**Spaces and Places Activation**

**Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

**What type of activity will Spaces and Places Activation fund?**

*Spaces and Places Activation* funding aims to stimulate regional recovery through activations that attract cultural tourism, address local resilience and place-making, support regional venues, drive local employment and engage audiences. This fund is expected to be highly competitive, supporting activities that can clearly demonstrate high value to regional Queensland.

*Spaces and Places Activation* supports three distinct strands of activity. The three funding streams are:

* Commissioning vibrant, high-quality new works for presentation at regional festivals and events, across all art forms
* Public art installations and initiatives that activate spaces in, and between, regional places
* Performing arts and live music touring that create destination events in regional Queensland

**Commissioning vibrant, high-quality new works for presentation at regional festivals and events, across all art forms**

From Indigenous festivals and art fairs, to music festivals and lifestyle events, regional Queensland is host to a plethora of unique, unforgettable experiences for local communities and visitors. While Covid-19 restrictions have postponed many events in 2020, *Spaces and Places Activation* funding supports the commissioning of vibrant, innovative new works that bring back audiences to festivals and events across regional Queensland as restrictions are lifted.

New works for regional events and festivals may be across any artform including dance, music, theatre, performance art, digital art, sound art, ephemeral visual art installations, mixed media or other innovative art forms.

Applicants to this fund may be a commissioner (i.e. festival artistic directors, curators, event organisers, councils or tourism organisations), or the producing artist or arts organisation. New works may be specially commissioned for one festival or event, or for presentation across a number of regional Queensland events through collaborative partnerships.

Significant new works by Queensland artists will create key attractions at festivals and events in regional Queensland. New commissioned works will add substantial value to the festival or event, increase local participation and engagement, and help to attract visitors to regional Queensland

**Public art installations and initiatives that activate spaces in, and between, regional places**

Public art can take on many forms and materials. It may be free-standing or highly integrated into the fabric of a building or urban space; it can be a sculpture, installation or even a performance work; it can be permanent, lasting many years, or temporary, lasting a few hours, days or months.

Proposed public art activities should be aspirational, innovative, engaging, have artistic integrity and provide legacy outcomes. *Spaces and Places Activation* encourages public art activities that enliven public spaces, promote the cultural vitality of places in regional Queensland, and create a unique sense of place and civic pride. The works will strengthen Queensland’s reputation as an arts and cultural tourism destination, and considers longer term activation of public art outcomes.

Distinctive and innovative public art activations may include, but are not limited to, sculpture, digital artwork, sound art, craft and design and may be:

* Permanent site-specific public art works
* Temporary or ephemeral public art works

**Performing arts and live music touring that create destination events in regional Queensland**

*Spaces and Places Activation* supports performing arts companies and live music performers to tour across regional Queensland, creating destination attractions that boost regional tourism and economic development. Tours supported by this fund will nurture local artists and showcase outstanding Australian artists, building audiences in rural, remote and regional locations and aim to attract a significant audience from elsewhere.

Performing arts and live music tours may include performances in traditional venues and town halls, or create unique new performance spaces utilising the diverse Queensland landscape as a stunning backdrop.

Successful applicants will be able to evidence viable regional tours that demonstrate strong business models.

Tours must consist of two or more locations in regional Queensland, across any performing art form including theatre, classical and contemporary music, and dance.

Costs that are **eligible** for funding:

* Costs incurred in developing the tour
* Costs incurred in administering the tour during the life of the project
* Net touring expenses which may include: accommodation, artist fees, touring party der diems (travel allowance), travel, transport costs, vehicle hire and equipment hire which are not already funded by another stream of Arts Queensland funding
* Consideration will be given to supporting product development and production costs for projects with a significant value proposition

The following costs are **ineligible** for funding: remount costs, equipment purchase, core-staff salaries, venue hire, maintenance and consumables, documentation and public liability insurance.

**Can I submit an Expression of Interest to deliver more than one stream of activity?**

Yes. Expressions of Interest may seek funding to deliver across one or more of the three streams. If your project will deliver against more than one of these streams, you should only submit one Expression of Interest for the entire project.

Please indicate on the application form which stream/s of activity you are requesting funding to support.

**What Spaces and Places Activation will not support**

Spaces and Places will not fund:

* activity that is sited in the Brisbane local government area, interstate or overseas
* activity that does not prioritise employment or engagement of Queensland artists or creative businesses, or where consideration has not been given to ensuring that major supply chain partners are based in Queensland (i.e. fabricators of public art).

**How much can I apply for?**

*Spaces and Places Activation* provides funding of up to $250,000 that can be used to cover costs of creative development and delivery of innovative arts and cultural activations.

Expressions of Interest should include a budget that is realistic for the planned activity and provides value for money.

**Who can apply for funding through Spaces and Places Activation?**

Expressions of Interest may be submitted by:

* Individual artists, arts workers, promoters and producers
* Festivals, events, and arts and cultural organisations
* Local government
* Private sector entities

Applicants can be based in Queensland, or be able to evidence that they have a Queensland-based delivery partner.

**At what stage of the project development should applicants apply?**

*Spaces and Places Activation* is designed to provide immediate support to the development of arts and cultural activations that are ready to deliver from 1 November 2020. All projects should plan to be delivered by 31 December 2021.

