



Arts South Australia

**MAJOR  
COMMISSION**

**Independent  
Makers & Presenters**

**GRANT HANDBOOK**

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## ABOUT THE GRANT

The Major Commission grant supports a significant investment in a major new work by a leading South Australian independent artist or group, to be presented in a high profile setting in South Australia.

The project must have a significant public outcome and be presented first in South Australia. The project must have the capacity to extend community awareness of the artist and the commissioning partner or partners, and enhance their national and international reputations.

Independent artists may apply for assistance towards a major new work initiated and brokered with a suitable commissioning partner or partners. Partners may include production houses, independent producers, festivals, arts organisations and high profile venues. Partners must have a track record of producing projects of a similar scale.

Arts organisations and companies may apply to commission a leading South Australian independent artist. Organisations receiving ongoing funding from Arts South Australia must show how the commission will represent a scale of production or presentation beyond their usually funded activity.

Funding may be sought for project costs at every stage, including development, production and presentation.

Commissioning partners must commit or secure no less than 30% of the project's budget (cash or in kind) from sources other than Arts South Australia.

Applicants must include evidence of the relationship between the artist and the commissioner. This includes evidence of the commissioner's financial commitment to the project.

## KEY INFORMATION



### KEY DATES

**Closing date:** 5pm, 6 August 2018

**Notification date:** October 2018

**Commencement date:** 1 November 2018



### AMOUNTS AVAILABLE

One grant of \$90,000



### CONTACT

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# APPLICATION ADVICE

You should discuss your application and budget with the relevant Arts South Australia Arts Development officer, and look at past grant recipients as a guide. You can find a list of past grant recipients [here](#).

## LITERATURE

### Eligible expenses include:

- Accommodation
- Artists' fees
- Hire of an office or equipment
- Living allowances
- Stationery costs
- Travel.

### What this category does not fund:

- Film, TV and games scriptwriters (who should contact the South Australian Film Corporation) Manuscripts aimed at the education sector
- Individual writers seeking to employ an editor to work on a manuscript or to market their own titles
- Purchase of equipment
- The preparation of work intended for, or the costs associated with, self-publication.

## VISUAL ARTS & CRAFTS

### Eligible expenses include:

- Administration and accountancy
- Artists' fees
- Curatorial costs, catalogue essay writer's fees, design costs, materials, photography
- Exhibition costs
- Marketing costs

### What this category does not fund:

- Framing costs
- Purchase of equipment.

## **VISUAL ARTS & CRAFTS**

### **Eligible expenses (cont.):**

- Living allowance, daily allowances and salaries for creative and technical personnel
- Materials, studio and equipment hire
- Travel, freight and direct presentation and production costs, catalogue printing.

## **PERFORMING ARTS**

### **Eligible expenses include:**

- Administration and accountancy
- Commissioning fees
- Creatives' fees (such as composers, choreographers, designers, etc)
- Performers' fees
- Producers' fees
- Living allowance, daily allowances and salaries for creative and technical personnel
- Marketing costs
- Materials, venue and equipment hire
- Seasons of work and touring regionally, nationally and internationally
- Travel, freight and direct presentation and production costs.

### **What this category does not fund:**

- Amateur productions
- Film, TV and games scriptwriters (who should contact the South Australian Film Corporation)
- Purchase of equipment.

# APPLICATION ADVICE

## APPLYING AS AN ORGANISATION

If you are applying as an organisation (this includes any group, band, act or collective of more than one person), you will need to go to the My Organisations section of the portal and request that you are associated to an existing or new organisation.

Once you have submitted your request to be associated with an organisation, Arts South Australia will review and verify your request or contact you to discuss further.

You will be able to start an application on behalf of an organisation once your request has been verified. Please allow sufficient time for the verification process to ensure your application can be submitted before the closing date.

