

Practice In Community Program - Overview

Practice in Community is about placing creativity at the heart of community life and supporting the arts to respond to community-identified priorities by acting as a catalyst for social connection, cultural expression, and long-term impact. By this, we mean community in the broadest sense, any group of people unified by a community of interest, with a shared socially-significant characteristic, such as norms, culture, religion, values, customs, or identity, and connected by place.

Designed and delivered by Regional Arts Australia, with support from Minderoo Foundation, the program invests in the sustainable development of independent artists working in the Community Arts and Cultural Development (CACD) sector. It provides artists with time, trust, and financial resources to do their most meaningful work alongside the people they live with.

Regional Arts Australia is calling for expressions of interest from experienced regionally-based CACD practitioners who wish to engage with a place-based community over two years.

Expression of Interest

* indicates a required field

Applying to Practice in Community

The application process has three stages. Each stage ensures applicants are supported to develop their ideas in collaboration with communities, rather than submitting a fully formed project at the outset.

The first stage is an expression of interest. A shortlist will be invited to submit a full application and complete an interview.

Before starting your expression of interest

Regional Arts Australia advises reading the Practice In Community Program Guidelines, familiarising yourself with the Frequently Asked Questions, and attending (or watching a recording of) an Information Session. Visit [Regional Arts Australia](#) for more information.

Have you read through the Practice In Community Project Guidelines? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

Have you attended an information session or watched a recording? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

Practice in Community Expression of Interest - Cohort 2

Form Preview

First Stage: Expression of Interest

We are looking for artists who can work with communities through a process of co-design and collaboration to deliver impact.

At the EOI stage, assessors will focus on your past experience and track record to determine your potential to undertake this kind of work. They will be looking at your connection to the community you wish to work with, and whether there is evidence of invitation or support.

NOTE: Applications that propose fixed or predetermined artistic outcomes will not be prioritised.

You will be asked to provide information about:

- Your experience and track record as an artist working in community
- Your ability to work in a community-engaged way
- The place and community you wish to work with, and why
- Any identified community priorities that you may be able to respond to
- Your connection to that community, including any initial engagement
- Evidence of community invitation or trust, including at least one letter of support from a community organisation attesting to your role or reputation
- Your CV and details of referees

Tips:

- Concise, clear and direct responses are easier to assess than long wordy responses.
- Try to provide examples from your previous projects that demonstrate and support your practice and experience with communities
- The assessment panel may not know anything about you other than what you include in your application
- Remember we are not looking for a complete project with predetermined artistic outcomes

Support material During the EOI process you will be asked to provide the following:

- Your CV that demonstrates at least 5 years artistic and community engaged practice
- Contact details for 2 x Referees that can attest to your artistic and community engaged practice
- 1 letter of support from a potential community partner
- Links to previous projects, especially those with evaluation reports, impact reports or testimonials from previous participants

If you propose to work with a First Nations community, you will need to provide documentation that shows you are respecting community protocols and that you have built relationships with the appropriate knowledge holders, Elders or community leaders who support your involvement. This could take the form of a letter, an email (shared with permission), a video statement, or another piece of evidence that reflects community consent and guidance.

Contact Details

Please provide the contact details for the primary applicant. Your name on this application must match the name on your ABN and your bank account.

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Applicant Name *

First Name

Last Name

Preferred Name

Applicant Primary Phone Number *

Must be an Australian phone number.

Applicant Primary Email *

Must be an email address.

Applicant Primary Website

Must be a URL.

Eligibility

* indicates a required field

Your Location

Please enter the street address of your primary location. This should match the address registered on your ABN. If your address doesn't appear in the search bar, you can move the pin on the map or enter the coordinates of your location.

Applicant Primary Address *

Address

Address Line 1, Suburb/Town, State/Province, Postcode, and Country are required. Coordinates Required. Country must be Australia

Applicant Remoteness Area

Does this confirm you are in a regional or remote area? *

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

Ineligible Location

Unfortunately you do not reside in an eligible location to participate in the Practice in Community Program

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The place where your community is located

Please enter the location where the community you wish to work with is based.

