well-being.

Mzuri Dance programs have a track record of delivering positive impacts on mental health and social cohesion through engaging young people in an ongoing arts program for community connection and development. 3 excursions along with performances at festivals in Yarra & Melbourne precincts.

**Total Project Cost:** \$67030.00

**Amount Requested:** \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$9000.00

**Recommendation:** \$10,000.00

**Panel Comments:** This group evidently has a strong presence in the community and has built a good reputation for delivering programs for positive youth engagement.

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#### AG23-170: **The Wellington Collingwood**

*My Skin - Year Two*



**Project Description:** The first year of the "My Skin" program engaged youth from African backgrounds in the City of Yarra to build drums together. This program sought to address issues surrounding identity, societal and generational expectations.

The second year of "My Skin" will seek to expand through interacting with local schools. A series of "incursions" to local schools will showcase the drums already created by community members, and promote discussion of musical instruments used in the cultural backgrounds of students. These incursions will also be used as information gathering exercises to plan instrument construction workshops. Workshops will be held during school holidays, with participants from across Yarra schools meeting together. As the first year of the program promoted discussion of identity and culture primarily with African background participants, the second year is promoting a broader understanding and appreciation of cultures.

**Total Project Cost:** \$15376.00

**Amount Requested:** \$9952.00 **Minimum Required:** \$8000.00

**Recommendation:** \$6,000.00

**Panel Comments:** Nice project that helps address cultural identity for young people which will benefit the wider community.

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#### **AG23-152: Fitzroy Scout Group (Auspiced by The Scout Association Of Australia Victorian Branch)**

##### *Fitzroy Scouts Equitable Access Project*

**Project Description:** Fitzroy Scouts Equitable Access Project enables the development of disadvantaged migrant youth through participation in the Scouting program (including outdoor adventure and camping), by reducing financial barriers. This project will support Fitzroy Scout Group's approach of heavily subsidising weekly activities, outdoor excursions and weekend camps for the participating youth to ensure as many children as possible can benefit regardless of their circumstances. These activities build resilience and interpersonal skills and provide participants with opportunities to engage with nature. The Scouting program provides non-formal education, which helps young people to develop and grow holistically, and is run by volunteer leaders.

Building on previous support from City of Yarra to establish a Scout-age section (10-14 years old), this grant funding will be used to embed and further enhance this program delivery, which was restricted by the impacts of COVID-19 restrictions.

This project requires financial support in three areas. Firstly, to subsidise the cost of outdoor and educational experiences, allowing participants to experience the proven benefits of the Scouting Development Program. This funding would allow us to run 40 weeknight programs for the Scouts section and at least eight subsidised camps across Cub Scouts (8-11 year olds) and Scouts sections. These camps and activities build life skills, citizenship and connections with the broader Australian community.

Secondly, the funding will be used to cover the membership/insurance costs for Scout section members and volunteer leaders. These are costs that are 'normally' covered by parents and present a barrier to our families.

Finally, the funding will cover organisational costs, such as hall hire and equipment purchases. Regular equipment purchases, such as tents, rain jackets, shelters and sleeping bags, means the group has safe equipment to take children camping in the outdoors and can support families who do not have equipment themselves.

**Total Project Cost:** \$117600.00

**Amount Requested:** \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$6000.00

**Recommendation:** \$6,000.00

**Panel Comments:** Within the Scouting framework this application provides scope for providing access to life affirming activities, self exploration, nutrition and socialisation.

