

**This presentation is being recorded.
Camera and microphones are turned off.**



2026 Magnify: Live Arts Information Session

Image: Photography by Liza Moscatelli, Mosca Media Australia

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 Magnify?
2. Guidelines
3. How to apply?
4. Support Material
5. Questions

What is Magnify?

Magnify: Live Arts supports artists in western Sydney to develop new projects to be presented live. We define live as performing in real time to an audience.

Blacktown Arts provides:

- mentoring
- one week of residency space in western Sydney
- financial support of up to \$5,000 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.

Individuals and groups are welcome to apply. We welcome applications from creatives who are D/deaf, neurodivergent; with lived experience of disability and/or access requirements.

Applications are open to live art projects across a range of art forms, including (but not limited to):

- performance
- dance
- music composition
- theatre

Mentoring

The Blacktown Arts team and guest Creative Producers will be available during the development of your project.

We will work with you to create a check-in schedule which suits your project.



Credit: Hanap, by Liza Moscatelli

Residency

The Blacktown Arts team will work with you to:

- confirm your November dates
- arrange a residency space in western Sydney that suits the project, your approved residency schedule and your accessibility needs



Credit: Dance Makers Collective, Woman's Work, image Courtesy of the Artist






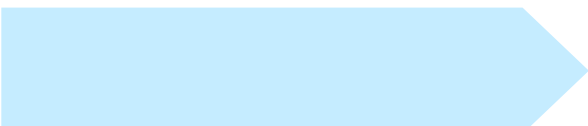
Financial Support

- Receive up to \$5,000 to develop your project idea
- If successful, we will work with you to develop a budget
- All artists involved in the residency, including the lead applicant, must be paid in line with the Live Performance Award



Credit: Agal Dance, Home Six Yards, by Moses Awitan Hyperreel

The process


- 1  Submit application by 29 June 2026
- 2  Successful applicants notified July 2026
- 3  Confirm November residency dates August 2026
- 4  Arrange a venue with Blacktown Arts team August 2026
- 5  Develop a budget with Backtown Arts team August 2026
- 6  1 week residency November 2026

A photograph of a grocery store aisle. The background shows shelves stocked with various products, including bags of Del Monte Original Style Tomato Sauce and other food items. In the foreground, the arm and hand of a person wearing a black watch are visible, suggesting they are shopping. The overall scene is brightly lit, typical of a retail environment.

Guidelines

Key Info

- Applications Close: Monday 29 June 2026, 11.59 pm
- Successful applicants will be notified in July 2026
- Applications must be submitted by someone aged **18 or over**
- Applicants must be based in **western Sydney**
- Applications must be for a live arts project
- Only **1 application** can be submitted per individual or group
- The assessment panel may select projects from a range of art forms
- Meeting all eligibility and assessment criteria does not guarantee success
- Only a limited number of projects can be supported
- Successful applicants may receive less than \$5,000
- You may be asked to provide additional support material during the assessment process

A person is standing in a grocery store aisle. The person is wearing a dark t-shirt and a black watch on their left wrist. They are looking at a white rectangular box that covers most of the frame. The background shows shelves with various products, including bags of tortilla chips and packages of tortilla sauce. The text "How to apply?" is written in large, bold, black letters on the white box.

How to apply?

Your application must include:

Applications must be submitted through the Blacktown Arts website

You will need to provide (in writing or in a video):

- information about your artistic practice
- detailed information about your project including what it is, who is involved, when it will happen, why it matters and how the project benefits / engages the Blacktown community
- your project goals or outcomes
- support material that helps explain your practice and project

Support material can include:

- images
- video
- audio
- links to previous work

How will applications be assessed?

Applications will be assessed based on:

- originality of ideas and creativity
- a clear project description
- how the project benefits and/or engages the Blacktown City community
- your ability to make the most of the residency opportunity

If your application is successful

Successful applicants will be notified in July 2026

You will work with us to:

- confirm your residency dates
- secure a suitable residency space
- develop a production budget of up to \$5,000 before the residency begins.

All artists involved in the residency, including the lead applicant, must be paid in line with the **Live Performance Award**.

If your application is unsuccessful

Unsuccessful applicants will also be notified in July 2026

Opportunities

Blacktown Shorts 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.

Blacktown Creative Arts Fund

Blacktown Arts is offering funding for new creative projects and professional development opportunities for local artists, groups and organisations.

You can apply for funding for projects in areas such as:

- performance
- visual arts
- music
- digital art
- podcasting
- multimedia
- dance
- photography

Successful applicants can receive up to \$5,000 to deliver their project.

Questions

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