

Magnify

Artists in Residence

2026 - 2027 program guidelines



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All images on previous page by Matt Harvey

About City of Kingston and Kingston Arts

City of Kingston boasts a vibrant arts and culture scene, hosting a variety of arts spaces, arts and cultural organisations and services, professional and emerging artists, creative industries and arts workers.

Kingston Arts aims to build on these strengths, through increasing the profile and support of creative industries within the community, and fostering more opportunities for creative engagement and cultural tourism.

Kingston Arts achieves this in a number of ways including through the delivery of a comprehensive and diverse calendar of performing, visual and community arts events and activities across three primary arts spaces: Kingston Arts Centre, Kingston City Hall and Shirley Burke Theatre.

City of Kingston provides additional support through an annual **Community Grants program** including a separate category for Arts Projects.

These initiatives enhance, strengthen and act on the community's aspirations to position Kingston as a liveable and creative city.

Magnify: Artists in Residence

Overview

Magnify is Kingston Arts' artist residency program hosting artists in shared studio spaces. We accommodate artists with varying creative practices, needs and at different career stages, providing an environment to encourage creation, collaboration and artistic growth.

During their three-month residency, Magnify artists can activate their studio space and immerse themselves in their creative practice, as well as create opportunities to collaborate and build networks with other creatives and the wider Kingston community.

Art practices appropriate for the space include (but are not limited to): painting, illustration, printmaking, textile, collage, small sculpture and ceramics. The need for frequent use of high-toxicity materials such as spray-paint, resin etc may not be suitable in the Studio, please contact Kingston Arts to discuss further.

Benefits

- Access to rent-free, communal Studio spaces for a three-month period
- Financial support of up to \$1,500
- Professional development guidance for career progression, opportunities to develop workshops and facilitate open studio sessions to showcase work and artistic practice.

Expectations

- Maintain a Studio presence for approximately 80 hours per month
- Consideration of and respect for others in the shared studio space
- Consideration of and respect for Kingston Arts facilities.

Accessibility

The Magnify Studio is wheelchair accessible with accessible toilet available.

Kingston Arts Centre Studio

Alongside two indoor and two outdoor exhibition spaces, and several performing arts facilities, Kingston Arts Centre provides a Studio dedicated to our Magnify: Artists in Residence program. Equitably divided into four artist spaces, the Studio ensures separate working areas for each artist whilst still enabling collaboration within the shared room. Resident artists are expected to maintain an active presence, dedicating 80 hours per month to their creative practice.