Place where community is located *

Address

Suburb/Town, State/Province, and Postcode are required.
Country must be Australia

Place Remoteness Area

Does this confirm your community's place is in a regional or remote area? *

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

Do you live within 100km of this location? *

- ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ No, but I have deep long-standing relationships with a community beyond 100km from my residence and/or my community itself regularly changes locations.

Ineligible community place location

Unfortunately your community is not in an eligible location to participate in the Practice in Community Program

Community place outside 100km

The Guidelines state that an applicant should live within 100 kilometres of the community they plan to work with. An exception may be granted if you can demonstrate deep long-standing relationships with a community situated more than 100km from your place of residence. An exception may also be granted if your community itself moves seasonally, for example between wet and dry country.

In either case, we ask you to provide additional information to assist us in determining your eligibility.

Tick the following circumstances that apply to your community *

- ☐ My community is more than 100km from my place of residence
☐ My community moves between locations throughout the year
☐ All of the above

Please tell us about your connection to this community and why an exception to the 100km distance from your place of residence is relevant. *

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Word count:

Must be no more than 300 words.

Age

Are you over 18 years of age? *

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

Ineligible age

Applicants under 18 are ineligible to participate in this program.

ABN Details

Applicant ABN *

The ABN provided will be used to look up the following information. Click Lookup above to check that you have entered the ABN correctly.

ABN

Entity Name

ABN Status

Entity Type

Goods & Services Tax (GST)

DGR Endorsed

ATO Charity Type

ACNC Registration

Tax Concessions

Main Business Location

Must be an ABN.

Does the ABN 'Main business location' above match your primary address provided? *

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

Does the entity name of your ABN match your name on this application? *

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

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If ABN details don't perfectly align, applicants are still able to submit their EOI and update their ABN prior to full application.

Please contact the Australian Business Register to update your details here: <https://www.abr.business.gov.au/Help/UpdateABNDetails>

Practice In Community Funding can only be paid to applicants whose name and physical address matches their ABN 'main business location'.

Proof of work with Community

Do you have a minimum of 5 years Community Arts and Cultural Development (CACD) engaged practice? *

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

Unfortunately, at this stage you are not eligible to apply for Practice in Community.

If you have close to 5 years experience working in community-engaged practice however, please contact pic@regionalarts.com.au to discuss the possibility of submitting an Expression Of Interest.

Artistic and Cultural Merit

** indicates a required field*

Your answers in this section will assist the assessment panel to understand the quality of the artist's practice and the potential for the work to contribute to cultural expression, creativity and community identity.

How long have you worked in Community Arts and Cultural Development (CACD) or community-engaged practice, and what makes you consider your work CACD? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 300 words.

If you were introducing your artistic practice to someone outside the arts, how would you describe it? (A potential community partner or project participant) *

Word count:

Must be no more than 100 words.

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What skills, experiences, and achievements make you a strong Community Arts and Cultural Development (CACD) practitioner? How has your professional practice prepared you to collaborate effectively with communities? In your response, please include examples from previous projects that demonstrate these qualities. *

Word count:

Must be no more than 500 words.

Community Engagement and Collaboration

* indicates a required field

Your answers in this section will assist the assessment panel to understand the strength of your connection with the community, evidence of invitation or support and your approach to collaboration and co-design.

In addition to your written responses for **Community Engagement and Collaboration** you will be asked to upload evidence of community support and engagement.

At the EOI stage we would like you to upload one letter from a potential community partner (an appropriate community organisation or group). The letter should clearly state:

- that they are aware of your practice and connection to your community.
- that they are aware you are submitting an expression of interest to Practice in Community.
- that they will be willing to work with you on completing a full application and engaging with community (if shortlisted).

Tell us about your place and your connection to it. Why is place important to your practice? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 250 words.

