

# Annual Grants 2020: Recommended Applications

---

## Arts Development

**AG20-261**

**APHIDS**

*Class Act*

**Project Description:** We are applying for a development of a new performance work, CLASS ACT. The project will be lead by myself, Mish Grigor, in collaboration with Lara Thoms and Eugenia Lim, the lead artists of APHIDS.

In 2018 I wrote an autobiographical opinion piece for The Guardian. In it, I talked about making space in the arts for working class voices. I received a lot of email responses from people similar to me: from lower class backgrounds, now struggling to reconcile their feelings about a new-found social mobility. This sparked a curiosity: what does 'working class' look like in 2019? How do we perform class? Or hide it? Why is there so much shame? How can we promote equality? How do we call for change?

I have been keenly following the Yellow Vest movement in France. Motivated by tax cuts for the upper classes, working-class protestors are taking to the streets weekly, wearing high-vis vests.

I have recently moved to Melbourne's Northern Suburbs, and observe the rapidly shifting socio-economic demographics. I see many changes exemplified in the speedy development of new apartment buildings built to house new types of residents. I wonder what it would take for Australians to protest, to take to the streets. I wonder how we talk to each other about these changes.

In order to make CLASS ACT, we will undertake a two-week creative development in North Fitzroy. Intrinsic to the development is a series of public conversations exploring the themes of class and protest.

**Total Project Cost:** \$20,218

**Grant Awarded:** \$8,000

---

**AG20-280**

**Centre For Projection Art Inc**

*Masterclass and Mentorships in Projection Art*

**Project Description:** Following on from a very successful Masterclass in Projection Art program held in Yarra this year, the Centre for Projection Art (CPA) proposes to extend this program further, running a site-specific masterclass for 12 participants at Collingwood Arts Precinct early 2020. Two participants from this Masterclass will then be extended a further opportunity to be mentored by recognised projection artists Yandell Walton and Kate Geck, developing site-specific works for public exhibition in Yarra. There will be two public outcomes from this project: the masterclass public open evening on the final night of the course; and the exhibition of developed works by the mentee's in the Collingwood Arts Precinct courtyard. We also hope the works will be aligned with

the curatorial framework of the 2020 Gertrude Street Projection Festival and be exhibited later in the year.

In the 2020 Yarra Masterclass participants will learn about the art form, technical skills, projection mapping techniques and proposal development. At the end of the masterclass program, participants will have developed a proposal to deliver site-specific works for public exhibition under the guidance of mentors Yandell Walton and Kate Geck. These proposals will be assessed by the Centre for Projection Art's Creative Advisory Committee along with the mentors, and two mentees will be selected for mentorship. The mentorship will offer mentees three months of mentorship, studio space in Centre for Projection Arts space at Collingwood Arts Precinct, technical assistance, marketing, production assistance and an artist fee on presentation of their final works.

**Total Project Cost:** \$46,769

**Grant Awarded:** \$10,009

---

## **AG20-323**

### **Forest Collective**

*Max Lawrence's Chlorophyll*

**Project Description:** Forest Collective regularly creates and performs in and to City of Yarra audiences, with a strong presence in Abbotsford Convent and with other smaller arts hubs such as Collingwood Arts Precinct, 75 Reid Street, Fitzroy Town Hall, and local community spaces such as St Stephen's Anglican Church and Richmond Uniting Church.

After a successful collaboration with Abbotsford Convent for 2019 Midsumma Festival with premiere of new ballet-opera Orpheus, we are planning to begin an annual performance at Abbotsford Convent each year that is registered as part of Midsumma Festival. We have begun talks with both Abbotsford Convent and Midsumma Festival who have offered their support for our project.

Forest Collective has also established a relationship within Abbotsford Convent and as part of the Convent Live series we have presented more diverse and experimental programming with wider audience reach and marketing support.

This project will be for a series of performances as part of the Convent Live series and Midsumma Festival in 2020 of a new song cycle by pop music doyen Max Lawrence.

**Total Project Cost:** \$45,913

**Grant Awarded:** \$2,500

---

## **AG20-130**

### **Gertrude Contemporary**

*2020 Gertrude Glasshouse Program*

**Project Description:** Gertrude Glasshouse was established in late 2015 as the designated project space of Gertrude Contemporary to commission and present new solo projects and exhibitions by artists participating in Gertrude's two-year studio program. Founded in 1985, Gertrude is an independent not for profit organisation with a unique model of supporting both the presentation and production of art. The artistic and studio programs at Gertrude support the expanded field of contemporary art practice, including painting, photography, sculpture, video, installation, performance and dance.

