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| **2022 BLACKTOWN CITY CREATIVE ARTS FUND APPLICATION GUIDELINES** |

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| **APPLICATIONS OPEN: Monday 28 February 2022**  **APPLICATIONS CLOSE: Friday 1 April 2022** |

Blacktown Arts is offering a range of opportunities to artists and creatives to apply for funding to develop art and cultural programs with local communities. Through the **Blacktown City Creative Arts Fund**, local artists and community organisations can receive up to $3,000 to develop art related programs or projects with the community.

Through the Creative Arts Fund, artists and community organisations are invited to activate new ideas and initiatives, and take advantage of partnership opportunities with other organisations, artists and community groups.

The Fund also creates a platform to build social and cultural connections between the communities of Blacktown City and encourage creative expression through a range of arts and cultural activities.

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| **CREATIVE ARTS FUND CATEGORIES:** |

The Creative Arts Fund is divided into two categories to extend opportunities to community organisations and individual artists.

**Community organisations and groups – Category A**

Blacktown-based community organisations and groups are invited to apply for grants of up to $3,000 (inclusive of GST) to develop artistic programs or projects. The funding enables organisations to pay an artist to design, plan and work with their group/s on an artistic and creative program or project.

Artists can play a vital role in creative engagement with the community. Examples include design and implementation of a mural for a community centre, a series of weaving or craft workshops with groups, collecting stories through recording and illustration, etc.

We encourage organisations with no previous experience with arts programs to apply, as well as those with experience.

**Eligibility**

* Local incorporated non-political, non-religious organisations and groups who are providing services to residents in the Blacktown local government area
* ABN-registered non-profit, non-government community, cultural or arts organisations
* Organisations with written consent from the artist(s) proposed to work with you for the project
* Successful organisations will need a certificate of currency and public liability insurance of up to $10,000,000

**Individual artist or artist groups – Category B:**

Individual artists or artist groups are invited to apply for up to $2,000 (inclusive of GST) to assist in their professional development or to work on an arts project with local community organisations or groups.

**Who can apply?**

We welcome applications from local individual artists or those working in groups

* Artists at any stage of their career
* Artists working in any art form
* Artists must be 18 years and over and live in the Blacktown local government area
* Artists who have not previously received funding through the program

Funding is not available to employees of Blacktown City Council, their direct family members, Ward Councillors or members of the Blacktown City Council Arts Advisory Committee.

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| **BENEFITS AND CONDITIONS OF THE GRANT** |

**GRANT CONDITIONS:**

Developing an artistic project is just the start of what you can achieve with the Creative Arts Fund. You are able to:

* Pay artists fees, purchase materials, book venue hire, and generate publicity and marketing for the project’s launch
* Obtain public liability insurance for projects involving the public or public presentation
* Be featured in Blacktown Arts’ publicity activities
* Receive advise and mentorship opportunities through Blacktown Arts
* Connect with peers and other creative community organisations

As part of the conditions of the grant, you are required to:

* Pay artists as per NAVA’s standard schedule of fees (https://visualarts.net.au) and or Media Entertainment and Arts Alliance’s standard rates for performers and writers (https://www.meaa.org)
* Complete the project within the proposed timeframe
* Tell Council how the funding and the project helped make a difference through a report to be submitted one month after completion or by 31 June 2023 (those who do not provide the report will be required to repay the grant)
* Show your appreciation and support by acknowledging Blacktown Arts and Blacktown City Council on all marketing material associated with the project (including websites, media releases, social media, interviews and other promotional material)

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| **HOW RECIPIENTS WILL BE SELECTED** |

**SELECTION CRITERIA:**

Applications will be carefully assessed by a panel of Blacktown Arts staff and a member of Blacktown City Council’s Arts Advisory Committee.

Applications will be assessed on the criteria below :

**Category A:**

* Originality of ideas and creativity
* Level and quality of engagement with the community
* Written consent from the artist/s involved in the project
* Artistic merit and experience of the artist/s involved in the project
* Clearly defined project description, aims and outcomes
* Capacity to deliver the project
* A complete and realistic budget

**Category B:**

* Originality of ideas and creativity
* Clearly defined project description, aims and outcomes
* Capacity to deliver the project
* A complete and realistic budget

Successful applicants will be notified by the end of July 2022.

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| **WHAT YOU NEED TO DO** |

To be successful in your application, please remember to:

* Check you and/or your organisation and project/program are eligible to apply
* Complete a realistic budget for the category you are eligible for
* Fill in the online information
* Save the application form, and complete it in full before submitting online by Friday 1 April 2022

**INFORMATION SESSIONS:**

Learn more about the program by attending one of our two information sessions.

**Date:** Wednesday 2 March, 2-3pm and Wednesday 9 March, 5-6pm

**Location:** Zoom**,** you can register here<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/creative-arts-fund-information-sessions-tickets-267994036377>

You can register your interest here for one of the sessions in the link below:

Insert link