Describe a specific community (group or groups of people) within your place that you hope to engage or collaborate with through this program, and explain your existing connection to them. *

Word count:

Must be no more than 100 words.

Who is a potential community partner that could support your application and approach to collaboration and co-design? Do you already have a relationship with

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them, and if so, what does that look like? (Describe/demonstrate your working history and contacts with community) *

Word count:

Must be no more than 100 words.

What engagement strategies have you successfully used in previous projects that you could bring to your work with this community? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 250 words.

How will you ensure that your collaboration with the community is genuine, respectful, and led by their needs and priorities? You can include examples from previous projects to support your answer. *

Word count:

Must be no more than 250 words.

Do you identify as any of the following? (optional)

☐ Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander ☐ Culturally and Linguistically Diverse ☐ A person with disability ☐ LGBTQIA ☐ Youth (25 years and under) ☐ None of the above ☐ Would rather not say

Other

Do you plan working with any of the following communities?

☐ Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander ☐ Children ☐ Young people ☐ Families

Social Impact

*** indicates a required field**

Your answers in this section will assist the assessment panel to understand the potential of the project to deliver meaningful social outcomes, building connections, generating exchange and creating opportunities.

*In addition to your written responses for **Social Impact** you will be asked to upload evidence of community support and engagement.*

At the EOI stage we would like you to upload or link to :

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- *any evaluations, reports or testimonials that support the social impact of one of your previous projects*

What do you see as three or four of your community's most pressing priorities? (Key opportunities or challenges this community is focusing on, e.g. improving school attendance among high school-aged young people). *

Word count:

Must be no more than 100 words.

How might you use your skills, practice, and community connections to help respond to these priorities? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 250 words.

Can you share an example of a previous project where your work made a difference in people's lives or in the community? What was the impact? What were the outcomes? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 250 words.

What techniques or strategies did you use to understand and measure the outcomes of that project? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 250 words.

Viability

** indicates a required field*

Completing this section

Your answers in this section will assist the assessment panel to understand the quality and viability of your artistic and cultural activity.

At the EOI stage, we want you to tell us about your previous experience delivering community projects and your capacity to deliver on this program over the 2 years if you are successful.

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Have you delivered a multi-year Community Arts and Cultural Development (CACD) project before? If yes please tell us how you went about it, if not, tell us about how your experience prepares you for a longer-term project like this.

Word count:

Must be no more than 250 words.

Tell us about a previous project that best demonstrates your capacity to deliver on this program if you are successful. *

Word count:

Must be no more than 500 words.

Cultural Safety and Ethical Practice

** indicates a required field*

Your answers in this section will assist the assessment panel to understand the extent to which the project demonstrates respect for cultural protocols, inclusivity, accessibility and ethical engagement with communities.

In your previous projects, what measures have you put in place to ensure that cultural protocols, inclusivity, accessibility, trust and permission, and ethical ways of working with communities were respected and followed? Please give examples where possible. *

Word count:

Must be no more than 250 words.

Will your project involve Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people or cultural content at any stage? (Please answer yes if any artists or participants are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, or any content engages with Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander histories or communities) *

☐ Yes ☐ No

Will your project may involve working with children at any stage? (Children means individuals under the age of 18 years) *

☐ Yes ☐ No

Will your project involve working with Vulnerable Persons at any stage? (A Vulnerable Person means an individual aged 18 years and above who may be

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unable to take care of themselves, or is unable to protect themselves against harm or exploitation for any reason, including age, physical or mental illness, trauma or disability, pregnancy, the influence, or past or existing use, of alcohol, drugs or substances or any other reason) *

☐ Yes

☐ No

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People and Cultural Materials

If you propose to work with a First Nations community, you will need to provide documentation that shows you are respecting community protocols and that you have commenced forming relationships with the appropriate Elders, knowledge holders, or community leaders who support your involvement. This could take the form of a letter, an email (shared with permission), a video statement, or another piece of evidence that reflects community consent and guidance.