Each year, 8 artists are invited into the 2 year studio program through a competitive open call process, with Gertrude maintaining 16 highly subsidised studios for visual artists at key moments in their careers. During the course of the residency, each of the 16 artists are offered the opportunity and provided financial resources to develop a new body of work or project to be presented at Glasshouse. The gallery maintains Gertrude's presence in Collingwood and Fitzroy, where the organisation has creatively contributed to for over three decades.

We are seeking funding support to present a program of 7 new commission solo projects by current Gertrude Studio Artists, as well to support the exhibition outcome of the 2020 Gertrude Emerging Curators Program. Glasshouse will also host an additional externally funded project during 2020, being the Glasshouse Stonehouse Residency exhibition. This funding support from Yarra will go directly to artists through artist fees and production budgets, and artist speaker fees, with all other operational and administrative costs covered by Gertrude.

**Total Project Cost:** \$74,775

**Grant Awarded:** \$9,800

---

### **AG20-143**

**Matthias Schack-Arnott**

*PENDULUM*

**Project Description:** PENDULUM explores the musical and choreographic potential of large-scale pendulums in a major new performance work. Created by percussive artist Matthias Schack-Arnott in collaboration with celebrated Australian choreographer Lucy Guerin.

This application is for the first creative development of PENDULUM, culminating in a work-in-progress showing at Dancehouse. The key artists will also undertake an Open Studio session as part of the project, which will be free to public.

#### KEY ROLES:

Matthias Schack-Arnott: Concept, Music Performance, Composition

Lucy Guerin: Choreography

Nick Roux: Tech Design and Construction

Michaela Coventry: Producer

#### ARTISTIC RATIONALE

Pendulums have been used for centuries for measuring time, gravity and detecting earthquakes, as well as playing a role in spiritual and ceremonial practices. The symbol of the pendulum has many evocative references, from the destructive power of a wrecking ball to the tolling of church bells and the pulsation of a metronome. As a percussionist, Schack-Arnott's artistic practice has always been governed by pulse, which in its purest form can be represented by the swing of a pendulum. Using this rich conceptual starting point, Schack-Arnott will use multiple large-scale pendulums, 5-10 meters in height, to create a musical world that explores the intersection of pulsating sound and kinetic movement, working with world renowned choreographer Lucy Guerin to explore its potential expansion into a major music-centered performance work with choreographic elements.

**Total Project Cost:** \$35,130

**Grant Awarded:** \$8,680

---

### **AG20-072**

**Polyglot Theatre**

*Paper Planet*

**Project Description:** Polyglot proposes a presentation of its immersive installation “Paper Planet” designed for children with special needs and their families at Abbotsford Convent in the 2020 Convent Kids program.

“Paper Planet” is an immersive creative experience where the participants enter a space filled with tall cardboard trees. Children are invited to create animals, fantasy creatures, costumes and plants to populate an imaginative wonderland. Polyglot artists work with the participants to facilitate each child’s understanding of their place in the imaginary world they are helping create – be it development of a story or using their different senses. Interactive touch-activated sound will be developed as a strong element in this world, inviting sensory exploration and immersion.

“Paper Planet” offers creative participation tailored to the needs and abilities of individual children, ensuring an inclusive experience for all. Using principles of universal design to encourage the participation of school groups and families with children with different abilities, it will provide opportunities for interactivity and creative expression, promoting free choice, play and social connection.

This is the first time that a fully inclusive iteration of “Paper Planet” has been presented publicly, and significant artist training and creative development will take place in preparation. Polyglot will also create a ‘social story’ resource to prepare children, teachers and families for their visit, and consult with accessibility experts to ensure that accessibility is designed into marketing materials, the ticketing process and all aspects of the audience experience at the event.

**Total Project Cost:** \$40,700

**Grant Awarded:** \$9,500

---

## **AG20-282**

**Prue Lang** (*Auspiced by Auspicious Arts Projects Inc*)

*PROJECT F by Prue Lang*

**Project Description:** PROJECT F (PF) is the latest creation by multi award-winning Melbourne choreographer Prue Lang and her collaborators.

It began with a successful first-stage development commissioned by the Keir Choreographic Award presented at Dancehouse in March 2018, followed by a second-stage development and outstanding Work in-progress Showing at the Abbotsford Convent in Dance Massive March 2019. We are now seeking support for a final development, which includes open rehearsals for City of Yarra residents, into the world premiere of PROJECT F at the ABBOTSFORD CONVENT in February 2020.

