



Australian Government
Regional Arts Fund

REGIONAL
arts
AUSTRALIA

National Regional Arts Fellowship Program GUIDELINES

If you require assistance accessing these Guidelines, please contact us rafmanager@regionalarts.com.au

What is the National Regional Arts Fellowship Program?

The National Regional Arts Fellowship program is a one-off round as part of the Regional Arts Fund.

The Regional Arts Fund is an Australian Government Program that supports sustainable cultural development in regional and remote communities in Australia. The Regional Arts Fund is designed to benefit regional and remote arts practitioners, arts workers, audiences and communities. The program is managed nationally by Regional Arts Australia.

This 2020 Fellowship program is positioned to support artists and arts workers to respond to the theme of drought and/or bushfire. All applicants will be asked to address the theme, because either they live and work in affected areas, or thematically their fellowship project addresses the impact of, or response to, drought and/or bushfire in some way.

The Fellowships Program is an investment in the development of artistic and creative practice. The program is contemporary, flexible and relevant to artists practicing, working and living in regional and remote Australia. It is designed as an applicant-led approach, addressing the needs of the individual in that time and place; offering a guaranteed income (for a short period) for an artist/ practitioner to develop their work, skills and networks or research. The fellowships value best practice, build connection, generate exchange and strengthen that national network of regional artists and communities.

Objectives of the National Regional Arts Fellowship Program

The Program objectives are:

- to elevate the practice of artists and arts workers across regional and remote Australia,
- to raise the profile of artists and arts workers,
- to provide professional development opportunities, and
- to build connection and generate exchange.

Fellowship Categories

Type of Fellowship	Amount available	Number available
Creative Development	\$20,000	1
First Nations Creative Development	\$20,000	1
Arts Worker Professional Development	\$20,000	1
First Timer – Creative or Professional Development	\$10,000	2

Eligibility Criteria:

- Applicants are limited to one application per person, across the Fellowship program.
- Individual artists and arts workers are eligible to apply.
- All applicants must:
 - Have an ABN or have an auspice organisation manage their grant. (Individuals who are under 18 at the time of applying must have an auspice organisation manage their grant).
 - Be an Australian citizen or permanent resident living and working in regional Australia.
Reside in postcodes classified as regional using the Modified Monash Model Map¹.
The applicant address must be from classification MMM 2 - MMM7.
- The **First Nations Creative Development** category is open to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander individuals only. Applicants who are eligible for this category are also welcome to apply for other categories instead. Please note – applicants are limited to one application across the four categories.
- The **First Timer** category is open to artists and arts workers, of any age, who have not previously received a fellowship of any sort.
- Artists living and working in drought and/or bushfire-affected areas are strongly encouraged to apply. Proposals that consider climate, landscape, land practice, community and the impact of, or response to, drought and/or bushfire are also encouraged.
- Regional Arts Australia will accept applications for activities commencing from 1 June 2020 and completed before 31 December 2020.

Applicants must provide evidence of past work and demonstrate how the proposed activity will extend the boundaries of their practice. While no public outcome is required, applicants must document their experience and share their findings, in a way that is nominated by the applicant. Regional Arts Australia will provide multiple opportunities for fellowship recipients to share their experience.

¹ To check how your address is classified visit the Doctor Connect Locator Map:
<https://www.health.gov.au/resources/apps-and-tools/health-workforce-locator/health-workforce-locator>
Select Modified Monash Model 2019 and search your address.

Definitions

- a) In considering benefits to the community, it is understood that the term “community” refers to both geographical communities and communities of practice.
- b) “Drought is a prolonged, abnormally dry period when the amount of available water is insufficient to meet normal use. There is no universal definition of drought. Meteorologists monitor the extent and severity of drought in terms of rainfall deficiencies. Agriculturalists rate the impact on primary industries, hydrologists compare ground water levels, and sociologists define it by social expectations and perceptions.
- c) Drought Indicator Map.
The National Drought Map provides access to information which has been provided by various third party data custodians and websites. Data custodians have undertaken disclosure risk controls including aggregation, suppression and sparsity checks to protect from possible reasonable re-identification of personal information.
<https://www.pmc.gov.au/news-centre/domestic-policy/national-drought-map-now-available>
- d) Combined Drought Indicator (CDI).
This interactive tool provides a snapshot of current seasonal conditions for NSW, factoring in rainfall, soil moisture and pasture/crop growth indices.
<https://edis.dpi.nsw.gov.au/>

What will the National Regional Arts Fellowship Program support?

The program is cross-disciplinary and open to multiple art forms.

Regional Arts Australia encourages applicants to design their own fellowship program and set goals to meet their own geographic and artistic contemporary practice needs.

Each successful recipient will be provided the opportunity for professional development that values the local alongside the national and international experience.