Applicants funded under the Practice In Community Program who are working with Indigenous Australian artists, need to comply with [Creative Australia Protocols for using First Nations Cultural and Intellectual Property in the Arts](#).

Please upload at least one document or other form of evidence to demonstrate how you will comply with the Protocols. Examples of evidence may include:

- A letter of support
- A video testimonial
- A PDF of email exchanges shared with permission
- Meeting minutes detailing confirmation of participation

Have you read the Creative Australia Protocols for using First Nations Cultural and Intellectual Property in the Arts? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Other:

Have you had previous experience working with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander communities? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

If yes how did you ensure you followed community protocols, had genuine consultation and adhered to the Creative Australia Protocols for using First Nations Cultural and Intellectual Property in the Arts?

Word count:

Must be no more than 250 words.

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What steps have you taken to establish relations with the appropriate Elders, knowledge holders and community leaders

Word count:
Must be no more than 250 words.

Upload your evidence of consultation here: *

Attach a file:

Working with Children

Working With Children Check

If shortlisted you will be expected to provide details of your Working with Children Check (WWCC) as part of the full application. More information about WWCC can be found [here](#)

National Child Safety Principles

If shortlisted you will be required to undertake training in the National Child Safety Principles.

The Australian Human Rights Commission has developed a suite of e-learning modules intended to help people working or volunteering in all organisations that engage with children and young people.

There are 11 e-learning modules. They include an introductory module which gives an overview of the development and content of the National Principles, and separate modules on each of the ten National Principles. **Each module will take participants around 20 minutes.**

The modules are intended to help people working or volunteering in all organisations that engage with children and young people. They provide introductory content as well as links to more detailed resources and practical tools.

Access the E-Learning Modules: <https://childsafe.humanrights.gov.au/learning-hub/e-learning-modules>

Please confirm: *

- ☐ I understand that I will be required to provide evidence of my current relevant Working With Children Check if I am shortlisted.
- ☐ I understand that I will be required to provide evidence of having completed training in the National Child Safety Principles, prior to funding being awarded.

Vulnerable Persons

If you are shortlisted and then you are successful, you will be required to provide a Category 37 Australian Federal Police (AFP) check. The AFP checks must be no more than 12 months old.

You can apply for an AFP check online or by mail: <https://www.afp.gov.au/what-we-do/national-police-checks>

Your check must be received before the project can commence.

The cost of the AFP checks can be covered by the \$1000 payable to shortlisted applicants.

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Please confirm: *

☐ I understand that I will be required to provide AFP check if successful.

Support Material

** indicates a required field*

Support Material

Please upload the support material you have been asked to provide to accompany your Expression of Interest.

The assessors will review this support material to help them gain a better sense of your artistic and community practice.

- Your CV that demonstrates at least 5 years artistic and community engaged practice
- Contact details for 2 x Referees that can attest to your artistic and community engaged practice
- 1 letter of support from a potential community partner
- Links to previous projects, especially those with evaluation reports, impact reports or testimonials from previous participants

CV

Please upload your CV that demonstrates at least 5 years artistic and community engaged practice. (Must be pdf and no more than 2 pages). *

Attach a file:

1 file must be attached.

References

Please list contact details for TWO referees that attest to your artistic and community engaged practice.

You must include their Full Name, Email, Phone Number and Relationship to You.

Your referees may be contacted by RAA Staff and/or Assessors during the process of your EOI or Application if you are shortlisted.

It is your responsibility to discuss this EOI process with your referees prior to making your submission.

Referee 1 *

First Name

Last Name

Relationship to You *

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Email *

Must be an email address.

Phone Number *

Must be an Australian phone number.

Referee 2 *

First Name

Last Name

Relationship to You *

Email *

Must be an email address.

Phone Number *

Must be an Australian phone number.

