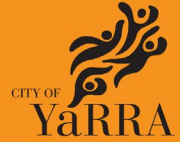


**Yarra City Council's
Room to Create Studios at Collingwood Yards
Expression of Interest
2022 Guidelines**





Yarra City Council's Room to Create Studios at Collingwood Yards Expression of Interest 2022 Guidelines



The area now known as the City of Yarra stands on the lands of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people, the Traditional Owners of this country. Yarra City Council pays tribute to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Yarra, and gives respect to the Elders past and present.

Front cover image: Natalie Jurjens

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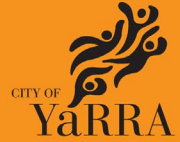
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1. OVERVIEW

Yarra City Council's Room to Create Program, in partnership with Lord Mayors Charitable Foundation and with support from Collingwood Yards, is proud to announce Expressions of Interest (EOI) for the Room to Create Artist Studios Program. This is an exciting opportunity for artists in need of space to join the creative community at Collingwood Yards. The RTC Artist Studios Program will offer six spaces to artists for 18 months, with heavily subsidised rent.

We are seeking EOI's from visual artists in need of space who will use this opportunity to develop their practice in affordable studio spaces. The studios are located within the Collingwood Yards Studios complex, on the top floor of 30 Perry Street, Collingwood and will be available in January 2022.

IMPORTANT:

- The Room to Create Artist Studios are suited for visual art practitioners
- Individuals, groups and joint applications are all encouraged to apply
- Applications open Thursday 23 September 2021 and close at 11.59pm on Tuesday 19 October 2021
- **Due to State Government restrictions, site visits will not be available during the EOI process. You are required to view the video walk through of the studios as part of the application process.**

For any questions regarding the studios, the site and Collingwood Yards, please contact Tenancy and Community Manager Ed Service on 0415 527 357 or email ed@collingwoodyard.org.

2. ABOUT THE ROOM TO CREATE PROGRAM

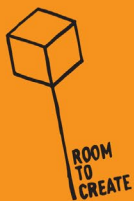
The **Room to Create Program** encompasses a range of initiatives by Council to help keep the arts in Yarra. As the City continues to change, presenting challenges to creatives, as well as arts and cultural organisations, Yarra City Council is committed to supporting our vibrant, creative arts sector and community.

Over the years, the pressures of increased land value and diminishing availability of space is forcing some, particularly young and emerging artists, out of the local area.

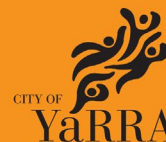
Council recognises that over time, losing artists and arts organisations from the municipality will greatly affect the character of Yarra as a place for the arts.

In response to this, Council established the Room to Create Program, which aims to provide creative infrastructure support to artists and organisations. Since it was first launched, the Room to Create Program has supported artists and creative organisations through artist residencies, heavily subsidised tenancies in Council owned buildings and grants for infrastructure related works.

The Room to Create Fund, a charitable fund established under the Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation in 2013, is one of the ways that Council directly supports a valued sector of our community by creating more affordable spaces for artists and arts organisations. The City of Yarra Room to Create Studios at Collingwood Yards are directly supported by the Room to Create Fund. The City of Yarra is already host to numerous creative spaces and operators, spanning 75 live music venues, 60 galleries and artists run spaces and peak arts organisations including but not limited to the Abbotsford Convent, Circus Oz, Gertrude Glasshouse, Centre for Contemporary Photography, Dancehouse and community radio stations PBS106.7Fm, 3CR and 3MBS. Collingwood Yards is a welcome addition to the municipality, playing an important role in housing the creative sector, providing space for creative activities and building community.



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3. ABOUT COLLINGWOOD YARDS

The buildings that form the Collingwood site have been a place of learning, creativity and collaboration since their days as the Collingwood School of Art and Design (opened in 1871) and then later as the Collingwood Technical School and the Collingwood TAFE.

In 1984 Keith Haring painted a mural on the east wall of the Johnston Street building and for 20 years that mural remained there. In 2004 the City of Yarra was successful in having the significance of the mural recognised and included in the Victorian Heritage Register; this gave the mural heritage protection.

In 2016 Contemporary Arts Precincts Ltd (CAP) was established as a not-for-profit social enterprise to deliver vibrant, cross-disciplinary creative spaces and support for small-to-medium creative organisations and individuals. Collingwood Yards was established with the support of the State Government and Melbourne's philanthropic community, including the Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation, which is a significant supporter.

