

Guidelines

NEXT LEVEL REGIONAL GRANTS

YCulture Fellowships

Presented by Drug Aware

Next Level Regional Grants of \$7,500 are available to support young emerging regional artists and arts workers' creative activity and professional development for a period of one year.

This fund is only open to applicants from regional and remote Western Australia between the ages of 18 and 26. Applicants must be in this age range at the time of application.

The Next Level Regional Grant is intended to support young emerging artists and arts workers, to undertake a self-directed program that builds their capacity to develop and sustain a career in regional Western Australia.

In addition to your own creative activity and development the program also comprises of:

- Additional money to support attendance at a conference or gathering with other successful applicants that is significant to the collective practice.
- 1 x 2 hour online group induction for recipients at the commencement of the program to get the rundown on Next Level.
- Minimum of 3 x 1 hour online group catch-ups for both recipients and Next Level Alumni held at approximately three month intervals over the course of the program. These are designed to check-in on progress, provide peer review and share experiences.

Please read through the following grant guidelines. If you need help with your application, contact the Regional Arts WA Project Officer.

This program is part of the Regional Arts and Culture Investment Program, supported by the State Government's Royalties for Regions Program.

Key dates

Next Level Regional Grants will close 5pm, Thursday 27 May 2021.

The eligible activity period is 1 July 2021 until 30 June 2022.

The Regional Arts WA Project Officer may provide feedback on one draft per applicant if requested providing drafts are submitted by Friday 14 May 2021.

Who can apply

You may apply if you are an independent artist, arts worker, cultural worker or producer who is:

- aged between 18 and 26 years at the time of the application closing date.
- resident in Regional WA as determined by Regional Development Commission boundaries for a minimum of 12 months prior to application.
- an Australian citizen or permanent resident.
- have an Australian Business Number (ABN) registered in Regional WA.

An applicant may also nominate a not-for-profit organisation or Local Government Authority as an auspice to accept legal and financial responsibility for the applicant's grant. Auspice organisations are required to be based and registered in regional WA.

Who cannot apply

You cannot apply for a grant if:

- you are based in a metropolitan area.
- you have not acquitted grants from Regional Arts WA, Community Arts Network, Department of Local, Government, Sports and Cultural Industries or any Australian Government funding program.
- you have previously been a successful recipient of a Next Level Regional Grant.

We will not accept applications from legally constituted organisations or partnerships.

How much can you apply for

The Next Level Regional Grant provides \$7,500 to support your creative activity and professional development for a period of one year. You are encouraged to consider including a mentoring component in your project.

What you can apply for

You can apply for a range of different activities. All art forms are eligible including but not limited to visual arts, theatre, dance, writing, music, film, new media and cultural projects. Some examples of activities we fund are:

- the creation of new work
- experimentation
- collaborations
- skills development
- professional development and training
- residencies
- practice based research
- presentation, promotion or marketing
- inbound and outbound travel.
- minor capital equipment purchases (up to \$1,000 per item) may be made where it is clear it is more financially prudent than hiring. NB: The primary intention of this fund is not to support the purchase of assets.

All activities must comply with current advice from the WA Health Department regarding COVID-19 and must be drug, alcohol and smoke free.

You can travel intrastate, nationally and overseas during the project but are asked to spend the majority of your time in Regional WA to ensure that the benefits of the grant are evident in the regions.

What you cannot apply for

You cannot apply for the following activity:

- projects or activities that do not involve or benefit emerging regional artists or arts workers
- projects that principally benefit a metropolitan location or areas outside of regional WA
- projects or activities that do not have a clearly defined arts component
- projects that have already taken place.
- activities already funded by Regional Arts WA or the Department of Local Government, Sports and Cultural Industries through any other funding programs
- fundraising, competitions, prizes and trophies

- activity that will be academically assessed or any school curriculum-based activity.
- major capital equipment purchase including instruments, equipment, software, computers and/or uniforms over \$1,000.
- capital works such as construction or purchasing of studios, workspaces or galleries

Assessment Criteria

The Regional Arts WA Panel assessing your application against the following criteria is made up of young peers who are active in their own regional communities in arts and cultural activities and have experience across a range of art-forms. To assess how well your application meets our criteria, the Panel consider a number of prompts.

Please note that not all of the prompts will apply to your application, but they are examples of the things our peers may consider.

Artistic Potential

The Panel will assess the potential of the emerging artists or arts worker, and the calibre of those involved.

They may consider the following:

- artistic merit of proposed project
- quality of work previously produced by the applicant and collaborator/mentor
- demonstrated ability, skills and creative thinking
- level of innovation, ambition, or experimentation
- dedication to building a creative career in regional WA.

Viability

The Panel will assess the viability of your proposed activities.

They may consider the following:

- relevance and timeliness of proposed activity
- realistic and achievable planning and resource use.
- support from a recognised individual or organisation from within the arts and cultural sector
- where proposals involve working with diverse audiences or communities, the Panel will look for demonstrated cultural competencies and appropriateness.