Evidence of Community Partner Support

We would like to see evidence from the community you propose to work with that they are interested in working with you. At the EOI stage this can be a simple letter from a representative of the community or a community group stating:

- that you have discussed this application with them
- that they are aware and supportive of your artistic practice
- they believe that the community would be interested in working with you
- that they will be willing to help you engage with the community if you are shortlisted to develop your application.

Attach at least one letter of support from a community organisation attesting to their willingness to work with you on this project. *

Attach a file:

A minimum of 1 file and a maximum of 2 files may be attached.
Must be a pdf

Documentation of previous projects

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Please provide direct links to your own website, and documentation from previous projects. Projects with evaluation reports, impact reports or testimonials from previous participants will be highly regarded.

A maximum of five links can be provided.

Description of Link	Website
	Must be a URL.

Previous Projects Documentation File Upload

Attach a file:

Privacy Statement and Declaration

* indicates a required field

Privacy Statement

Regional Arts Australia (RAA) is committed to protecting your privacy. This statement explains how we collect, use, store and disclose personal information provided through the funding program application process.

Why we collect information

We collect personal and project information in order to:

- assess your eligibility and suitability for funding under this program
- administer the funding program and communicate with you about your application
- generate de-identified statistical information to help us evaluate and improve our programs

Providing the information we request is generally voluntary, however if you do not provide certain information, we may not be able to assess your application.

Who can access your information

- Applications may be accessed by authorised RAA staff and external assessment and review panel members for the purposes of assessment and program delivery
- De-identified information may be used internally or shared with stakeholders for reporting and research
- If you are successful, we will publish your name, location, and agreed biographical information as part of program communications

How we use your contact details

We may use your contact details to let you know about other RAA programs, opportunities, or newsletters. You can opt out of these communications at any time by clicking the unsubscribe link or contacting us directly.

Access and correction

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You may request access to, or correction of, the personal information we hold about you at any time by contacting us at pic@regionalarts.com.au.

Complaints

If you believe your privacy has been breached, please contact us. If you are not satisfied with our response, you may lodge a complaint with the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC) at www.oaic.gov.au.

I have read and understood the Privacy Statement *

☐

Conflict of Interest

Applicants must declare any actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest at the time of application, or as soon as it arises during assessment or delivery. This includes relationships with staff or board members of Regional Arts Australia or Minderoo Foundation, and their immediate family members or partners. Conflicts of interest may include:

- Personal or family relationships
- Financial or business relationships
- Situations where the applicant may gain an unfair advantage

Declared conflicts will be reviewed by Regional Arts Australia, and appropriate steps will be taken to manage them. Failure to disclose a conflict may make an application ineligible or result in funding being withdrawn.

Please declare all possible conflicts of interest (actual, potential or perceived) here. If none, please write N/A. *

Word count:

Must be no more than 100 words.

Declaration

I certify that:

- 1.I have read the Regional Arts Australia guidelines for the Practice In Community program that I am applying to.
- 2.All details supplied in this application and in any attached documents are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.
- 3.I understand my expression of interest and/or application will not be accepted if it is submitted late or subject to outstanding acquittals.
- 4.That my application has been submitted with the full knowledge and agreement of my community partner/s.
- 5.I understand that if I am successful at the EOI stage I will be asked to develop a full application, and that I will receive \$1000 to develop this application.
- 6.I agree that I will contact Regional Arts Australia immediately if any information provided in this application changes or is incorrect.
- 7.I understand that all assessment decisions are final.

Name of person making declaration *

First Name

Last Name

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Date of declaration *

Must be a date.

Before you submit

Once you click "**Submit**" you will not be able to re-open your application form. We advise saving your application form and using the "**Download PDF**" button on the Review and Submit page to preview your application and make sure everything is correct and that you are happy with the content you are about to submit. Once you are ready, press "Submit".

Thank you for submitting your expression of interest to the Practice In Community Program.

You will be contacted mid-December 2025 if you have been shortlisted and given access to the full application.