

# Magnify

## Performing Arts Development Program

2026 program guidelines

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kingston**arts**



City of  
**KINGSTON**

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*Images 2 - 3 on previous page by Matt Harvey*

# Magnify: Performing Arts Development Program

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## About Magnify

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

Kingston is dedicated to supporting our local creative community by providing opportunities for both emerging talents and established artists across multiple art forms. We aim to nurture artistic growth, inspire creativity and promote cultural engagement across Kingston.

## About the Performing Arts Development Program

Whether you're an emerging artist itching to explore a new idea, or a seasoned professional ready to push creative boundaries, our Magnify Performing Arts Development Program (PADP) provides tailored assistance to support your growth and help bring your vision to life.

Supported artforms include (but are not limited to) theatre, dance, music, spoken word, comedy, circus, opera, cabaret, physical theatre, performance art, puppetry, and multi-disciplinary practice.

## Eligible Activities Include

- The creation, development and / or presentation of new work
- Project / artform research and development
- Engagement of specialist practitioners (e.g. – directors, dramaturgs, choreographers, etc.) to support the development of work
- Skills development activities, including workshops, classes or mentorships
- Community engagement activities.

To be eligible, projects must demonstrate a connection with or potential benefit to the Kingston community. Examples of how this may be achieved include:

- The applicant and/or project participants live or practice in Kingston
- The project includes a community engagement activity open to local participants
- There is a proposed public presentation outcome within Kingston.

Please see page 5 for the full assessment criteria.

## What we can offer

- In-kind venue hire of Kingston Arts Centre for up to 160 hours (20 days)
- Project funding of up to \$5,000
- Advice and support from the Kingston Arts team
- Consideration of works for future programming at Kingston Arts
- Opportunities to connect, collaborate and build networks with other creatives and the community
- Professional development guidance for career progression.

# The Kingston Arts Precinct

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## Kingston Arts Centre

Activities supported by the PADP primarily take place in **Kingston Arts Centre**, a vibrant yet cosy hub for arts and culture located in Moorabbin.

It features a 92-seat **Black Box Theatre**, a historic **Chamber** suitable for rehearsals and meetings, and a workshop space; as well as two indoor galleries, an outdoor gallery and a projection space which host a curated program of exhibitions.



## Kingston City Hall

**Kingston City Hall**, adjacent to the Arts Centre, is our largest venue. Occasionally, PADP recipients may use facilities within the Hall, such as our **Function Rooms**. The Grand Hall and Banquet Room are our most used performance spaces and are generally not available for PADP activities.



## Address

979 – 885 Nepean Hwy, Moorabbin, Victoria.

## Hours and staffing

Access to our venues is subject to availability. Staffing costs and use of technical equipment are not covered by the PADP's complimentary venue usage.

Kingston Arts reserves the right to determine the staffing levels required for activities within our facilities. Any staffing arrangements and associated costs must be agreed in writing in advance.

Depending on the type of activity being undertaken, staff may not be required to directly oversee activities during our standard business and Gallery hours, i.e.:

Monday – Friday: 9am – 5pm  
Saturday: 11am – 4pm (exceptions occur)

After-hours usage is likely to incur staffing costs.

PADP grant funding may be put toward staffing and technical costs.

## Equipment

Kingston Arts Centre and Kingston City Hall have kitchen facilities including a fridge and microwave. Subject to availability, furniture and equipment such as tables, chairs, whiteboards, etc can be made available for use. Please let us know if you have any equipment requests.

Please ensure that any electrical equipment brought into our venues has been tested and tagged.

## Transport

The Kingston Arts Precinct is readily accessible by public transport and has on-site parking under City Hall (a permit is required on non-event days).

See our website for further information.

## Accessibility

We are committed to providing accessible venues and events for everyone. Kingston Arts Centre and Kingston City Hall have the following features:

- Accessible entry
- Accessible parking
- Accessible toilets

View [more accessibility information](#).

# Key Dates

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<b>Applications open</b>	Monday 16 February 2026
<b>Rounds close</b>	On the 15th day of each month
<b>Applications close</b>	When all funds are allocated, or on Tuesday 15 December, whichever is sooner
<b>Successful applicants notified</b>	Within 60 days of each round closure

# Assessment Criteria

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Applications will be assessed by a panel of Kingston Arts staff and/or appropriately qualified external assessors, using the following criteria:

Criteria	Description	Value
<b>Quality</b>	Does the application <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clearly articulate a vision / artistic rationale and work processes?</li><li>• Display innovation?</li><li>• Articulate the timeliness and relevance of work?</li><li>• Demonstrate a history of high-quality work by the applicant?</li></ul>	35%
<b>Viability</b>	Does the application <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Demonstrate an appropriate level of skill and experience of project participants?</li><li>• Demonstrate realistic and achievable planning and resource use, including appropriate payments to participants?</li><li>• Consider the safety and wellbeing of people involved in the project?</li></ul>	25%
<b>Connection</b>	Does the project <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Demonstrate connection with and/or benefit to the Kingston community?</b> <i>(Please note – this is an essential criterion.)</i></li><li>• Strengthen social and cultural connections?</li><li>• Address barriers to participating in or experiencing arts and culture?</li><li>• Reflect the diversity of our community?</li></ul>	20%
<b>Need</b>	Does the application <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clearly articulate why this support is needed?</li><li>• Demonstrate benefit to artistic practice, enhancement of skills, and/or long-term creative or professional goals?</li></ul>	20%

# Desired outcomes

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The objectives of Magnify: Performing Arts Development Program are aligned with City of Kingston's **Council & Wellbeing Plan** and its core pillars to generate positive economic, cultural and social impact within the city.

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## **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

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# How to apply

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- View full **Terms & Conditions**
- Contact the Kingston Arts team with any queries at **artsprograms@kingston.vic.gov.au**.
- Allow ample time to plan, gather support material and to draft your application (save as you go).
- Complete and submit an online application. You can find the link on our **webpage**.
- To learn more about Kingston Arts and to join our mailing list, visit **kingstonarts.com.au**

# About City of Kingston and Kingston Arts

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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.