Fellowships can take place:

- as a residency
- as a creative retreat
- within an institution
- as part of an International or national exchange
- in another way (as designed by the applicant)

The grant funds may be used towards (but not limited to):

- Artist fees
- Travel costs (including International)
- Accommodation
- Materials
- Venue hire
- Equipment hire
- Project administrative and documentation² costs (no more than 10%)

² Fellowship recipients are expected to document their process and to find ways within the project design to share this documentation publically, through RAA’s channels.

What will the National Regional Arts Fellowship Program **not** support?

- Applications from applicants residing in MMM1 locations.
- Projects principally benefitting a major city or metropolitan location.
- Components of projects that are also funded by other programs administered by the Australian Government.
- Projects that do not substantially align with the objectives of the program.
- Projects that commence before funding is approved. Projects will be ineligible for funding if they have already been advertised by the applicant, including any online marketing on websites or via social media, until notified of the decision.
- Academic activity, including wages or course work that is required as part of any tertiary academic program.
- Touring projects that involve touring from major urban centres to regional communities.
- Infrastructure projects and projects involving the purchase of assets.
- Applicants who have any outstanding reports, acquittals or serious breaches relating to any Australian Government funding.

If in doubt about eligible activities, please contact the RAF Manager to discuss your situation.

rafmanager@regionalarts.com.au

Assessment Criteria

All applications will be assessed on the degree to which they meet the program objectives.

The Program objectives are:

- to elevate the practice of artists and arts workers across regional and remote Australia,
- to raise the profile of artists and arts workers,
- to provide professional development opportunities, and
- to build connection and generate exchange.

As well as,

- the proposal is well planned and realistically budgeted including plans for timely completion of the project.
- how the theme of drought and/ or bushfire is addressed/ relevant.

Applicants are encouraged to provide support material that demonstrates:

- confirmation and details of support from any organisation(s), individual(s) or institution(s) with which the applicant intends to develop their project,
- the level of community and peer support for the Fellowship proposal, and
- examples of the applicant's professional achievement, including artistic support material.

Creative Development

Open to regional artists to support a placement or experience with the primary purpose of developing creative practice.

First Nations Creative Development

Open to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people only, to support a placement or experience with the primary purpose of developing creative practice.

Arts Worker Professional Development

Open to regional arts workers to support a placement or experience with the primary purpose of development of practice or professional development.

First Timer – Creative Development

Open to regional artists who have never before received a fellowship, to support a placement or experience with the primary purpose of developing practice (either creative or professional).

Assessment Process

Applications will be reviewed by a national Peer Review Panel, with consideration to these guidelines and selection criteria. The Panel's decisions will be forwarded to the Minister for the Arts who will approve the decisions. These decisions are final. No conversations will be entered into with the Peer Review Panel or Regional Arts Australia about the outcomes. Written feedback can be provided to applicants upon request.

If you are successful

Names and contact details of successful applicants will be provided to the Federal Minister for the Arts, members of Parliament and Department staff along with descriptions of the projects to be supported. Applicants will be required to provide their approval for this release of information as part of the application process.

Fellowship recipients will be asked to outline how their project will be documented and shared. Regional Arts Australia will work with recipients to identify appropriate platforms and channels for sharing their project. Applicants will be requested to outline their ideas for documentation and sharing as part of the application process.

All Fellowship recipients must acknowledge the support of Regional Arts Australia and the Australian Government in all media releases and promotional activities, with the logos and text provided.

Each Fellow must provide an acquittal to Regional Arts Australia at the completion of the project, and by 28 February 2021. The Final Report should describe:

- the activities undertaken in the Fellowship program,
- the artistic and professional outcomes and benefits to the community³, and
- itemised expenditure of Fellowship funds.

³ The term "community" refers to both geographical communities and communities of practice.

How to apply.

Apply Online via SmartyGrants: <https://regionalarts.smartygrants.com.au/Fellowships2020>

All applications are to be submitted online using the SmartyGrants system. Applicants who require support to access the online application process should contact the Regional Arts Fund Manager (contact details below).

Timing

Opening date: 9.00am (AEDT) Monday 20th January 2020

Closing date: 5.00pm (AEDT) Monday 24th February 2020

Applicants must be available to fulfil the fellowship between 1 June 2020 and 31 December 2020.

All acquittals must be completed by 28 February 2021.

Other information

Fellows will receive their grants as one single payment on invoice at the beginning of the project. Fellows should seek independent tax advice in relation to their own financial situation to determine whether the Fellowship will be assessable as income. Further information is available from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) by calling 13 28 66 or by referring to their website www.ato.gov.au

Program Contact:

Mary Jane Warfield, Regional Arts Fund Manager*

rafmanager@regionalarts.com.au

ph: 0419 557 721

*this position is part-time (Tues-Thurs).