**Application guidelines**

**2021 Blacktown City Creative Arts Fund**

**Key dates**

**Opens: Wednesday 3 March 2021**

**Closes: Wednesday 31 March 2021, 5 pm**

**Funding announcement: August 2021**

**Project delivery: August 2021 to June 2022**

The Blacktown City Creative Arts Fund (CAF) is a council grants program supporting local artists and community organisations to develop and deliver new artistic ideas and programs in the region. Applications are open from 3 March and close 31 March 2021.

**The Creative Arts Fund’s purpose is to:**

* foster new, independent arts and cultural initiatives across the City
* encourage creative expression in Blacktown City through a range of arts and cultural activities
* support local artists in the development of their practice including professional development opportunities, or in the creation of new artistic projects
* support local community organisations in the development of arts and cultural programs by to employ an artist on a project.

If you are a local artist and resident, or a community organisation that services Blacktown City there are two funding categories.

**Category A** is for community organisations, offering up to $3,000 in funding.

Category A funding enables organisations to pay an artist to design, plan and work with your members and participants on an artistic and creative program.

Organisations with and without previous experience with arts and cultural programs are encouraged to apply. Blacktown Arts can provide artist referrals upon request. Organisations have to be incorporated for this category.

**Category B** is for individual artists or groups offering up to $2,000 in funding.

The funding supports individual artists or groups in the creation of new artistic projects, or provides support for artists pursuing new professional development opportunities.

**Funding conditions**

**What can the funds be used for**?

Costs directly related to the project, including artist fees, purchase of materials, venue hire, publicity and marketing for the project’s launch, and obtaining public liability insurance for projects involving the public or public presentation.

**What can’t the funds be used for**?

* The funds cannot be used for costs not directly related to the project, such as purchasing equipment or existing staff salaries.

**All applicants are required to:**

* complete the project within the proposed time frame
* use the funds according to the project proposal
* provide a short report to the Council after the completion of the project
* pay artists based on rates in consultation with their expertise and hourly fees
* provide written consent from any artist/s engaged on the project
* provide or organise a venue to host the initiative.

Funds are available to develop your project in your home studio, organisation or to contribute towards venue hire.

**Eligibility**

Applicants must meet the following requirements:

* be an Australian Citizen
* be over 18 years of age
* have public liability insurance for projects involving the public
* applicants must not have received funding for a project in the 2020 Creative Arts Fund
* applicants must not be employees of Blacktown City Council, their direct family members, Ward Councillors or members of the Blacktown City Council Arts Advisory Committee.
* **Category A: Community Organisations and Groups criteria**
* local incorporated non-political, non-religious organisations providing services to residents in the Blacktown local government area, OR
* ABN-registered non-profit, non-government community, cultural or arts organisations providing services to residents in Blacktown City

 - have a certificate of currency and public liability insurance of up to $10,000,000

- engage an artist to work with your community and provide written confirmation from the artist

* **Category B: individual artists or artist groups**
* live in the Blacktown City
* Be at any stage of your artistic career and work across any artform

**How to apply**

* Check that you can meet the funding conditions and eligibility requirements
* Fill in and submit an online application form located here: <https://blacktownarts.com.au/2021-creative-arts-fund/>
* include the following attachments in your application:
	+ a detailed budget
	+ any requested supporting materials

**Need help with your application?**

**Information sessions** will be held via Zoom on Friday 5 March 2021, 11 am – 12 pm and Tuesday 9 March, 2021, 4 pm – 5 pm.

Register at <https://creative-arts-fund-2021-info-sessions.eventbrite.com.au>

If you require assistance with your application due to language, accessibility or technology barriers, or if you have questions in relation to your application please

* **complete the ’Interview Request’ form** if you would prefer to speak about your project, instead of submitting a written application, and we will be in touch to organise an interview with you.
* **contact Blacktown Arts** on (02) 9839 6558, Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am – 5 pm, or via email artscentre@blacktown.nsw.gov.au and request a meeting with a staff member from the Creative Arts Fund team.

**Selection criteria**

Applications are assessed by a panel of Blacktown Arts staff and a member of Blacktown City Council’s Arts Advisory Committee. Applications are assessed based on the following criteria:

* originality of ideas and creativity
* quality of the project’s community engagement
* artistic merit and experience of the artist/s involved in the project.
* the grant’s conditions and eligibility requirements
* detailed budget
* supporting material

**Successful applicants will be notified by August 2021.**