

Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) 2025-2026 Local Priorities

1. Development of live events, particularly music and theatre

- Initiatives that develop or expand opportunities for the community to attend live events particularly music festivals and concerts and theatre performances.
- Initiatives that expand performance opportunities for local musicians and performers. Initiatives that support the capacity of not-for-profit organisations who deliver live events.
- Music activities that cater for young people will be highly regarded.

Example Projects: a project to develop regular performance opportunities for emerging local musicians; the development of new theatrical works; a project to plan and establish a local choir; a project that engages youth in creative music development activities; cultural group development of dance performance for Multicultural Festival.

2. Development of creative skill development workshops and activities

- Initiatives that develop or expand opportunities for the community to participate in creative skill development workshops in a range of artforms, particularly in the visual arts, for example painting, drawing, photography, film making, ceramics, printmaking, mixed media and crafts.
- Initiatives that engage local artists and enhance accessibility by catering to people of different ages, abilities, places of residence, that are affordable, offered at different times of day or in varying formats and in welcoming locations will be highly regarded.

Example Projects: a project that plans and establishes a digital arts activity for youth throughout the shire; a beginners watercolour workshop run after hours; a project that plans and establishes a new outdoor photography club that meets in the park.

3. Increase use of existing facilities and non-traditional spaces for arts activities

Initiatives that develop or expand the use of existing facilities and spaces through:

- planning for facility upgrades;
- assessing and trialling the viability of alternative and complementary uses of existing spaces;
- reducing participation costs by supporting activity expenses such as transport, hire fees, insurance and permits, for new activities.

Example Projects: A project to employ a grant writer for arts facility disability access upgrades; a project to trial a pop-up gallery in an underused shop front; a project that makes artist creative space available in a men's shed; a venue infrastructure, master-planning project.

4. Support the development, expansion and sustainability of existing arts activities

- Initiatives that develop or expand existing arts activities that results in increased participation opportunities for the community.
- Initiatives that develop and strengthen the capacity and sustainability of existing arts, heritage and cultural organisations to deliver outcomes and offerings.
- Initiatives that support artists access to professional “arts business” advice.

Example Projects: A project that develops the curating skills of arts group volunteers; a project that plans or establishes a regular program of creative arts workshops; development of a strategic and business plan for a cultural group; development of a new interactive workshop within an existing community festival; singer-song writer attendance at regional arts conference.

5. Partnerships and collaborations that grow arts initiatives and increase community participation

- Initiatives that support networking, partnerships and collaboration within the arts sector.
- Initiatives that support the development of partnerships between the arts and other sectors, including business, education, community services.
- Partnerships serve many purposes including: growing arts participation and development opportunities, increasing employment opportunities for artists, making art more accessible and non-intimidating, encouraging use of shared resources, facilitating collaborative creative development, enhancing sustainability of organisations and social and wellbeing outcomes.

Example Projects: establishment of shared “maker spaces”; arts professional networking events; creative connect group for musicians; cross sector initiative resulting in a music performance at a sporting event or the development of a new cultural tourism initiative.

6. Improve access to information about arts activities, groups and assets

- Initiatives that support the capacity of artists and arts and cultural groups to communicate their activities and offerings and result in increased audience, participation, use of facilities and positive promotion of the Shire’s arts and cultural sector.

Example Projects: development of a new website for a theatre group; artist attendance at social media workshop to enhance market reach; development of marketing and promotion strategy for an annual heritage event.