Created in collaboration with an all-female team: Niharika Senapati, Amber McCartney, Jana Castillo and Lauren Langlois (Performers), Jenny Hector (Lighting design), Dr. Phillipa Rothfield (Research/Dramaturgy) and Alison Halit (Producer), the work explores and illuminates outstanding artistic, intellectual and technical achievements made by women; providing positive and powerful female role models for inter-cultural and socially diverse audiences. At the heart of this investigation is the shared experience of the human body from an explicitly female perspective - celebrated through women’s bodies. We believe it will offer a new artistic working model and give hope to a feminist future.

We have chosen the Abbotsford Convent to premiere Project F because of its diverse history and association with women. From 1863 to 1975 thousands of girls and women in need were placed in care at the Convent, many labouring in the onsite Magdalen Laundries now transformed into this new performance space where we will premiere PF. It will mark a significant moment in the history of the Laundries.

**Total Project Cost:** \$87,000

**Grant Awarded:** \$12,000

---

## **AG20-234**

### **Rubiks Collective Pty Ltd**

*2020 Pythia Prize Activities: Development, Recording & Video Launch*

**Project Description:** In 2020, Rubiks Collective will undertake a series of activities in the City of Yarra linked to the development, documentation and promotion of a new work by the winner of the 2019 Pythia Prize. Launched in 2017, the Pythia Prize is a commissioning project designed to specifically address issues of diversity in gender representation in Australian art music. The prize is open to all Australian female and non-binary composers. In the interests of removing barriers to participation, there is no fee for composers to submit an application and no age limit for applicants. The recipient of the prize works closely in collaboration with Rubiks over the course of 12 months on the development, premiere and recording of a new piece.

In 2020, Rubiks will work with the recipient of the 2019 Pythia Prize to:

- complete three creative development workshop sessions with the composer at the Rubiks Office in Fitzroy North
- create a high-quality audio and video recording of the work at Fight Night Records in Abbotsford, following the work's premiere at the Melbourne Recital Centre in September
- hold a video launch event for the release of the Pythia video at 75 on Reid in Fitzroy North, including a panel discussion with the composer and ensemble members reflecting on the collaborative and creative processes behind this work

The City of Yarra's support will allow Rubiks to further amplify diverse voices in contemporary art music, and to explore new modes of connecting with audiences in Yarra, broader Melbourne, and the digital realm.

**Total Project Cost:** \$19,280

**Grant Awarded:** \$7,010

---

## **AG20-208**

### **West Space**

*West Space 2020 Artistic Program*

**Project Description:** West Space's exhibition model consists of solo commissions and thematic group shows of local and international artists, as well as education and discursive public programs. We program through a combination of curatorial research and open-call opportunities. In 2020 we will present seven major exhibitions at CAP, and deliver a new initiative, West Space Window (WSW), a public-facing micro gallery on the exterior of West Space. Programmed entirely through our open call, WSW will provide presentation opportunities to an additional 6 artists each year.

The first half of the 2020 artistic program has been curated via invitation and partnerships, and it includes two keynote exhibitions, IMPROVABLE and WELFARE, and two solo commissions by Carmen Winant (USA) and Steven Rhall (AU). The select artists within IMPROVABLE put forward strategies for operating within, or resisting, the pressures of our rapidly accelerating world. Participating artists include Mark Smith (Mel), Katie West (Mel), Georgia Robenstone (Mel), Eugenia Lim (Mel), Fiona Connor (NZ/USA), Faye D'evie (Mel), Ilana Harris-Babou (USA), Moorina Bonini (Mel). WELFARE is a group exhibition that focuses on the working conditions of young artists in Melbourne, as rents rise and working conditions decrease for many in one of "the world's most

liveable cities". Partnerships for these presentations include 1856, This Mob, New Agency, Arts Project, and PHOTO. The second half of the artistic program will be programmed through clearly structured open access models, in consultation and collaboration with our dedicated artist committee.

**Total Project Cost:** \$153,790

**Grant Awarded:** \$16,000

---

# Festivals and Events

## AG20-169

### Aboriginal Housing Victoria

*21st Annual NAIDOC Family Day at the Farm - 2020*

**Project Description:** AHV's NAIDOC Family Day at The Farm is an opportunity for the community to acknowledge and celebrate Aboriginal history and culture. 2020 will mark our 21st year celebrating NAIDOC Week at The Collingwood Children's Farm. Again we plan to provide a culturally appropriate, safe, welcoming and inclusive winter festival for the whole community.