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## Sport & Recreation Stream

### AG23-109: COLLINGWOOD CITY FOOTBALL CLUB (CCFC)

#### *COLLINGWOOD INCLUSIVE FOOTBALL*

**Project Description:** The Junior Eagles program is a soccer skills training program for children and young people aged 6 to 28 years with an intellectual or physical disability. The aims of the program include; to provide the children and young people with an opportunity to learn soccer skills in a safe and welcoming environment where the players' abilities and progress is valued, to improve player physical fitness, to prepare children for integration with other teams as appropriate, and supporting players who wish to compete in the FV All Abilities competition and contributing to the further development of the initiative. The program also supports families of children with special needs by providing recreational/ sporting opportunities for their children and inclusion in a community club, being the Collingwood City Football Club. The program began with children under 18 years of age. However, in December 2020 we split the players into 2 groups based on age. The younger group (7 - 13 years) had expanded considerably over the previous 2 years. This group of younger players require a higher coach to player ratio, and the new structure has worked extremely well in better allowing us to meet their needs. The older group is aged over 14 but predominantly over 18. The new structure was also planned to improve the program and better meet the needs of all players. The older players have also very much enjoyed their own training time and expanded in numbers and confidence.

**Total Project Cost:** \$13575.00

**Amount Requested:** \$4761.00 **Minimum Required:** \$4761.00

**Recommendation:** \$4,761.00

**Panel Comments:** This project address the stream priorities well.

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### AG23-174: Collingwood Basketball Association

#### *Support for young players to play basketball*

**Project Description:** Collingwood Basketball Association proactively engages with players from local public housing and CALD communities. Last year we had 50 players from these communities playing in the club's representative teams. We are actively recruiting this cohort and we expect to have at least 30 more players from this community playing representative basketball for the season that starts in October 2022, ending in August 2023.

Many of these families find it difficult to pay registration and game fees. The club recognises that there are many benefits for these players to be involved with a local, community sporting club so currently subsidises registrations fees as needed. This project will allow the club to continue to provide assistance to players from local public housing, CALD communities and financially disadvantaged families in order to assist with registration fees.

**Total Project Cost:** \$104754.00

**Amount Requested:** \$5000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$5000.00

**Recommendation:** \$5,000.00

**Panel Comments:** An established organisation and have proven to run programs alike proficiently in the past.

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### AG23-176: Collingwood Basketball Association

#### *Support for young players to participate in tournaments*

**Project Description:** Collingwood Basketball Association proactively engages with players from local public housing and CALD communities. Last year we had 50 players from these communities playing in the club's representative teams. We expect to have more for the upcoming season

It is expected that players in these teams participate in at least two tournaments per year, but this is expensive for many families who are financially disadvantaged. This project will allow the club to subsidise registration and accommodation costs for players from local public housing, CALD communities and financially disadvantaged families so that the players in the teams can participate in two tournaments per

year with their team mates. This is important for skill development, self esteem, team cohesion and bonding and connectedness with community.

**Total Project Cost:** \$97640.00

**Amount Requested:** \$5000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$5000.00

**Recommendation:** **Panel Comments:** Collingwood Basketball have successfully delivered this program in the past.

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#### AG23-025: **North Richmond Community Health Limited**

##### *Chair Based Exercise*

**Project Description:** Funding is sought to continue the successful operation of a chair based exercise program that runs at North Richmond Community Health Centre. The program targets older (over 65 years) members of the community who reside in the Richmond Housing Estate who are frail and experience mobility issues, many of whom are also socially isolated. The majority of the current participants are from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds particularly East Timor, Vietnam and China.

The program provides weekly 1 hour chair based gentle exercise sessions aiming to maintain and increase their strength, coordination and fitness as well as providing opportunities for social connection to members of the community who would otherwise be inactive and isolated. The exercises are delivered by a qualified fitness instructor who is experienced in older people's fitness training. Participants are encouraged to stay back after the sessions to have a cup of tea and socialise with one another to increase social connectedness. The grant from 2 years ago has helped us to extend this group beyond Covid to a group of socially isolated community members. This group has been crucial in post-Covid reconnection and is seen by the participants as a key social and physical activity in their week.

**Total Project Cost:** \$16217.50

**Amount Requested:** \$5000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$5000.00

**Recommendation:** \$5,000.00

**Panel Comments:** Project address the stream priorities well.

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