Impact

The Panel will assess the impact that the proposed activity will have on your arts practice and career.

They may consider the following:

- capacity to strengthen skills and abilities of artist/arts worker
- potential to extend arts practice, including working at greater scale or significance
- potential to discover and develop new markets and raise a profile
- potential to create a sustainable arts career from regional WA.

Support material

You may submit support material with your application to help the Panel gain a better sense of your project. If you need advice on what type of support material to submit, please contact the Project Officer.

There are three types of support material you may submit:

1. Artist information

You can include a brief bio or curriculum vitae (CV) for yourself and any additional artists, mentors or key collaborators involved in the project. Document each Bio and CV information for all artists and key collaborators, including yourself, should be presented as a single document no longer than two A4 pages in total in PDF format.

2. Artistic support material

This should include relevant, recent examples of your artistic work. You will only be able to upload a maximum of:

- Seven written material documents (in PDF format max. five pages each)
- Five photographs and images such as artworks or examples of past projects
- Three direct links of audio, images or video (max. three minutes, if longer the Panel will only view the identified three minutes)
- Two audio files (mp3 format preferred)
- Two video files (max. three minutes in length and 25MB in size)

3. Letters of support

Individuals, groups or organisations can write letters in support of your project. A support letter should explain to the assessment panel how the project or activity will benefit the applicant (and if applicable, how the project or activity will benefit the community). You can include up to five letters of support, with each letter not exceeding one A4 page in PDF format.

Risk management: COVID-19

In response to COVID-19 please consider the following in relation to your project or program of activities before submitting an application:

- advise of any risks identified in your project as a result of COVID-19 and how you plan to mitigate these risks.
- consider including a Risk Management Statement as part of your support material if your project includes activities which are impacted by, or could be impacted by, public health restrictions, such as public gatherings.
- reference the [Department of Health's Guidance](#)

Providing this information, either through answers to application questions or support materials, allows assessors to consider your application against the relevant criteria. The level and detail of information provided should be similar to the level of risk identified.

Working with Children

Please ensure that if carrying out child-related work as part of the fellowship activities all artists and arts workers involved have a current Working with Children Check as required by WA laws. For more information visit www.workingwithchildren.wa.gov.au

Working with First Nations Cultural Content and communities

Regional Arts WA requires applicants to show how they will acknowledge any Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural knowledge and intellectual property.

Further details on the protocols and appropriate acknowledgements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their culture, are available from the [Australia Council for the Arts Protocols for working with Indigenous Artists](#)

How to apply

Before you submit your application, we encourage you to touch base with our Regional Arts WA Project Officer, Hannah Chambers. It is preferred that this occurs before starting your application. Hannah can give guidance on eligibility, be a sounding board for ideas and support you through the application process.

We encourage you to make the most of the opportunity by allowing plenty of time for discussion and feedback before applications close.

You can get in touch with Hannah by phone or email; whichever you prefer:

Phone 08 9200 6210

Regional Freecall 1800 811 883

Email hchambers@regionalartswa.org.au

Apply online via SmartyGrants

All applications are to be submitted online using the SmartyGrants system. Applicants who require support to access the online application process should contact Regional Arts WA. Links to the forms can be found on the Regional Arts WA website: <https://regionalartswa.org.au/funding/nlrg/>.

Privacy

Regional Arts WA values applicants' privacy. For details on how we collect, store and use information, applicants can review our Privacy Policy at <https://regionalartswa.org.au/legal/privacy-policy/> or contact us at info@regionalartswa.org.au or call 08 9200 6200 for a copy.

If you are successful

If you are successful you will be notified by Regional Arts WA and asked to sign a funding agreement. After the agreement has been signed, and any other conditions met, then you will need to send an invoice to Regional Arts WA. You will also need to evaluate your project and submit a final report.

Evaluation

Regional Arts WA is working with the Cultural Development Network's online planning and evaluation platform WhiteBox, to help focus our programs towards achieving intended outcomes. Measuring the outcomes helps Regional Arts WA to understand what is being achieved for the regional arts sector and how effective the program has been.

As part of this program you will be provided with access to WhiteBox, in order to evaluate your activities. Please also refer to the separate Outcome Measurements Guide which explains a bit more about this and will help when you are preparing your application.

Acquittal

You must provide a final report on your project within 8 weeks of the end date. Acquittal forms are provided via SmartyGrants, and you will need to log in to complete your report.

If you do not provide an acquittal within the given timeframe it may result in you being considered ineligible for future funding rounds until your acquittal has been submitted and accepted.

Acknowledgment of funding

This project is part of the Regional Arts and Culture Investment Program, supported by the State Government's Royalties for Regions Program.

The purpose of the program is to drive the creation of jobs, drive economic development and tourism and improve social cohesion by supporting the creative and cultural industries in regional Western Australia. Through strategic investments, the program aims to build capacity in the regions and contribute to liveability and vibrancy of regional communities.



Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries
Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

Next Level Regional Grants; YCulture Fellowships are also supported by Healthway as part of the YCulture program to promote the Drug Aware message.