The day has become a loved tradition in the community, thanks to our long-standing supporters. The event supports broader community awareness of Indigenous issues and provides an essential opportunity for sharing knowledge and pride in Aboriginal history, languages, culture and achievements.

Our program provides a presentation opportunity for Indigenous performers, including traditional dancing, hip hop acts and musicians plus cultural craft activities (performed and led by Aboriginal professionals). Entry, activities and food are free for the whole community, with past activities including Boomerang painting, weaving, Emu feather crafts and bead jewellery making. Performances have included Djirri Djirri Dance Group, Indigenous Hip Hop Projects, Dave Arden and Alex Splitt.

The event is enjoyed by AHV tenants and their families (many who face challenges accessing cultural or recreational activities) and by the broader community, regardless of cultural background or race.

AHV is the largest Aboriginal housing organisation in Australia. We are proud of the history and culture of the Aboriginal people of Victoria, whom we serve. NAIDOC Week is an opportunity to demonstrate leadership and pride in our community. Our event provides an opportunity to recognise the rich traditions of Aboriginal cultures and celebrate NAIDOC Week.

**Total Project Cost:** \$40,500

**Grant Awarded:** \$13,745

---

## AG20-043

### Circus Australia Ltd

*Sidesault at the Melba*

**Project Description:** We will showcase up to six new circus works, selected by an expert panel of Circus Oz senior artistic staff and external peers, to represent the most innovative, interdisciplinary, diverse, new voices in Australian circus. Sidesault-at-Melba will include:

1. Curated presentation by a leading company as part of an award-winning performance program;
2. A high level of individualised, professional support from the entire Circus Oz team;
3. Eligibility to apply for creation support through the Project Springboard partnership with Melbourne Fringe;
3. Purpose built circus rehearsal studios at no cost to the artists;
4. The Melba as a venue at no cost to the artists;
5. Additional amenities such as dressing rooms, circus equipment, and hot desks;
5. Our major rehearsal room, re-purposed as a specialised circus venue suitable for larger scale aerials, and shows which requiring a theatrically focussed setting;

7. Access to presenters and promoters for potential national and international touring;
8. Access to reviewers from major publications;
9. Mentoring, peer support, networking and critical dialogue through partnerships with Melbourne Fringe and Theatre Network Australia;
10. Marketing focussed on engaging new and diverse audiences. We will encourage and support culturally diverse artists, mixed ability artists, women artists, and LGBTQI artists and other diverse artists through communication with our increasing networks of diverse community organisations, community media and social media, with a view to curating a range of shows which explore themes relevant to diverse audiences told through the voices and passions of the diverse artists involved.

**Total Project Cost:** \$152,280

**Grant Awarded:** \$10,000

---

### **AG20-003**

**Collingwood Housing Estate Arts Committee (CHEAC)** (*Auspiced by Belgium Avenue Neighbourhood House*)

*Collingwood Harvest Festival*

**Project Description:** The Harvest Festival takes place in the parklands of the Collingwood Housing Estate and it is a community built festival in which many residents of the estate take ownership of the event through participation.

Collingwood Neighbourhood House includes residents by providing roles in the planning and staging of this event such as MC, production coordinator, catering, music, performances, etc. This is a day event and the activities include choirs performed by local groups, art activities for children and families, food, dance and craft sessions facilitated by local artists.

**Total Project Cost:** \$35,940

**Grant Awarded:** \$15,000

---

### **AG20-272**

**Dancehouse Inc.**

*Keir Choreographic Award - Competition and Public Program*

**Project Description:** Dancehouse seeks funding to support the presentation of the eight Keir Choreographic Award (KCA) commissioned artists in a week-long performance season and the adjoining public program.

Presented in partnership with Carriageworks (Sydney) and the Keir Foundation, KCA is the only Australian cash award dedicated biannually to the commission, presentation, promotion and dissemination of new Australian choreography.

Now in its fourth incarnation, KCA has assumed an irreplaceable place in the Australian dance landscape. It offers eight artists the time and space to create and present a fully funded new work, a remarkable context in which to engage with international perspectives and an opportunity to connect with new and ever-expanding audiences for dance in Australia.

As such, KCA has the dynamic of a mini-festival, assembling an inspiring and diverse community of artists, international guests and audiences, enabled by and pioneering and sustainable model of public- private funding and interstate collaboration.

The rich and diverse KCA public program with its array of iconic national and international jury members, panellists, guests and workshop leaders, runs concurrently with the performance season, providing a vital context for related and relevant discourse, reflection and debate. Delivered in partnership with Yarra-based arts partners and local businesses, the public program also generates inclusive accessible dance experiences particularly crafted for audiences unfamiliar with contemporary dance.

