

Main Street Studios guidelines



Image credit: Tarni Eastwood in her Main Street Studio by Garry Trinh

As part of **Blacktown City Council's** commitment to providing opportunities for artists to thrive in our City, we provide a 6-month rent free space for artists at any stage of their careers to reflect on their creative practice and bring new ideas to life.

About our studios

- 4 rent-free creative studio spaces situated in Blacktown CBD
- within walking distance of the train, bus stations and car parks
- accessible between 6 am and 10 pm daily, including weekends
- studios are fitted out with limited furniture
- free Wi-Fi for all studio artists to use.

Support

Successful artists will be supported by Blacktown Arts teams throughout their time at the studios. They will also have access to:

- regular check-ins and meet and greets with Blacktown Arts staff
- promotion via a photoshoot and interview for Blacktown Arts marketing platforms.

Key dates

- applications open: Monday 16 November 2026
- applications close: Monday 30 November 2026
- period: February to August 2027

Eligibility

- artists must be 18 years of age or older, at any stage of their artistic development
- preference will be given to artists who live in Blacktown and western Sydney
- if successful, artists must obtain personal/professional accident/injury insurance and public liability insurance of \$20 million.

Accessibility

Our studios are located within a repurposed building and are accessed via a flight of narrow stairs. As a result, this means the studios may not meet the accessibility needs of all artists.

Studio artists have access to a small, shared kitchenette and bathroom facilities.

Key Deposit

The studios are non-residential and require a refundable security deposit of \$200.

Due to the nature of the facilities, the studios may not be suitable for all artforms.

Assessment criteria

Applications will be assessed by Blacktown Arts staff, who will consider the following criteria:

- originality and creativity of the artists existing practice
- how the residency will benefit the professional development of the artist

Preference will be given to artists who live in Blacktown and western Sydney.

Application

We accept video applications from those who may not be able to contextualise their practice in writing. Applications to be submitted via the Blacktown Arts website:

<https://blacktownarts.com.au/im-an-artist/main-street-studios/>

Need some assistance?

If you have questions or require assistance with your application, contact Blacktown Arts via email blacktownarts@blacktown.nsw.gov.au or call (02) 9839 6558, Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am to 5 pm.