Collingwood Yards provides a home for organisations, artists and complementary businesses including Music Victoria, PBS106.7FM, The Push, Liquid Architecture, Bus Projects, The Social Studio, Reverb Prints, Centre for Projection Art, Hope Street Radio, Arts Projects Australia's Gallery and West Space. A full list of tenants is available on the Collingwood Yards website.

3.1 Cultural Safety at Collingwood Yards

Collingwood Yards First People's Reference Group

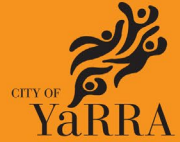
The Collingwood Yards First People's Reference Group ensures that Contemporary Arts Precinct (CAP) operations, programs and activities engage with and respect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. This is particularly the case for any aspect of operations at Collingwood Yards that identifies as being by, about or for First Peoples. Membership of the group consists of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are members of CAP's staff, Board and tenant community. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members who are external to CAP's staff, Board and the tenant community also sit on the reference group.

Tenant Community

Collingwood Yards is proud to be the home of organisations and practices led by blak artists and arts workers and people of colour. Organisations and individuals including Creatives of Colour, Uncle Jack Charles, Ilbijerri Theatre and Typecast Entertainment, amongst many others, have found a welcoming and supportive environment with high standards for cultural safety and respectful behaviour, policy and relationships. Collingwood Yards offers a dedicated rent-free studio space, administered by the FPRG, and is looking to add additional spaces to this scheme.



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4. ABOUT THE ROOM TO CREATE ARTIST STUDIOS

The six Room to Create Artist Studios are located within the Collingwood Yards Studios complex, on the second floor of the Perry Street Building. Collingwood Yards has installed a full lift and level access to the studios (located on Level 2) ensuring that all studio spaces at Collingwood Yards are wheelchair accessible.

They are semi-open plan, light filled and range slightly in size from approximately 13m² (average) with ceilings approximately 3.6m high.

The studios have:

- Lift access from ground and courtyard level;
- 24 hour access;
- Internet;
- Access to all Collingwood Yards communal spaces including commuter facilities (showers, bike cage), shared toilet and kitchenette;
- Booking credits for Collingwood Yards' meeting rooms;
- Shared sink with paint trap;
- Electricity including reasonable power usage for tools, office equipment and most artistic uses.

4.1 ROOM TO CREATE ARTIST STUDIOS OBJECTIVES

- Supporting artists to progress in the next stage of their career;
- Advocating for innovative and diverse practices;
- Supporting a diverse range of artists to thrive within the municipality of Yarra - across age, gender, career level, socio-economic status and cultural backgrounds;
- High artistic merit.

4.2 REQUIREMENTS BY ROOM TO CREATE STUDIO ARTISTS

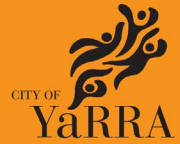
The RTC Artist Studios Program at Collingwood Yards will be heavily subsidised (75%) jointly by the Room to Create Fund and Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation. ***The artist/s shall enter into a rental agreement (licence) directly with Collingwood Yards for the duration of the residency, and pay the remaining 25% directly to Collingwood Yards.***

If applying as a group or as a joint application, note that numbers will be limited by the size of the studios. If a collective/group application is successful:

- One or more representatives will be required to sign a rental agreement and a Room to Create Service and Sponsorship Agreement, on behalf of the group and the artists in the studio must be individually identified to Council and to Collingwood Yards;
- All artists within the group will be provided with a copy of the rental agreement, Room to Create Service and Sponsorship Agreement, along with general studio information, evacuation and OHS standards;
- You must start and end your tenancy rental agreement as a group, RTC and Collingwood Yards are unable to manage or assist with finding replacement tenants or sub-letters;
- Should one of the artists within the group need to break a rental agreement, any replacements must be approved by the RTC Advisory Panel; and



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- There is an approval process to the RTC Advisory Panel should the group wish to modify their space (i.e. build partitions for privacy) however the studio must be restored to its original state upon termination of the rental agreement.

The artist/s are required to sign a Service and Sponsorship Agreement that outlines/identifies commitments required by the artist as part of Yarra City Council's Room to Create Artist Studio Program. This includes delivering 2 annual Open Studio events and acknowledgment Yarra City Council, RTC and LMCF in any projects and promotional opportunities.

4.3 STUDIO OPERATIONS

Collingwood Yards will be responsible for managing the day to day operations of the studio. Individuals, tenants and artist representatives will be encouraged to use the site-wide communication platforms to communicate with Collingwood Yards and with one another.

