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Camera and microphones are turned off.**



# 2026 Blacktown City Creative Arts Fund Information Session

Image: Joyce Fidel courtesy of Opn. and Nicole Oliveria

# Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge that the Dharug people are the Traditional custodians of the land on which we meet today. We pay our respects to elders past and present and acknowledge the Aboriginal people for their custodianship of this land. We will work together for a united city that respects this land and values the contribution to our community and culture of all people of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage

# Agenda

1. What is the Blacktown City Creative Arts Fund?
2. Examples of past projects
3. Guidelines
4. Budget
5. Support Material
6. How to apply
7. Questions


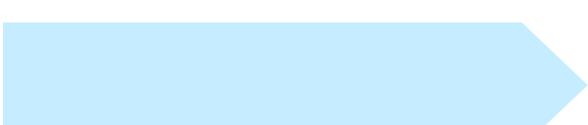
# What is the Blacktown City Creative Arts Fund?

The Blacktown City Creative Arts Fund offers **funding for new creative projects and professional development opportunities** for local artists, groups and organisations.

Applicants are invited to submit projects and initiatives across a range of mediums including performance, visual arts, music, digital, podcasting, multimedia, dance, photography, and professional development opportunities.

Successful applicants **can receive up to \$5,000** to realise their projects.

# The process

-  Applications close 29 June 2026
-  Successful applications announced September 2026
-  Sign funding agreement September 2026
-  Receive funding September 2026
-  Complete project by 30 June 2027
-  Complete project acquittal by 30 June 2027

# Past Projects

# ME1 . wav

## Developing and launching new music

A local music trio creates a collection of new music that blends house rhythms with the region's rich cultural influences.



Image: courtesy of the artist, photography by Justin Cueno

# Desiree Martin

## Creating a series of paintings and sculptures

A local visual artist creates a series of paintings capturing the aspects of Blacktown found by exploring the CBD and suburbs.