Expressions of Interest to *Spaces and Places Activation* require the presentation of a viable business case. Successful applicants will be in an advanced stage of planning and are ‘shovel ready’.

Partnerships should already be established with the relevant local council/s, [Regional Tourism Organisation](https://teq.queensland.com/about-teq-new/contacts/rtos) and/or [Regional Arts Services Network](https://rasn.org.au/) (RASN) provider, and other key partners dependent on the stream you are applying to (i.e. festival organisers or touring venues).

**What do you mean by community engagement?**

A community is a group of people with something in common. This could be their shared location, interests, background or circumstances. How you engage with the communities in which your activation will be sited is critical to your application’s success.

Engagement is about involving communities in your artistic process and product. It can include public consultations to direct the vision of your activity, location of public artworks or events, or engaging the community in the making or presentation of the activity.

The type and depth of engagement may vary from project to project but it should always be genuine and meaningful.

**How does this fund support Queensland artists, arts workers and creative businesses?**

The arts and cultural sector has been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. *Spaces and Places Activation* funding is part of a $22.5 million two-year Arts and Cultural Recovery Package for Queensland’s arts and cultural sector as part of Queensland’s Economic Recovery Strategy: Stage Two.

One of the key intentions of the *Spaces and Places Activation* program is to support employment opportunities for Queensland artists and arts workers, and support local economies more broadly through considering local supply chains for goods and services related to the projects (i.e. Queensland-based public art fabrication).

For the purposes of *Spaces and Places Activation*, the following definitions apply.

**Who is a Queensland artist?** The definition of a Queensland artist includes emerging, established and mid-career artists born in Queensland but living anywhere in Australia or artists currently residing in Queensland.

**What is a Queensland creative business?** A business that has their principal place of business in Queensland, and whose primary function is to provide goods or services in the creative industries.

**What is a local supply chain?** A supplier of goods or services that maintains a workforce whose usual place of residency (i.e. where they normally live, sleep and eat) is located within a 125 kilometre (km) radius of where the good or service is to be supplied. If a capable local supplier does not exist within the 125 km radius, the radius should be extended progressively to the local region, then Queensland, then Australia, until a suitable supplier is identified.

**What is the Spaces and Places Activation definition of regional Queensland?**

In this program, the definition of ‘regional’ is all Queensland locations outside of Brisbane City Council boundaries. You can check a location using the Electoral Commission of Queensland’s interactive map: <https://results.ecq.qld.gov.au/local_area_maps/>

**Who is my RASN Provider?**

The [Regional Arts Services Network](https://rasn.org.au/) (RASN) is a key stakeholder in regional arts delivery in Queensland. Driving regional development and working with the local arts sector, councils, community partners and industry stakeholders, they help to determine arts and cultural priorities for specific regions.

RASN is a new approach to the delivery of state-wide arts services, supported through Arts Queensland, and led by the sector.

Applicants to *Spaces and Spaces Activation* may contact their RASN provider to access regional networks and partnerships with local government and the arts sector. The RASN provider can also provide support to promote the project across the region.

Contact details for each provider can be found at <https://rasn.org.au/>

**Why do I have to establish partnerships with the local council and Regional Tourism Organisation?**

The partnership between applicants and the local council and Regional Tourism Organisation will be different for each stream. However generally we expect that arts and cultural activations supported by *Spaces and Places Activation* funding should be strategically linked to relevant local and regional plans including those related to community development, arts and culture, tourism and/or economic development.

Local councils and Regional Tourism Organisations will show commitment to the activations by providing in-kind support as well as ensuring appropriate council approvals are in place.

**Is there a requirement for matched funding?**

There is no requirement for matched funding, however applications demonstrating financial contributions from other sources will be highly regarded. As a minimum your budget must show in-kind support from both the relevant local council/s and the Regional Tourism Organisation.

Applicants to *Spaces and Places Activation* are encouraged to consider also applying for funding from other sources, such as:

* **Philanthropy –** may include income from donations from individuals and foundations, including through crowdsourcing
* **Partnership capital** – project partners which may also bring funding and financing.
* **National government or independent agencies –** applicants may seek support from other stakeholders.
* **Any other reasonable source of investment.**

The budget provided in your Expression of Interest should provide evidence of any committed funds and when they will be available.

**How is Spaces and Places Activation assessed?**

Assessors will also be considering your application against your entire Expression of interest, including the strength of outcomes and how well it meets the assessment criteria: Quality, Reach, Impact and Viability. The guidelines provide indicators for each criteria as a sample of the types of evidence needed to demonstrate achievement.

Expressions of Interest will be assessed by an independent panel of experts.

**When will funding decisions be made?**

One round of *Spaces and Places Activation* funding is available in 2020. Applicants will be notified of the outcome of their Expression of Interest by 28 September 2020.

**Applying as an existing recipient of Arts Queensland funding**

If your organisation is the recipient of core and/or administered funding through Arts Queensland, your Expression of Interest must demonstrate how the activity differs from what the organisation is currently funded to deliver. These applicants should not include administration costs in their *Spaces and Places Activation* Expressions of Interest.