

2017 Blacktown City Council Creative Arts Fund Information and Guidelines

The Creative Arts Fund is a grant scheme to support the development of original artistic expression in all art forms. This is an annual program to support local artists and local organisations with their creative ideas.

The grant scheme relates directly to the Blacktown City Cultural Plan Vision:

Our arts and culture inspires, extends, connects and is a source of pride, identity and well-being for the diverse cultures and communities of Blacktown now and into the future.

The aim of the Blacktown City Council Creative Arts Fund is to:

- Activate new artistic ideas and initiatives by the community.
- Provide financial assistance to artists and community organisations.
- Support creative expression and innovation across a broad range of arts and cultural activities.
- Activate partnerships between organisations, artists and community groups.
- Stimulate creative expression and innovation across diverse communities and cultures.
- Maximise creativity as a tool for community gatherings, celebrations and harmony.
- Build an independent cultural sector and economy.
- Create social and cultural connections between the communities of Blacktown City.

GRANT CATEGORIES AND LIMITS

Category A	Community organisations and groups This category provides incorporated community organisations and groups with grants of up to \$3,000 (inclusive of GST) to develop artistic programs or projects.
Category B	Individual artist or artists groups This category provides artists and cultural workers with grants of up to \$2,000 (inclusive of GST) to assist their professional development or to work on an arts project with local community organisations.

Blacktown City Council reserves the right to award a lesser amount than requested.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

1. Australian residents over 18 years of age who are residents of Blacktown.
2. Local incorporated non-political organisations and groups who are providing services to Blacktown residents, including non-profit, non-government community, cultural or arts organisations.

Who is not eligible to apply?

Employees of Blacktown City Council, their direct family members, Ward Councillors, Members of the Arts Reference Advisory Committee are not eligible to apply for the Creative Arts Fund. The Blacktown City Council Creative Arts Fund will not be awarded for capital items, building improvements and repairs or for existing salaries.

GRANT CONDITIONS

Successful applicants must:

1. Be a local resident or an organisation based in Blacktown.
2. Complete the online application form, provide a detailed project plan and budget, and appropriate support materials.
3. Artists employed by an organisation must be paid as per NAVA's standard schedule of fees. (<https://visualarts.net.au>) and MEAA's standard rates for performers and writers.
4. Spend the budget as proposed in the application. Budget can only be used for artist's fees, materials, venue hire, project publicity, marketing, and launch of the project if applicable.
5. Complete the project within the proposed time frame
6. Provide a short report to Council within 4 weeks after the completion of the project.
7. Obtain public liability insurance for projects involving the public or public presentation.
8. Include Blacktown Arts Centre and Blacktown City Council logos on all collateral including; websites, media releases, social media and other promotional items associated with the project.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Grants will be awarded for applications that best meet the following selection criteria:

1. Originality of ideas.
2. Quality of artist's work.
3. Demonstrated experience in delivering and managing projects and funds.
4. Value of the project to the professional development or capacity building of the individual artist or group or community organisation.
5. Relevance and benefits to Blacktown local government area.
6. Commitment to engaging with the community (if proposed).
7. The extent to which the project addresses the Blacktown City Cultural Plan. (The Blacktown City Cultural Plan is available from www.blacktown.nsw.gov.au/files/8694ae91-d61e-40d1-b7ea-a6e300f9e4d8/Cultural_Plan_2013_WEB.pdf).

SELECTION PROCESS

Applications will be assessed by a panel comprising the Arts Reference Advisory Committee Chair and some committee members, with specialist Council staff.

REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must meet the following requirements:

1. Complete the application form in full, and submit your application by Monday, 6 March 2017.
2. Provide a CV.
3. Provide support materials.
4. Provide an itemised budget. Download a budget template at https://blacktownarts.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Creative-Arts-Fund_Budget-Template.docx.

IMPORTANT DATES

Applications Open
Friday, 3 February 2017

Information Session
**Thursday, 9 February 2017 from 3pm – 4pm at
Blacktown Arts Centre, 78 Flushcombe Rd Blacktown NSW 2148**

Applications Close
Monday, 6 March 2017

HOW TO APPLY

Apply at www.blacktownarts.com.au/creative-arts-fund/
If you are unable to apply online, contact Blacktown Arts Centre on 9839 6558.

ENQUIRIES

For more information, contact Monir Rowshan, Coordinator Cultural Planning and Community Engagement, on 9839 6558.