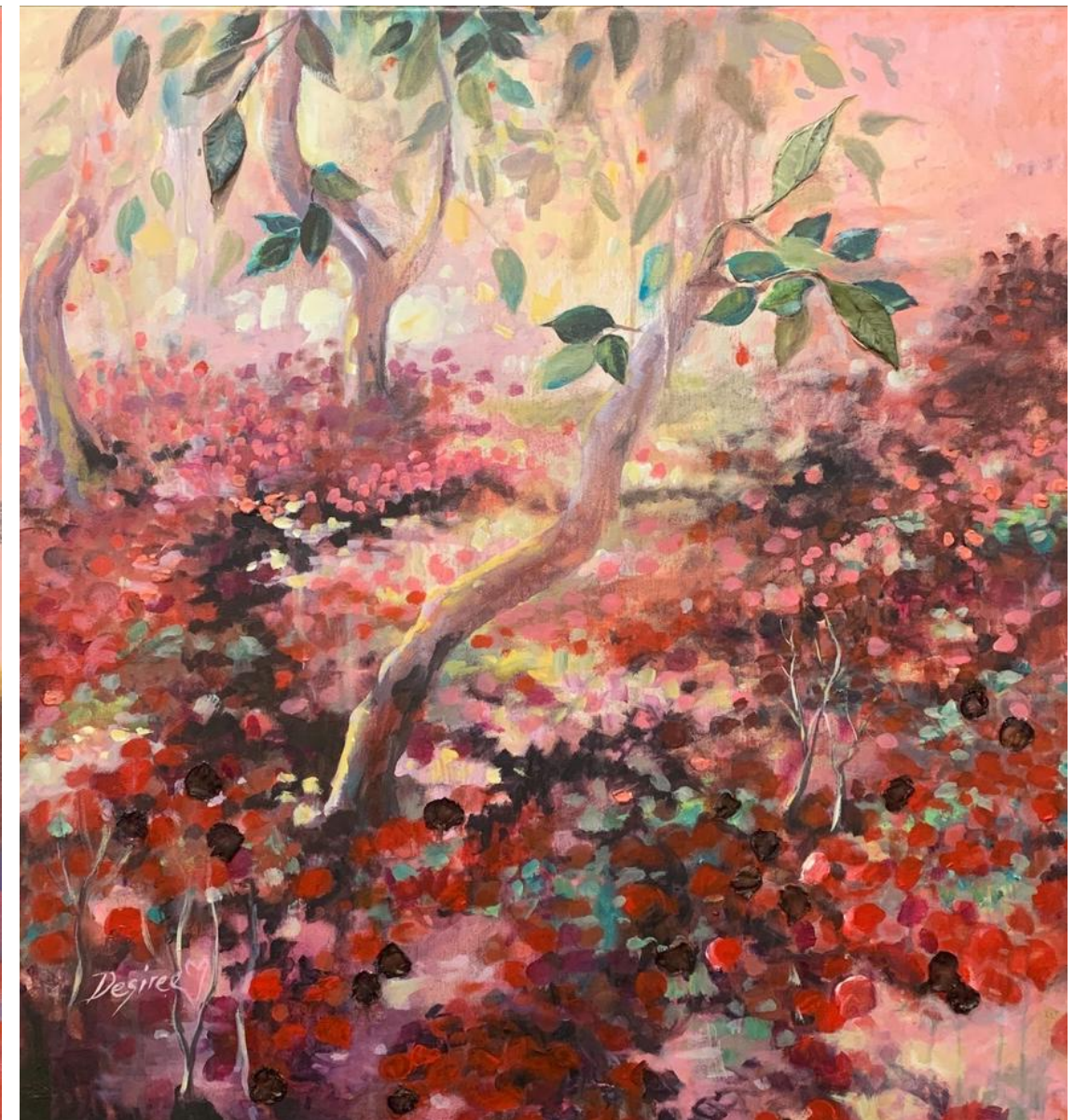
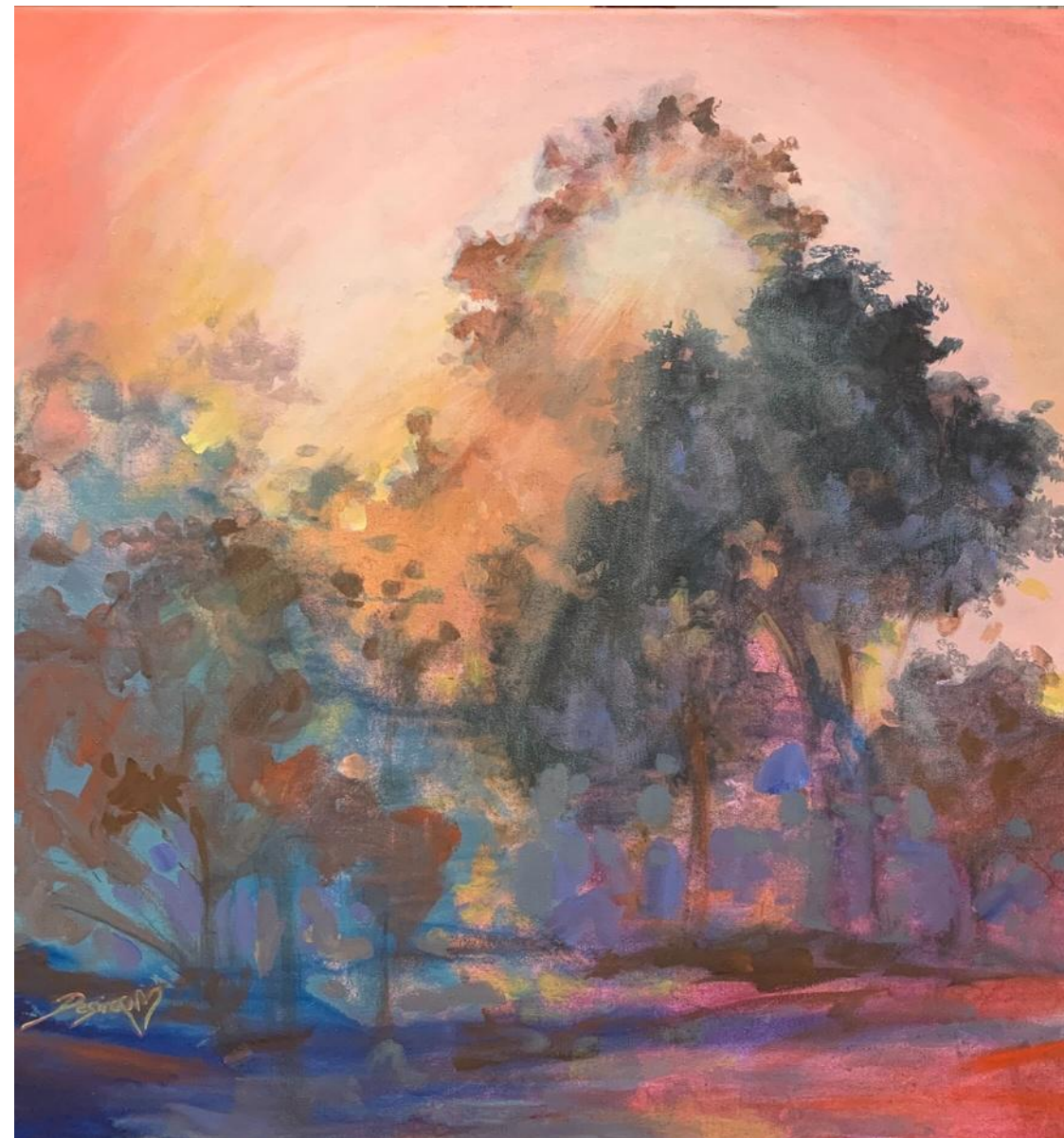