So far, KCA has commissioned 24 new works, directly employed over 130 artists, attracted over 3000 audiences and activated over 15 partnerships. The online KCA public program content was accessed over 25k times since 2016.

**Total Project Cost:** \$107,190

**Grant Awarded:** \$20,946

---

## **AG20-311**

### **Emerging Writers' Festival**

*Emerging Writers' Festival 2020 in City of Yarra*

**Project Description:** In 2020, the Emerging Writers' Festival seeks to cement and expand our presence in the City of Yarra through a continued relationship with Melba Spiegeltent and a new partnership with City of Yarra libraries.

EWf is a place where creativity and innovation are celebrated, new talent is nurtured and diverse voices from across Australia are represented – and this suite of events will engage local community as both audience and artists.

After successfully moving our most popular event, Amazing Babes, to the Melba Spiegeltent in 2019, we are keen to continue building upon our connections with local artists and audiences – as well as making this cornerstone event accessible for community members who may not otherwise be able to engage with this special event.

Through our local libraries program, we will provide capacity-building opportunities for the local creative sector in the form of a day-long series of free writing workshops at City of Yarra Libraries, as well as a performance event drawn from an open call-out collaboratively curated EWF and City of Yarra Libraries staff.

This opportunity aims to support the development of new literary voices in the City of Yarra, providing an entry point for those in the early stages of their practice to learn through listening, through workshops, employment for local artists in a teaching capacity and a paid opportunity to be an EWF artist as part of a performance event.

**Total Project Cost:** \$13,499

**Grant Awarded:** \$4,140

---

## **AG20-264**

### **FesTAVARES** (*Auspiced by Belgium Avenue Neighbourhood House*)

*FesTAVARES 2020*

**Project Description:** FesTAVARES is a one-day Festival celebrating the newly named Tavares Lane with a showcase of the food, music and culture of Australians of African heritage.

The inaugural FesTAVARES event will take place in November 2019, and the 2020 iteration will build on this foundation to further develop the concept into an annual event.

The Festival will be a joyful, uplifting, inclusive and safe celebration of contemporary culture, music

and food from Victorians of African heritage. Artists include: Joshua Tavares (Festival Director / MC), DJ Kotare (FKA DJ Sezzo), Thando, Jade Zoe, Sampa the Great, Drummond Street Band, Chris NG.

The laneway will be painted by local Indigenous artist and Collingwood Housing Estate resident Robert Michael Young in collaboration with kids on the estate, including those of African migrant background. Facilitated by local agencies including LiveWires.

The event will run from 3pm - 8pm and will feature a stage for performances, food from the estate's Cultural Catering group, Yarra Men's Shed, METAC, Filomena Tavares and Boss Man Food.

The event has been conceived and will be overseen by Joshua Tavares, Antonio Tavares' son. Joshua is a respected musician and singer, and a passionate representative of the Collingwood Housing Estate Community where he lives and works. He is the Founding Director of the vibrant Collingwood Underground Roller Disco and brings his experience and extensive community networks to the design and delivery of FesTAVARES.

**Total Project Cost:** \$38,160

**Grant Awarded:** \$13,400

---

## **AG20-213**

### **Midsumma Festival**

*Queer Unsettled: A Midsumma program at Abbotsford Convent focused on Aboriginal and Pacifica LGBTQIA+ artists.*

**Project Description:** Queer Unsettled is a project in partnership with Abbotsford Convent during Midsumma Festival 2020 (Jan/Feb).

Taking place at Abbotsford Convent, this is the major project and focal point for Midsumma Festival 2020, and is focused on profiling Aboriginal and Pacifica LGBTQIA+ artists.

This project includes:

- One night performance event featuring FAFSWAG (NZ): a party-meets-performance vogue-inspired dance ball. Based in Aoeteroa, FAFSWAG is an arts incubator for queer indigenous creatives from across the Pacific.
- Queer Pacifica Music Showcase curated by Ripley Kavara: a music event featuring a line-up of queer Pacifica artists. Kavara (aka Wahe) is a producer/vocalist born in Papua New Guinea and now based in Melbourne.
- Five workshops/talks events hosted by leading Aboriginal and CALD LGBTQIA+ artists throughout the festival: hosts include Australian-Filipino writer/dancer Adolfo Aranjuez, Australian-Samoan Fa'afafine/advocate/dancer Amao Leota Lu, Australian-Aotearoan performance artist Bella Waru, Wiradjuri academic/artist Todd Ferdando and Pibbulman visual artist Pierra Van Sparkes.

