



12.1 CDF KEY ORGANISATIONS MULTI-YEAR FUNDING 2023/25

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: KYLIE BENNETTS, GENERAL MANAGER, CITY GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

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1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To present the Cultural Development Fund - Key Arts Organisations multi-year funding recommendations for 2023 - 2025 for Council's endorsement.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Cultural Development Fund – Key Arts Organisations is an arts funding initiative developed through the Art and Soul: Creative and Prosperous City Strategy to provide a grants program to support artists, arts and cultural organisations and creative community organisations in the City of Port Phillip.
- 2.2 Currently six arts organisations receive funding through the 2019 – 2022 Cultural Development Fund – Key Arts Organisations multi-year funding.
- 2.3 As part of the Council Budget, in 2021 Council reviewed its funding arrangements for its recurrent arts organisational support. This has resulted in a second round of available funding for 2023 – 2025.
- 2.4 Nine organisations applied for this second round (2023-2025). The Cultural Development Fund Reference Committee (the Committee) met to assess these applications on 3 May 2022 and recommended eight applications to be awarded three-year funding agreements utilising the maximum budget of \$180,000.
- 2.5 The Committee recommended that five applications receive \$26,000, one to receive \$20,000 and two to receive \$15,000. Once Council has considered this matter, successful applicants will receive their first year of funding in January 2023.



3. RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 3.1 Endorses the recommended successful applicants as proposed by the Cultural Development Fund Reference Committee for the Cultural Development Fund – Key Arts Organisations multi-year funding 2023-2025 as outlined in Confidential Attachment 1
- 3.2 Releases details on the successful recipients of the Cultural Development Fund – Key Arts Organisations multi-year funding 2023-2025 from confidence, once all applicants have been advised of the outcome of their application and those successful have confirmed their ability to proceed with their application.
- 3.3 Thanks, the Cultural Development Fund Reference Committee for their work in assessing applications and making recommendations to Council.
- 3.4 Thanks, all applicants who participated in the funding round for the Cultural Development Fund – Key Arts Organisations 2023-2025.

4. KEY POINTS/ISSUES

- 4.1 The City of Port Phillip is home to a range of key arts organisations that make valuable contributions to the arts and cultural environment in the City of Port Phillip and have an impact across Victoria, nationally and internationally. The purpose of the funding is to retain key arts organisations in the City of Port Phillip and strengthen their capacity to attract funding. Recipients will have a strong record of producing high quality work, supporting independent artists, and engaging the community in a significant way.
- 4.2 Since its inception in 2019, the program has enabled investment to add value and create leverage through the support of creative content, works and activities. This includes supporting the lifecycle of creative activities that strengthen the local creative industries ecosystem.
- 4.3 The program supports organisations to build sustainable professional practices and employment, and to increase the availability of diverse creative experiences, products, and services to the City of Port Phillip community.
- 4.4 Recipients during the first round of funding have so far reported:
 - Over 150,000 in audience numbers and participants being reached
 - Employment of over 30 EFT
 - Employment of over 1,438 arts practitioners
- 4.5 Due to the impact of COVID-19 on our arts and creative industries, Council approved an extension to the first funding round from three years to four in 2021. This supported the six recipient organisations through to 2022.
- 4.6 With staff, programs and audiences returning to our cultural organisations, the 23/25 funding round sees a return to the three-year duration.
- 4.7 Prior to the inception of the CDF Key Organisational funding, organisations requesting operational funding needed to submit to Council's annual budget process. This competitive funding round has enabled a range of organisations to apply to a funding process that is transparent and clearly aligned with the Council Plan and Art and Soul Strategy.