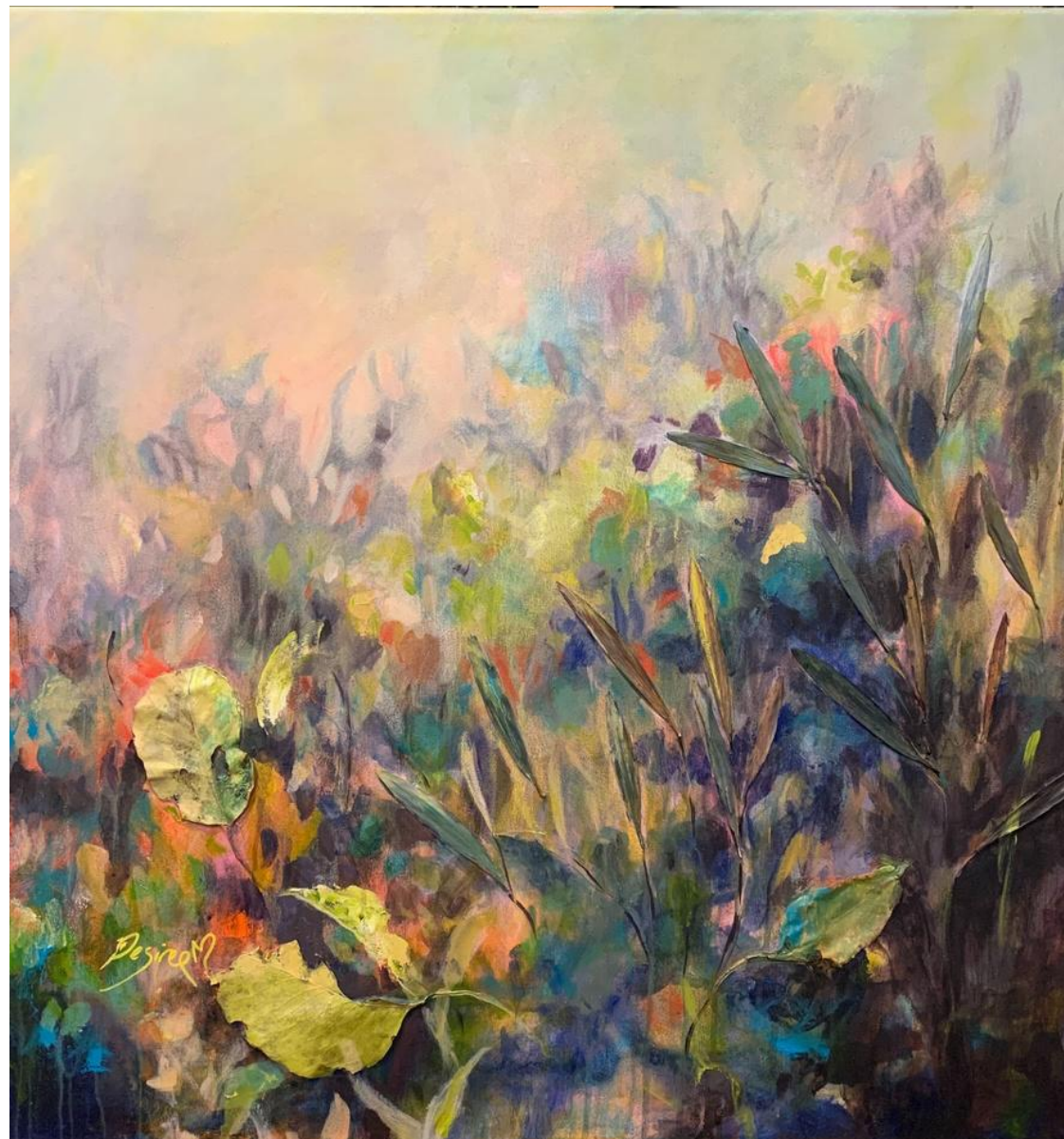