Collingwood Yards will establish working groups to involve artists in decision-making processes that affect the community and studio artists are encouraged to play an active role in the life and direction of the community.

The successful RTC Artist Studio applicants will be bound by Collingwood Yards Studio operations as outlined below:

4. 4 CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS

- Artists are expected to adhere to Collingwood Yards' Code of Conduct and relevant policies;
- Artists are required to follow Collingwood Yards WHS and Risk Management protocols, including the maintenance of pathways for emergency egress within the studio
- Due to the high demand for studio spaces in Collingwood, artists are expected to use their studios frequently and maintain their arts based practice at Collingwood Yards consistently;
- All studios are for arts and creative practice, they are not be used as accommodation;
- Artists are responsible for cleaning their own studio;
- Whilst efforts have been made for sound proofing in inter-tenancy walls, artists should be aware of their neighbours and must ensure that noise is not excessive and does not disturb other artists. You may need to wear headphones if you need to listen to loud music;
- Artists are advised to take out contents insurance for their personal items; and
- Collingwood Yards reserves the right to pass on costs for excessive, disproportionate or unreasonable consumption of power or other Collingwood Yards services.

5. ROOM TO CREATE ARTIST STUDIOS APPLICATION PROCESS

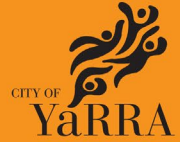
Applications will be made online as an Expression of Interest (EOI) through the SmartyGrants portal.

The EOI will require you to respond to the following questions:

- **Briefly describe your practice (300 words max)**
- **Have you viewed the video walk through of the studios? Y/N**
- **If applying as a group; how many people do you expect to use the space?**



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- Please describe how you propose to use the space, and indicate how much time you plan to spend in the studio (300 words max)
- What projects/outcomes do you plan to achieve during your tenancy? (300 words max)
- How will this studio support the development of your work? (300 words max)
- What might be some of the benefits for your practice being located at Collingwood Yards? (300 words max)
- Is there any other information you would like to provide in support of your application? (300 words max)

Support material:

A current CV
Images or links of previous or proposed works
Any other relevant support material

Note Attachments in SmartyGrants:

Files can be uploaded one at a time through the file upload links below.

Maximum individual file size is 25 MB, with a maximum of 100 MB in total per application. However, SmartyGrants strongly recommends limiting individual files to 5 MB.

5.1 ELIGIBILITY

Artists, groups and joint applications are eligible to apply.

5.2 INELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

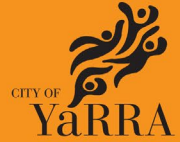
- Commercial practitioners, organisations, businesses are ineligible to apply
- Applicants currently undertaking study are ineligible to apply
- Applicants already in a lease arrangement with Collingwood Yards Studios are ineligible to apply.

5.3 ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

- Does the artistic practice reflect rigour, diversity and high artistic merit?
- Does the applicant identify a significant benefit/s from the residency at CY?
- Does the applicant meet the RTC Artist Studios Program objectives?
 - Supporting artists to progress in the next stage of their career;
 - Advocating for innovative and diverse practices;
 - Supporting a diverse range of artists to thrive within the municipality of Yarra - across age, gender, career level, socio- economic status and cultural backgrounds;
- High artistic merit.



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5.4 SELECTION PROCESS

Applications will be assessed against the above criteria by a selection panel that includes representatives from the Room to Create Advisory Panel, the LMCF, Yarra City Council, and Collingwood Yards.

5.5. TIMELINES

The EOI opens on Thursday 23 September 2021 and closes on Tuesday 19 October 2021.

Applications will be assessed by the selection panel. Once assessed, the recommendations from the panel are endorsed by Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation. All applicants are expected to be notified in late November, with an induction in early December 2021.

6. HOW TO APPLY

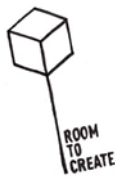
EOI's can be submitted online through Council's website at cityofyarra.smartygrants.com.au.

Please note that EOI's are not submitted online until you hit the 'submit' button. After submitting your application you will receive an email acknowledging receipt of your application which will include a PDF copy for your records. This will be sent to the email address you used to register on SmartyGrants. If you do not receive this email your application has not been submitted successfully. Yarra City Council staff cannot view applications that have not been submitted, so please make sure you hit the submit button at the end of the application process. If you do not receive an email acknowledging receipt of your EOI please contact our grants team.