You may also apply as an individual and clearly articulate in your key application attachments that you are applying on behalf of a group, band, act or collective of more than one person. If you choose this option, Arts South Australia's communications to you will be as if you have applied as an individual.

## ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must be Australian citizens or have permanent resident status and live, or be primarily located, in South Australia.

Applicants with overdue acquittal/s will not be considered for funding.

The following applications are ineligible:

- projects already completed, or due to be completed, before the commencement of the funding period. Funding will not be provided retrospectively
- projects without professional outcomes, such as amateur productions, the self-publication of literary works, fundraising, competitions, awards and prizes, as well as projects forming part of a course of study, including graduation activities
- screen-based projects aimed at the cinema, film festivals or television, and media projects with a purely commercial outcome. Some activity will be eligible when incorporated into projects in other art form areas. Speak to Arts South Australia if you are unsure.
- start-up business costs and the purchase of basic equipment. Speak to Arts South Australia if you are unsure.



# CRITERIA

All applications are assessed against the following criteria.

**Artistic Merit** and **Viability** are the two key criteria to consider in your proposal.

Address the **Engagement** and/or **Development** criteria as they relate to your proposal. Your proposal may meet all criteria.

You do not need to respond to each individual bullet point.

**Artistic merit may refer to:**

- innovation, originality, quality, creativity and ambition
- the track record, creative achievement and skill of the artist or artists involved
- the context in which the work is being undertaken
- the potential contribution to the development of the art form
- evidence of experimentation, risk taking and bravery.

**Engagement may refer to:**

- the potential to grow audiences and their critical understanding of the art form
- the development of new markets, locally, nationally and/or internationally
- the development of new ways to engage with those markets
- the potential to provide a broader range of people with opportunities to participate in arts experiences, through strategies that increase access, social inclusion and cultural diversity
- evidence of deeper engagement with, and the involvement of, particular communities and/or audiences and the delivery of artistic benefits to them.

# CRITERIA

## **Viability may refer to:**

- the planning and resources required to achieve the potential of the proposal
- the ability of the applicant to meet the logistical challenges of the proposal
- evidence of strong financial and operational management, including a realistic budget and timeline
- evidence of additional resources and support, including other sources of income and in kind contributions.

## **Development may refer to:**

- the development of artist and art form practice
- the potential to enhance the skills and/or professional reputation of the applicant
- the capacity to forge new pathways for artist and sector development
- the capacity to develop new networks, collaborations and partnerships
- the contribution to South Australia's reputation as a centre of cultural leadership at a national and international level, and the resultant economic benefits.

# HOW TO APPLY

Before submitting an application, be sure to read the following information:

## Step 1

Read this handbook.

## Step 2

Register in Arts South Australia's online grants portal - [grants.arts.sa.gov.au](https://grants.arts.sa.gov.au)

## Step 3

Consider how your proposal meets the criteria.

## Step 4

Contact one of the officers listed in this handbook to discuss your proposal. Officers can support you in the preparation of your application, including answering questions about the content of your application, your application budget and the application process.

## Step 5

Log in to the online grants portal at [grants.arts.sa.gov.au](https://grants.arts.sa.gov.au) and identify the funding program and round you wish to apply for.

## Step 6

Click on 'Apply' to access the online application form.

## Step 7

Complete the online application form and upload key application attachments and support material as outlined in this handbook.

## Step 8

Your application will remain in draft and can be revised at any time until submitted.

**Late applications will not be accepted**

# KEY APPLICATION ATTACHMENTS

These key attachments are **MANDATORY**. Files should be clearly marked according to the following headings, and uploaded to the **Key Application Attachments section** of the online application form.

## **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

Due to the amount of funding on offer, there is an expectation that applicants will be able to submit a fully developed project outline that covers all activities and outcomes of the commission.