This project aims to:

- Create a platform and visibility for queer-identifying people with multiple-minority experience
- Further build the capacity of Midsumma and Abbotsford Convent to deliver innovative, safe and creative programs for artists and audiences with minority experiences

- Connect Midsumma's core audience and a broader mainstream audiences to diverse queer artists and attract them into City of Yarra

- Harness the difference made possible by Yarra funding to provide City of Yarra with outstanding artistic value (at low cost/free entry) that reflects the municipality's diversity and values of inclusivity.

**Total Project Cost:** \$109,455

**Grant Awarded:** \$15,000

---

## **AG20-306**

### **Mission Australia/ Charcoal Lane**

#### *Smith Street Dreaming*

**Project Description:** Smith Street Dreaming 2019 celebrates the footprint of Koorie history in Collingwood and Fitzroy, featuring some of the best established and emerging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander musicians and artists.

Moving into its eighth year, this project was developed by the Smith Street Working Group to celebrate the relationships between people who live, work or visit Smith Street, and to foster understanding and respect for everyone, focusing on community spirit Smith Street Dreaming is the biggest street celebration of long-standing indigenous history on the calendar, bringing together many mobs on the corner of Stanley & Smith Street, Collingwood.

The annual event plays host to some of Australia's best indigenous talent featuring live sets from Frank Yamma, Emma Donovan, Yung Warriors, hip hop dance group Indigenous Hip Hop Projects, Jindi Worabak traditional dancers Jirri Jirri Dancers, Archie Roach, and many more established and emerging artists.

Since the conception of Smith Street Dreaming relationships have improved with the Smith Street Dreaming motto – One Street, Many Mobs, One Community – becoming a reality. Personally, I have been involved with Smith Street Dreaming from the onset and I have seen it firsthand be embraced and accepted by all stakeholders, investors and most of all our community. It a very special Festival one of those I am proud to be part of.

**Total Project Cost:** \$33,850

**Grant Awarded:** \$15,000

---

## **AG20-153**

### **PBS**

#### *Rock-A-Bye Baby*

**Project Description:** Rock-A-Bye Baby (RABB) is a series of family friendly events providing a safe and supportive environment for local and visiting families to experience high quality, live, contemporary music. PBS 106.7FM programs a musical act, sourced from within our rich and diverse local music community, to perform a daytime concert at a CoY venue. Each event is free for children and only \$7 or \$5 (PBS members) for adults, plus free entry for the first 50 concession card holders, ensuring that the events are accessible to all families. Throughout the 2020 calendar year we aim to hold six RABB events each featuring a unique band or artist. RABB is a highly successful event series that has been running for over 10 years, connecting families from within the CoY with each other, and attracting many visiting families from outside the council area.

**Total Project Cost:** \$36,513

**Grant Awarded:** \$5,700

---

## **AG20-273**

### **The Boite**

*Boite Events In Yarra*

**Project Description:** The Boite program is designed to enhance the cultural life of Yarra with a vibrant program of participatory arts events - concerts, workshops, a small festival, a schools singing program, various choir projects, a partnership with Gertrude Street Projection Festival, a weekly radio program, an annual series of arts events which are multicultural, participatory and inclusive:

The Boite Singers' Festival

Boite World Music Cafe concerts

Gertrude Street Projection Festival partnership local choirs inclusion

Timorese community collaborations

Melbourne Georgian Choir

Music Sans Frontieres (3CR 855AM, Tuesdays 12pm -2pm)

The Boite proposes to direct available funding from City of Yarra to support a series of small, multicultural concerts at 1 Mark St. North Fitzroy and Abbotsford Convent plus METAC and GSPF involvement. This concert series is key to the activities of The Boite in offering connections with young, emerging and unknown artists. With Boite radio on 3CR, these concerts provide opportunities for mentoring performers who have little experience in the music industry. Boite promotion places these performers in a context that provides a stepping stone to other possible performance opportunities at venues and festivals. These events bring unfamiliar music to listeners in Yarra and beyond. Artists who have arrived recently in Australia, who are looking for a context in which they can start to practise their music, sometimes after a traumatic experience of migration, are welcomed into The Boite and given opportunities with receptive and respectful audiences. Our relationships with various migrant and refugee support networks assist this process.