- 4.8 The Cultural Development Fund - Key Organisations funding round was advertised from 21 February to 25 March 2022.
- 4.9 Organisations are eligible to apply if they are a legally constituted, not-for-profit arts or cultural organisation and have been based in the City of Port Phillip for at least two years. They need to have a formal governance structure, with annual financial and business plans, a strong record of presenting professional programs, quality sector services or otherwise supporting independent artists. All activities need to primarily involve, benefit, or employ artists, arts workers, and cultural professionals.
- 4.10 The Cultural Development Fund – Key Organisation funding is designed to:
- 4.10.1 Provide multi-year organisational funding to significant arts and cultural organisations in the City of Port Phillip.
 - 4.10.2 Assist key arts and cultural organisations with the capacity to support independent artists and build new audiences, increasing participation among artists and the community.
 - 4.10.3 Increase partnership opportunities for arts organisations through leverage and strengthening financial viability for not-for-profit organisations.
 - 4.10.4 Add value and extend the reach of arts activities and community engagement.
 - 4.10.5 Enable forward planning for arts organisations with multi-year funding, reducing administrative processes and building organisational capacity.
 - 4.10.6 Increase creative outcomes in the City of Port Phillip.
- 4.11 Nine organisations applied for this round of funding. The Committee met to assess these applications on 3 May 2022.
- 4.12 Funding criteria included:
- Essential
- 4.12.1 Applicant organisations must demonstrate a substantial record of delivering high quality arts and cultural activity in the Port Phillip community.
 - 4.12.2 Applicants must demonstrate how they contribute to the development of the City's creative people and culture.
 - 4.12.3 Applicants must articulate their strategies for community engagement.
 - 4.12.4 Applications should indicate levels of financial leverage and partnership development that will be targeted.
- Desirable
- 4.12.5 Address diversity, access and equity for artists, participants, and audiences.
 - 4.12.6 Have a strategy for measuring and increasing arts participation in the community.
 - 4.12.7 Can demonstrate a plan for increasing other sources of income.
 - 4.12.8 Demonstrate environmentally sustainable practices.
 - 4.12.9 Demonstrate strategies to increase visitation and spend to their relevant areas.



5. CONSULTATION AND STAKEHOLDERS

- 5.1 The 2022 Cultural Development Fund Reference Committee is chaired by Councillor Louise Crawford. Other members of the panel are community members knowledgeable in cultural fields, who were appointed by Council for a three-year term following an expression of interest process.
- 5.2 Feedback from applicants is sought on the process for continuous improvement.

6. LEGAL AND RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 No legal or risk implications have been identified.

7. FINANCIAL IMPACT

- 7.1 The total amount of funding recommended for the seven organisations is \$180,000 per annum for three years.
- 7.2 Creative practice is recognised as making a valuable contribution to City of Port Phillip's economy. As a sector, creative and cultural practice and industries are the second largest employer in the City of Port Phillip.
- 7.3 Funding supports activity in local venues and precincts across the municipality and in Port Phillip public spaces.

8. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

- 8.1 The program uses SmartyGrants (an online grants application system): a paperless application, reporting and acquittal system.
- 8.2 Applicants are asked to demonstrate environmentally sustainable practices. Some examples from those include:
 - 8.2.1 Materials are recycled or sourced from local businesses.
 - 8.2.2 Hire rather than purchase disposable single-use items.
 - 8.2.3 Recyclable, multi-use, and paperless ticketing systems.
 - 8.2.4 Encouragement of audiences and participants to use public transport.
 - 8.2.5 Predominately online promotion and use of recycled paper, environmentally friendly inks where necessary.
 - 8.2.6 Use of energy-efficient lighting and appliances.
 - 8.2.7 Adoption of new plans based on CoPP's Act and Adapt Strategy.
 - 8.2.8 Commitment to the development and sharing of knowledge and strategies.
 - 8.2.9 Changes in daily practice to alleviate energy and waste.
 - 8.2.10 Using the artform to promote messages of sustainability.

9. COMMUNITY IMPACT

- 9.1 There is significant positive community impact from arts and culture activities.



10. ALIGNMENT TO COUNCIL PLAN AND COUNCIL POLICY

- 10.1 Funding under the Cultural Development Fund delivers on the Council Plan 2021-2031:

Vibrant: A City that has a flourishing economy, where our community and local businesses thrive, and we maintain and enhance our reputation as one of Melbourne's cultural and creative hubs.

Inclusive: a place for all members of our community, where people feel supported and comfortable being themselves and expressing their identities.

- 10.2 The proposed recommendation is aligned with the City of Port Phillip Art and Soul: Creative and Prosperous City Strategy 2018-22 through the action 'implement a new, competitive multi-year grants program for key arts organisations to meet community arts objectives and retain them in the City of Port Phillip and strengthen their capacity to attract funding'.

11. IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

11.1 TIMELINE

- 11.1.1 Organisations will enter into a three-year funding deed with KPIs and measurable outcomes once Council has made a decision. They will be subject to an annual review upon receipt of their reporting.

11.2 COMMUNICATION

- 11.2.1 Applicants will be advised of the outcome of their application soon after Council's decision.
- 11.2.2 The voluntary Committee members Hanut Dodd, Bree McKilligan, Hugo Leschen and Malcolm Blaylock will be thanked for their contribution to the cultural life of Port Phillip.

12. OFFICER DIRECT OR INDIRECT INTEREST

- 12.1 No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any material or general interest in the matter.

ATTACHMENTS

1. **Confidential- Confidential Attachment A - Cultural Development Fund - Key Arts Organisations Recommendations 2023-2025**