Your project outline must include:

- A complete description of the project and details of the proposed commissioned work, including an outline of how the commission came about and the selection process for the artist
- An argument for how the project will result in a new work of the highest artistic merit
- A description of how the project will extend the reputation of both the artist and South Australia as a centre of arts excellence
- Details of how the project will increase the South Australian public's access to and appreciation of the arts
- A description of the commissioning partners including their projected financial commitment or sponsorship.

You should include a timeline or itinerary for your project.

# KEY APPLICATION ATTACHMENTS

## **LETTERS OF SUPPORT AND CONFIRMATION OF ACTIVITY**

Please provide letters of support and confirmation validating the artist or project.

## **PROJECT PARTNERS**

Include letters of confirmation and support by project partners and participants of the proposed activity if applicable.

## **BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION**

Your CV should be limited to two pages. If there is more than one artist involved in the project, please provide a brief CV or biography on each person, of no more than 400 words per person.

## **NOTES TO BUDGET**

Notes to budget may include explanations for income and expenditure items, including box office calculations, artist fee calculations and breakdowns, currency conversions, quotes and expected notification of unconfirmed funding requests.

# SUPPORT MATERIAL

Support material should assist the peers in their understanding of your application. We prefer to receive support material via URLs (web links) or as digital files. If you provide only one hard copy of a book, manuscript or other publication, for example, it will not be circulated to peers prior to assessment.

URLs may include video, audio, images, and written material and you must observe the following limits:

- 10 minutes of video and/or audio recording (edited highlights of 3-5 minutes are recommended)
  - 10 images\*
  - 10 pages of written material.

If you are unable to provide URLs, you can submit material files in the following formats:

- Video (MP4, QuickTime, and Windows Media)
  - Audio (MP3 and Windows Media)
  - Images (JPEG and PowerPoint)\*
  - Written material (Word and PDF)

\*Visual art, craft and design applicants: A total of 10 images for individuals and 20 images for groups should be provided via URL or PowerPoint. Images must be accompanied by an image list which includes dates and full descriptions of the works.

**Support material will not be accepted after the closing date.**

# BUDGET

Complete the budget template provided in the online application form.

## BUDGET TIPS

- Your budget must balance.
- Your budget should show evidence of additional resources and support, including other sources of income and in-kind contributions (see Viability criteria).
- Upload concise notes to your budget in the Key Application Attachments section of the online application form.
- Notes to budget should include detail of calculations for such things as box office and artist fees (include professional fee benchmarks for reference).
- Notes to budget should include copies of quotes to support all major expenses.
- If you have applied for funding from other sources, notes to budget should indicate the timing of notification for unconfirmed funds.
- Notes to budget should include a contingency statement for significant unconfirmed funds.

[Click here](#) to see an example of the budget template.

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

## WORKING WITH CHILDREN IN ART

Arts South Australia has protocols to address the depiction of children in works, exhibitions and publications that it funds.

The protocols are designed to help artists and arts organisations understand their legal obligations and to establish responsible steps for artists when they are involving children in the creation, exhibition or distribution of creative works (including photography, painting, printmaking, performance, sculpture, written text, drawing and digital imagery).

Protocols can be downloaded [here](#).

## RESPECTFUL BEHAVIOURS

The safety and wellbeing of everyone working in, and engaging with, the South Australian arts and cultural sector is of paramount importance. Arts South Australia is committed to a zero-tolerance approach to all forms of victimisation, bullying and harassment, including sexual harassment.

Arts South Australia has taken a proactive, leadership approach to this serious issue, announcing that from 1 March 2018 it is a condition of all Arts South Australia funding and grants that recipients must adopt and implement a Respectful Behaviours policy and procedure.

Further information about Respectful Behaviours, and resources to assist you to develop a policy and procedure for your organisation or project, are available [here](#).

## ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PROTOCOLS

Arts South Australia endeavours to work with artists and organisations to ensure respect and acknowledgement for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and cultures at every stage of a project's development.

For more information on ATSI protocols click [here](#).