7. FOR MORE INFORMATION

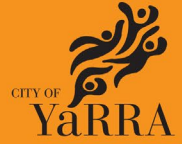
Contact Rafaella McDonald on 03 9205 5232 or email Rafaella.McDonald@yarracity.vic.gov.au on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

For issues with the application form, or administrative questions, you can also contact the Grants Team on 03 9205 5170 and 03 9205 5146, or email yarragrants@yarracity.vic.gov.au.

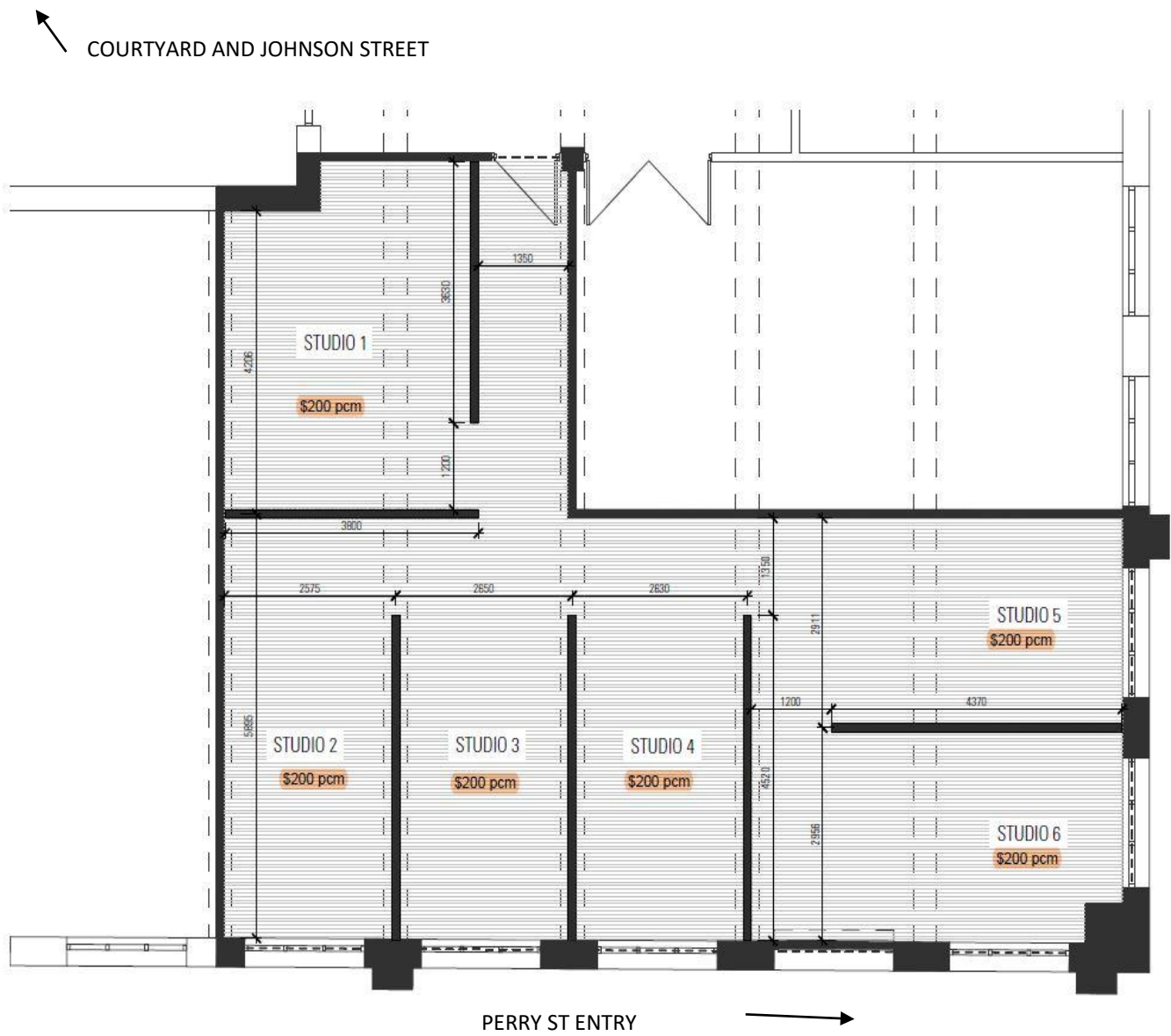




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Appendix A: Room to Create Studio Plan, Level 2 Perry Street Building





**ROOM
TO
CREATE**