**Total Project Cost:** \$40,325

**Grant Awarded:** \$7,000

---

## **AG20-163**

### **Women's Art Register**

*Preserve Your Story*

**Project Description:** 1) A series of archiving workshops for our members, volunteers, artists and the general public, to learn how to preserve the special items that tell significant stories about our culture, families, communities and history. The workshops will be conducted by skilled conservators from our pool of volunteers, trained at the Grimwade Centre for Cultural Materials Conservation, University of Melbourne. The series of 5 workshops will cover, in turn, a range of topics; objects, paper, photography & film, digital archives and collection management. Participants may enroll in one or multiple workshops, as the content will be cumulative. As well as enhancing the skills base of our members and other volunteers, the program will broaden our community in Yarra, and address strategic goals of audience development and marketing.

2) Update the Women's Art Register Catalogue by interfacing with the workshop series to enhance our database format and content. The Women's Art Register Catalogue has not been updated since 1999 and is a high priority for us, however to date this work has been beyond our

capacity. The Preserve Your Story project will provide support to audit our catalogue databases, re-organise meta data formats, and add new data as compiled throughout the workshop series. For example, the introduction of accession numbering and keyword search terms will be part of the workshops, and simultaneously created on our database, to enhance our catalogue's functionality and accessibility. There is a strong demand for our service and we want to enhance the experience of our audience.

**Total Project Cost: \$33,750**

**Grant Awarded: \$10,000**

---

# Community Arts

## AG20-110

### Circus Australia Ltd

#### *Deadly Elders Circus*

**Project Description:** In 2020 Deadly Elders Circus, in partnership with the Victorian Aboriginal Health Service (VAHS), will continue to provide Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders living in the City of Yarra and inner-north Melbourne with a weekly circus program and shared community time in the form of a meal.

Although Circus Oz and VAHS would like more participants to be involved in the program on a weekly basis, the effects on the individuals who do regularly participate cannot be underestimated. For our regular participants, this weekly program is crucial for their physical, social and emotional health. Through weekly and annual feedback received, the Elders have expressed their enjoyment of the program, some even saying that the program is the reason they get out of bed on a Tuesday.

Circus as an artform is unique as it provides an environment where participants cannot help but have fun and laugh during the warm up games which helps to improve fitness, release endorphins and develop a strong bond with fellow participants.

The program would like to incorporate some of the following suggestions made by the Elders in weekly and annual feedback: attending a show together, such as one put on by Bangarra; more engagement with BLAKflip artists and Koori Youth Circus participants; scheduling a workshop outside with a BBQ for lunch afterwards; and printing Deadly Elders Circus t-shirts. This last one is currently pending due to funding constraints but is something the Elders are very excited about.

**Total Project Cost:** \$74,537

**Grant Awarded:** \$15,400

---

## AG20-118

### Mr Con Kalamaras

#### *Rebetiko Jam Sessions*

**Project Description:** These weekly Jam sessions occur every Wednesday night, the aim is to encourage second and third generation Greeks to participate in these weekly Jam sessions, this is done by encouraging local students and also local musicians, this also extends to musicians who are not Greek. The sessions have been organised by local music teacher / Greek Musician Wayne Simmons and local Musical and events producer Con Kalamaras ( me!). The sessions are structured around a collection of Greek songs from the period of 1920-1950 and sheet music is readily available for all who attend. The sessions are inclusive and supportive. The sessions have been running since May 2018 and have been consistently busy . It should be noted that Wayne Simmons is also a music teacher at Alphington Grammar, and we've been able to invite the students and their families along to participate in these public jam sessions.

**Total Project Cost:** \$13,000

**Grant Awarded:** \$5,000

---

## AG20-237

### Mr Dave Houston

*Raise the heART - Investigating youth drug and alcohol culture in Yarra*

**Project Description:** A need has been identified in regard to youth drinking and drug culture within Yarra. A youth video documentary exploring alcohol culture will be made by students of Collingwood College. This project is based on a successful evidence-based project that I facilitated for the Horsham City Council with Vic Health Funding. This project involves several activities.

1. **FORMATION** of collaborative partnerships with key stakeholders. These involve Collingwood College, Full-On Theatre and key members of the 'Communities that Care' group. I have spoken with Rupert North about aligning partners to the project. A Steering Committee will guide the project.
2. **ENGAGING** the students with 2 facilitators and a documentary filmmaker. Through the use of drama and explorations of wellbeing we will explore youth culture and its relationship to drugs and alcohol.
3. **SKILL DEVELOPMENT.** Documentary and theatre skills to be developed. Students will begin to create dramatic and comedic material to become part of the documentary.
4. **FILMING & EDITING.** Students will conduct interviews, create art & physical content. A 15-20 minute documentary will be created
5. **SCREENINGS & FORUMS.** The documentary will be screened in classes and for school cohorts. This will be followed by forums on Drug & Alcohol Youth Culture, made up of health professionals, drug and alcohol experts and students. There will be a public screening and forum for parents.
6. **EVALUATION.** The project will be evaluated by the Steering Committee and address the question of 'Where to from here?'