Image: courtesy of the artist

# Fufu & Tibs

## Capturing cultural storytelling

Archiving diasporic stories of African migrants and their unique journeys to Australia through photography and interviews.



Image: Straight from the Pot: Gursha by Fufu & Tibs, courtesy of the artist

# Guidelines

# Key Info

- Applications Close: **Monday 29 June 2026, by 11.59 pm**
- Successful applicants will be announced in September
- Your project can start as soon as you receive your funding and will need to be completed by **30 June 2027**
- Only 1 application can be submitted per artist, group and/or organisation
- Organisations will need Public Liability Insurance to the value of \$20,000,000 and a Certificate of Incorporation
- Meeting all criteria does not guarantee an application will be successful. The Blacktown City Creative Arts Fund can only provide a limited number of applications with funding
- In previous years approx. 10 to 15 applications have received funding
- If you are successful, you will need to sign a funding agreement, where you'll agree to spend the money as you've identified and complete the project according to your application
- We will host an event for all the successful applicants where the Mayor will present you with a cheque.

# Who can apply?

- Individuals aged 18 and above and **living in the Blacktown Local Government Area**
- An incorporated non-political, non-religious organisation or group that is **operating their project in the Blacktown Local Government Area and/or providing services to residents**
- An ABN-registered non-profit, non-government community, cultural or arts organisation or group **operating their project in the Blacktown Local Government Area and/or providing services to residents**. Organisations will need Public Liability Insurance to the value of \$20,000,000 and a Certificate of Incorporation.

Funding is not available to:

- Employees of Blacktown City Council or their immediate family members, Ward Councillors or members of the Blacktown City Council Arts and Culture Advisory Committee
- Groups and organisations whose proposed project is based outside of the Blacktown Local Government Area
- Previous recipients of the Blacktown City Creative Arts Fund who have not completed their project and/or submitted a final project and expenditure report.

# How will applications be assessed?

Applications will be assessed on the following criteria:

1. Originality of ideas and creativity
2. Clearly defined project descriptions, aims and outcomes
3. How the project benefits and/or engages the Blacktown community
4. The applicant's capacity to deliver the project
5. A complete and realistic budget.

# Budget

# Key Info

- You can apply for funding **up to \$5,000**
- You can download an editable budget template from the application form
- You will need to be able to **justify your spending** in the project budget form. Making sure to **itemise** and list how you intend to spend the money by amending the template
- In the application we ask if you will be **receiving any in-kind support or any additional funding**. Please include this in the budget
- We encourage organisations to **follow industry standard rates** (via NAVA or MEAA) when paying contractors or provide a **reasonable and fair fee**.

## Project Budget

Please itemise the costs of your project based on the amount you are requesting from the Blacktown City Creative Arts Fund, e.g. if you're requesting for \$5000, your budget should total to \$5000.

Do not include any in-kind support or other funding sources within this budget, please clarify any additional contributions in your application form (Part 3, question 9).

If you are engaging contractors such as artists, performers, facilitators, mentors, etc. you are required to pay them a reasonable and fair fee for their contribution to the project (if service is not provided in-kind).

Please refer to [National Association of Visual Arts'](#) and/or [Media Entertainment and Arts Alliance's](#) for standard rates.

INCOME		
Item	Description of funding	Amount
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
Total Income		\$
EXPENDITURE		
Cost Type	Cost Description	Amount
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
Total Expenditure		\$

Please add or amend line items to the table below as needed.

# Example

<b>INCOME</b>		
<b>Item</b>	<b>Description of funding</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Grant	Creative Arts Fund Grant	\$3,500.00
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>\$3,500.00</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>Cost Type</b>	<b>Cost Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Materials	Materials for workshop	\$150.00
Fees	Facilitator costs	\$1,500.00
Equipment	Tables, chairs, etc hire	\$350.00
Marketing	Promotion of event (physical and social)	\$900.00
Travel	Bus hire	\$600.00
		\$
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>\$3,500.00</b>

Please add or amend line items to the table below as needed.

# Support Material

# Examples

Providing support material helps the assessment panel get a better understanding of who you are as an artist or organisation and the quality of your work.

Some support material could include:

- A resume, artist bio and/or website about yourself or your organisation and key personnel
- Evidence/samples of your recent work and any other creatives who will be engaged in your project. This may include sample writing, images, sound, website, video, or anything else that you consider best represents your practice and/or project
- Your creative portfolio and/or a presentation of your proposed project
- Social media handles (if applicable).

**How do I apply?**

[blacktownarts.com.au](http://blacktownarts.com.au)

# Opportunities

## Magnify: Live Arts 2026

Magnify: Live Arts supports artists in western Sydney to develop new live art projects. Blacktown Arts provides mentoring, one week of residency space and financial support to develop a new project idea.

The program gives artists time and support to experiment with new ideas, connect with other artists in the residency program, and work with guest mentors and the Blacktown Arts team.

## Blacktown Short Film Festival

Blacktown Shorts Film Festival offers western Sydney filmmakers funding to present a new short film at the Sydney Opera House.

Successful applicants also receive industry mentorship and professional development.

# Questions

Please add your questions in the chat  
or you can email us later at:

[blacktownarts@blacktown.nsw.gov.au](mailto:blacktownarts@blacktown.nsw.gov.au)