## INFORMATION PRIVACY

Arts South Australia collects personal information as reasonably necessary for the purposes and functions of:

- administering our grants and funding program;
- keeping you informed about relevant upcoming events, grants funding initiatives and outcomes, our services, special events or client feedback surveys as well as our activities in general;
- improving our websites and other services.

Arts South Australia complies with the Government's Information Privacy Principles (Department of the Premier and Cabinet Circular, dated 20 June 2016) when dealing with all personal information.

The information that you provide in your application may be used by Arts South Australia for:

- processing and assessing your application – Arts South Australia will provide the information to the peer assessors
- verifying other funding income for your project – Arts South Australia may provide information to other agencies nominated in your application
- processing, paying and administering your grant
- reviewing and evaluating our funding programs, strategies, plans and services – we may contact you for this purpose
- training
- systems testing and process improvement
- compiling statistics and reports.

The information you present to us in your application is treated as confidential, however, Arts South Australia staff and peer assessors will see it, and it may also be made available to those assessing future grant applications you make. Peer assessors are bound by a Code of Conduct.

If your application is successful, the Funding Agreement and associated documents for your particular project may be audited, which will mean disclosure of such documents, including your personal information, to auditors for audit purposes only.

If your application is successful, your personal details and the details of your application (including support material, the amount of funding you receive, the information you provide in your reports, and text and images relating to the funded activity) may be used, with your consent, for marketing and promotion of funding outcomes and South Australian arts and culture. This may include publication on our website and/or other Government websites, notifying your local Member of Parliament, the media, local government, Australia Council and State Government agencies.

## **TRANSLATION, COMMUNICATION & ACCESS**

Arts South Australia is committed to making the application process accessible to everyone. We are able to organise interpreters for meetings as well as the translation of applications.

Please let the Arts South Australia contact know if you have specific accessibility requirements.

Accessing the Arts South Australia building:

The Arts South Australia offices in Wakefield House, Level 16, 30 Wakefield Street, are wheelchair accessible.

Deaf and Hearing-Impaired Artists:

When contacting Arts South Australia, TTY users should phone 133 677 then ask for (08) 8463 5444.

Speak and Listen (speech-to-speech relay) users should phone 1300 555 727 then ask for (08) 8463 5444.

Auslan interpreters can be arranged for meetings and to translate applications which are submitted in Auslan (in digital format).

Please let the Arts South Australia contact for the grant program you are applying to know if you require an Auslan interpreter.

# AFTER YOU SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

You will receive an automated email acknowledging submission of your application.

## ASSESSMENT

It is important to note that while Arts South Australia staff manage the funding programs, they do not determine the final outcomes.

Peer assessment is central to Arts South Australia's funding process. Peer assessors are individuals who are recognised for their artistic achievements, artform knowledge and professional standing. Most peers are practicing artists, but they may also be arts managers and arts workers, or have relevant knowledge and experience.

Peer assessors make funding recommendations to the Premier (or delegate) for approval.

Peers usually meet for one to two days and rigorously assess applications against the criteria. If necessary, an application may be sent to external assessors for comment.

There is usually a greater number of worthy applications than the available funds can support.

A summary of funding outcomes will be available on Arts South Australia's website following notification of applicants. Feedback on successful and unsuccessful applications is available by contacting an Arts South Australia officer.

## FUNDING AGREEMENTS

Successful applicants will be required to enter a funding agreement with Arts South Australia for the period of funding.

## **REPORTING**

Successful applicants will be expected to provide an artistic, statistical and financial acquittal within three months of the completion of the funding period.

## **APPROVAL, NOTIFICATION AND ADVICE**

All applicants will be notified of funding outcomes by email in advance of the commencement date for the round. Return of funding agreements and payment invoices will be managed through Arts South Australia's online grants portal.

Applicants are encouraged to seek feedback from Arts South Australia to assist with future applications.



Government  
of South Australia



[arts.sa.gov.au](http://arts.sa.gov.au)