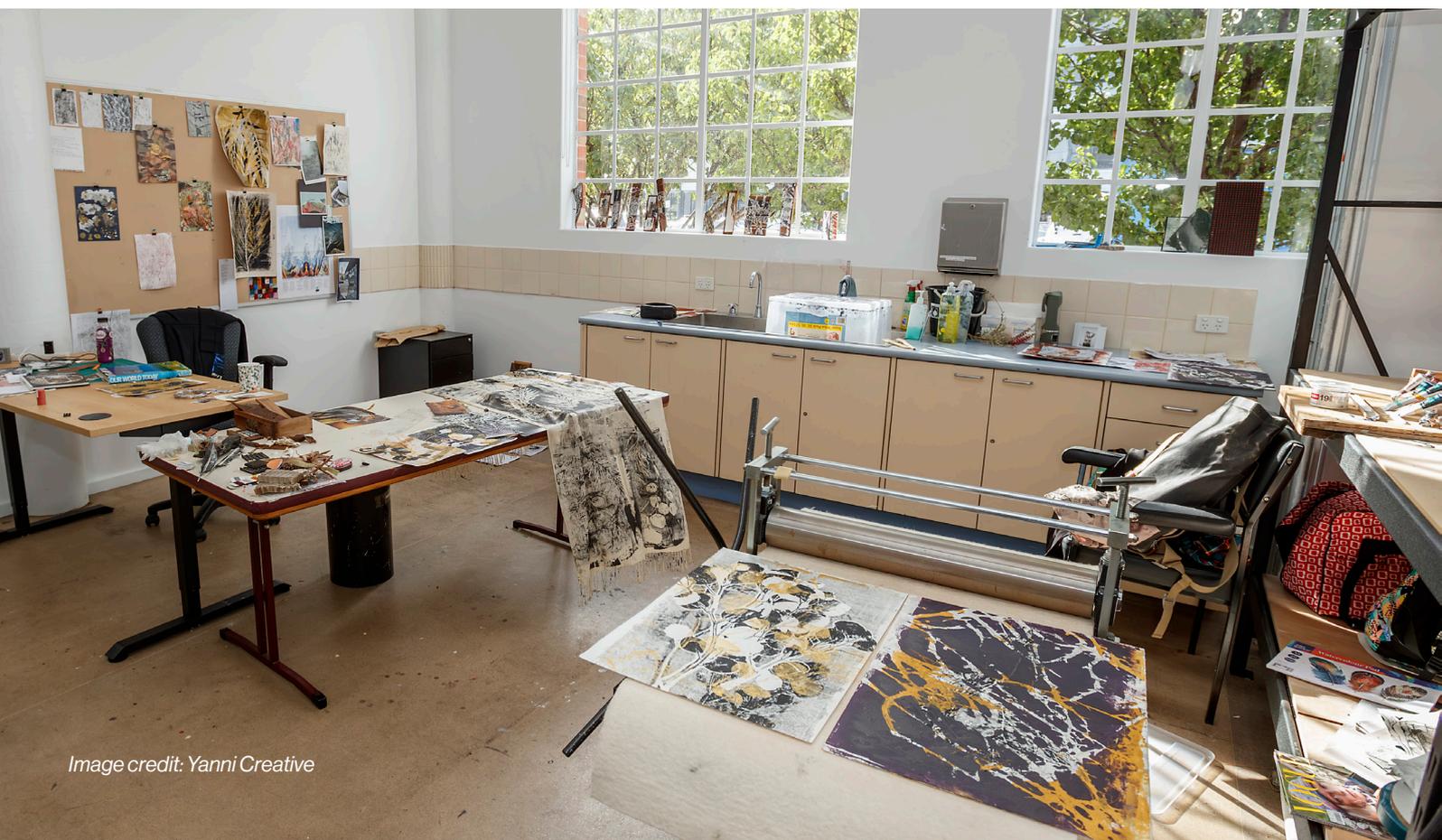
Key features of each individual studio space include:

- Personalised studio area with craft-proof flooring
- Flexible furniture and table setups to suit individual needs

Shared features within the workshop space include:

- Two large sinks with running water
- Air conditioning
- Kitchenette
- Flexible access

Access hours are from 7:00 am to 11:30 pm to accommodate various schedules, with expectations for responsible use and consideration of others. Please be aware that other activities occur in the building, and there may sometimes be noise bleed from adjacent rooms and the theatre above.



