

MINUTES

YARRA ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE - YAARTS

Wednesday 1 November 2023

6.00-8:00pm

Wurundjeri Room, Collingwood Town Hall, 140 Hoddle Street, Abbotsford, VIC.

Statement of Recognition of Wurundjeri Land

Yarra City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners and true sovereigns of the land now known as Yarra. We also acknowledge the significant contributions made by other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to life in Yarra. We pay our respects to Elders from all nations and to their Elders past, present and future.

Items	Purpose	Time	Personnel
1.	Introduction Confirmation of the meeting and recording of attendances and apologies.	5mins	Cr Chair
2.	Confirmation of previous minutes and actions.	5mins	ALL
3.	Arts & Culture Grants Panel discussion and feedback on application and assessment process: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Annual Grants• Fellowship Grant	50mins	Coordinator Arts Development, All
4.	Working Groups Update Report back on YAARTS working groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Visual Arts Panel• Room to Create Panel	15mins	YAARTS representatives, Coordinator Arts Development
5.	Festive Season Festive season events in Yarra	10 mins	Coordinator Festivals & Events & Event Permits
6.	In Review Final panel meeting 2023	10 mins	Coordinator Arts Development, All
7.	Other Items Discussion about items tabled by panel members	5 mins	ALL
8.	End of meeting		

1. Attendees:

- Present: (Chair) Cr Edward Crossland, Simon Bedford, Angela Conquet, Miranda Hill (left early), Joel Stern, Brona Keenan (Coordinator Arts & Culture), Alexandra Paige.
- Apologies: Clare Leporati, Vanessa Morris, Arika Waulu
- Attending: Deborah Kunda (Arts Development Officer), Olivia Allen (Community Arts Officer), Vicky Guglielmo (Libraries, Arts and Events Manager).

2. Confirmation of previous minutes

- Minutes confirmed by panel. No issues raised.
- Introduction of Vicky Guglielmo, Manager Libraries Arts and Events (new position)

3. Arts and Culture Grants: Round 1

Feedback on applications and assessment processes:

Annual Arts grant program: Officer presented areas for feedback for consideration.

- Same pool for organisations and individual artists which can make it difficult for individuals. Doesn't need to be separate pool for artists and orgs but need to consider this.
- There is a section for people to identify as an individual or organisation. With breakdown you will be able to see where the money is going and how many independents/orgs.
- Observation – some organisations are not applying for local projects. They are applying for a small portion of funds towards larger projects and sometimes not clear what is being done in Yarra.
- Differentiation also needs to be made between different size organisations.
- Consider the difference between a venue for hire and presenting organisation.
- How many applicants can be presenting from one venue?
- Equity drivers on how the investment spend. What are we trying to achieve with the particular investment in this program – alignment with Arts and Culture strategy.
- Artistic costs that were funded were privileged in the process.
- Grants team noted: 61 applications, 19 recommended. 22 individual artists applied and 2 were supported.
- How we articulate: What are the other contributions that can be added in guidelines? In kind contributions, diverse sources of income.
- Encourage good budgets: people can't submit through portal if budget doesn't balance.
- Difficult conversation in not supporting organisations. Quality of the applications of individual artists.
- Give money to the organisations to support the artists more. Incentivise them to support more individual artists.
- Question around demographic breakdown of applicants and successful projects – some can be tracked through Smartygrants
- Less writing: should be encouraging simplicity
- Describe priorities first? And then describe the projects?
- First Nations partnerships in projects: Cultural protocol's standards around working with First Nations need to be present
- Support material dramatically lacking: one single PDF to submit to upload to document rather than multiple.
- At officer level support material is recommended to be relevant and explained given the volume of materials panels are requested to view.

Fellowship Grants program: Inaugural recipient for 2024

- A need for this grant, given the strong application response.

- Confusion of what the grant is for – may need further clarity in guidelines. A fellowship is a stipend – not project based - and is an investment in a creative practice. Project based applications more suitable to Annual Grants cycle.
- It is a special opportunity and a prestigious award. ACS to work with artist to reflect prominence of the award.
- Ambassador role to provide visibility to artists, bringing profile to a community of practice here.
- Consider taking the budget out of the Fellowship application, removing the pressure to create, do and report.
- Interest from panel in awarding more than 1 Fellowship – difficult to select only 1.
- Lean on learnings from inaugural artist to develop language and purpose for next round
- Give panel access to the acquittals for grants?
- Update form to make clear of the address of the artists' practice:

ACTION: Organise for Fellowship artist to attend a YAARTS meeting.

ACTION: Send fellowship application around to panel for direct feedback.

4. Working Group Updates

RTC meeting update

- LMCF provided update.
- KIN Fashion received RTC Fund grant for Peel Street Site. Forthcoming monies process to be confirmed and completed by June 2024.
- Room to Create responsive fund \$5k left.
- Determining EOI for 27 Wellington Street art and craft space.
- New cultural precinct in Cremorne
- Church Street pop up space

Visual Arts Panel report

- Discussion about Adam Stone Fallen Fruit artwork. The artist spoke to the panel about impact on him.
- Number of options on how to move forward were considered. Decision not to return artwork to the site. Smaller version to be made of the work and for it to be displayed as indoor collection.

5. Festive Season

- Carols in the Park 14 Dec at Curtin Square
- Fitzroy Town Hall Decorative display - 3 Jan
- Richmond Town Hall - 15 Dec - 3 Jan
- NYE event films and food trucks

6. Final Panel meeting: 2021 – 3-year panel.

- Sunset clause on panels linked to Council elections in October 2024.
- Governance unit has asked the panel to extend the term until October 2024.

ACTION: Officer to confirm with panel members if continuing.

7. Other Items

8. End of meeting