**Total Project Cost:** \$17,900

**Grant Awarded:** \$8,900

---

## AG20-170

### Mr Jason Cavanagh

*Refuge*

**Project Description:** Refuge is a collaborative artistic program spanning multiple disciplines, which aims to engage audiences with the struggles and triumphs of Refugees and Asylum seekers. Over the course of one month, the Motley Bauhaus will facilitate the creation and exhibition of various podcasts, musical performances, poetry readings, and visual artworks. This multidisciplinary project is uniquely suited to our new art space and seeks to make best use of our facilities whilst creating an exciting artistic program.

In order to guarantee authentic engagement with the community, we have partnered with the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre (ASRC), and various other organisations, and artists themselves for their input. We have already locked in a number of participants who show incredible artistic merit and stretch across various disciplines (see support documentation for quality of work).

We believe that art is uniquely placed to cut through politics and allow for honest and open

engagement with contemporary issues. We chose the title Refuge, defined as "the state of being safe or sheltered from pursuit, danger, or difficulty", as this reflects the environment and artistic program we are creating.

Refuge is a platform to communicate stories and experiences from diverse backgrounds from people living in our community, and will, if only in a small way, foster community and connectedness within the City of Yarra.

**Total Project Cost:** \$38,500

**Grant Awarded:** \$8,000

---

## **AG20-303**

### **Kids' Own Publishing**

*More than words: A wordless children's picture book illustrated by refugee/migrant women and their children*

**Project Description:** The 'More than words' project aims to create a visually rich, wordless ('silent') colour picture book that tells the unique stories of migrant/refugee women and their children in the City of Yarra through visual imagery. This community publishing project is a collaboration between Kids' Own Publishing, Carringbush Adult Education ('Carringbush'), and Ink and Spindle. The project will culminate in a book that can be interpreted uniquely, each time, by the reader.

"I only know a little bit (of) English. I can't read books to my kids. When I try to read to my younger kids, my big kids say, 'Mum you don't know, you can't read.' So (if there are) no words, just pictures, I can say the story." (Martha, English Student at Carringbush).

The students at Carringbush have expressed feeling a sense of shame about not being able to read with their children. The wordless book will encourage oral storytelling and verbal exchange between children and their parents/carers, and build the confidence of both parents and children to engage with both books and art.

Lead artist, Ana-Rita Pires, will curate creative spaces for a group of women and their children to explore their own narratives, and express these through the medium of printmaking, using recycled materials and the immediate environment.

An immersive printmaking workshop will also be facilitated by Ink & Spindle, at the Abbotsford Convent. It will encourage experimentation with the production of textural, abstract images on fabric, that reflect the narrative of the collaborative story.

**Total Project Cost:** \$15,965

**Grant Awarded:** \$7,999

---

## **AG20-108**

### **Mx Teneille Clerke**

*Fast Fashion: An interactive & educational fashion show*

**Project Description:** In 2020, Tenfingerz in collaboration with local artist Sebastian Berto, will host Fast Fashion: an interactive and educational installation as part of the Melbourne Fashion Festival at Schoolhouse Studios.

A tonne of salvaged op-shop waste, otherwise destined for landfill, will be delivered to the studios

where a three-week interactive exhibition will take place.

The project will bring together the Schoolhouse Studio's community as well as wider LGBTIQ community to participate in skill-sharing and art making in a fun and accessible environment. As queer and neurodiverse people, Tenfingerz and Berto, have designed this project to prioritise people with those experiences.

Two one-day events will be held where audiences from the general public, designers, local LGBTIQ and the community attached to the Schoolhouse Studios, will be invited to participate or just watch the activities. They will create costumes and outfits from the waste provided, sharing skills throughout the day: sewing, design, millinery, crafting, performance, photography. Runway presentations, showcasing outfits will happen every 1.5 hours.

Specific workshops will be offered to young LGBTIQ people facilitated by myself and other local LGBTIQ creatives who work with young people.

A one-day event will be a low-sensory experience, where quiet crafting will be offered as an activity to people who are neurodiverse and have mental health issues that prevent them from attending the other workshop/runway shows.

Photographs of participants' creations will be compiled into a book.

**Total Project Cost: \$28,240**

**Grant Awarded: \$5,300**

---