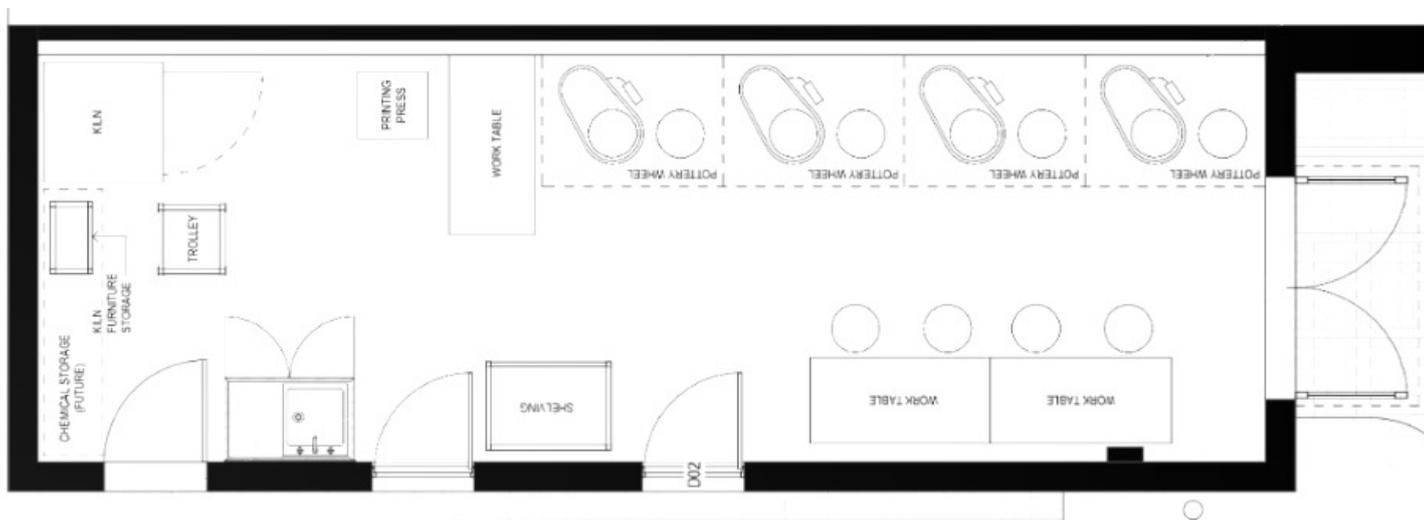
Ceramic studio

Located adjacent to Kingston City Hall and Kingston Arts Centre, our Ceramic Studio can be accessed free of charge by artists during their Magnify residency. Providing a welcoming environment for individuals and small groups, this studio is equipped with essential amenities to support a variety of ceramic endeavours.

Key features include:

- Four Cone Drive No.3 pottery wheels
- An electric kiln for firing ceramics
- Bench space to accommodate 6 - 8 participants
- Air conditioning
- Sink with running water
- Flexible access

**The facility can be accessed after the artist completes an induction and familiarises themselves with our Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) and relevant WH&S processes.*



Key dates

For 2026-27, Magnify: Artists in Residence is programmed into six blocks of three-month duration residencies (Blocks 1–6). Applications can be submitted within the dates specified below.

Applications open	Monday 16 March 2026 09:00am
Applications close	Sunday 12 April 2026 11:59pm
Resident Artists announced	From Monday 04 May 2026
Magnify 26-27 program duration	6 July 2026 - 17 December 2027

Block selection

Kingston Arts will work with successful artists to determine which residency block would be the most suitable to them, subject to demand.

Blocks	Key Dates
Block 1	Monday 6 July - Friday 25 September 2026
Block 2	Monday 28 September - Friday 18 December 2026
Block 3	Monday 18 January - Friday 9 April 2027
Block 4	Monday 12 April - Friday 2 July 2027
Block 5	Monday 5 July - Friday 24 September 2027
Block 6	Monday 27 September - Friday 17 December 2027

Assessment criteria

Applications will be assessed by a panel including local professional artists and creatives and will be based on the following:

Criteria	Description	Value
Quality of work	The excellence and creativity demonstrated in the applicant's work. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clearly articulates vision• Evidence of innovation• Demonstrates history of high-quality creative output	25%
Community impact and benefit	How the residency can positively impact the local community <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstrates a meaningful connection with and/or benefit for the Kingston Community• Strengthen social and cultural connections• Reflects the diversity of our community	25%
Demonstrated need	How the residency will support the applicant's practice and career <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clearly articulates why this residency is needed at this stage of their practice• Demonstrates how the residency will contribute to their long-term creative or professional goals	25%
Viability	Demonstrating appropriate skills and realistic goals. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Articulates realistic goals and necessary skills to realise objectives• Demonstrates an appropriate level of skills and experience	15%
Overall strength of the application	Demonstrate realistic and achievable planning and resource use. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• An original project suited to the space and within the residency duration	10%

Key desirable outcomes

The objectives of Magnify: Artists in Residence is aligned with City of Kingston's **Council & Wellbeing Plan** and its core pillars to generate positive economic, cultural and social impact in City of Kingston.

Objective 1: Healthy and Connected

We are a healthy, inclusive and accessible community, where social connections thrive and everyone feels supported and safe

Objective 2: Vibrant and Prosperous

We are a welcoming, lively and creative city that celebrates our well-utilised community spaces and thriving local businesses

Objective 3: Liveable and Sustainable

We live in a sustainable, well-planned and maintained city that preserves neighbourhood character, protects the environment and is future-focused

Objective 4: Responsibly Governed

We are a transparent and efficient organisation that is accountable, responsive and cost-effective

How to apply

- Questions? Contact the Kingston Arts team at **artsprograms@kingston.vic.gov.au**
- Allow ample time to plan, gather support material and to draft your application (we strongly recommend saving as you go).
- Complete and submit an online application through our EOI form by the closing date. Late applications will not be accepted.
- To learn more about Kingston Arts and to join our mailing list, visit **kingstonarts.com.au**