

ARTS ORGANISATIONS PROGRAM 2019 – PUBLIC REPORT

The Arts Organisations Program (AOP) provides funding to vibrant arts organisations that contribute to a sustainable and thriving arts culture in South Australia. Annual or Multi-year funding is available for small-to-medium arts organisations to support creativity, success, artistic risk, ambition, reach and access.

Annual and Multi-year applications were assessed on the organisation's ability to meet all the following criteria:

- Artistic Merit
- Viability
- Engagement
- Development.

This program provides two levels of funding:

- Annual funding – between \$50,000 and \$100,000 per annum
- Multi-year funding – more than \$100,000 per annum.

Applications

Applications for either Annual or Multi-year (2019–2021) funding through the AOP closed on 27 August 2018. Arts South Australia received seven Annual and 10 Multi-year applications.

2019 Budget

Committed funding through existing Multi-year funding agreements is \$1,590,246, making a total Arts Organisations Program budget of \$4,249,987 in 2019.

Coming into the 2019 round the unallocated funds for 2019 was \$2,579,742.

Peer Assessment

Arts South Australia acknowledges the role of the Peer Assessors in what is a highly competitive assessment process. The Peers bring a broad range of experience and expertise and make funding recommendations against the program's criteria. The work of the Peer Assessors is greatly valued.

Peer Assessors Comments

The peers acknowledged the commitment of organisations and the depth of work that is required by staff and Boards to ensure viable and sustainable organisations that develop and present high quality, innovative and ambitious work that is recognised locally, nationally and internationally.

The peers were impressed by the ambition and scale of national and international collaborations and presentations. The work of the South Australian small-to-medium arts organisations is being seen across the world, to great acclaim. This provides important profile, employment and income.

The peers acknowledged the depth and breadth of partnerships and the diversification of income streams that organisations have secured to support their business and operations, including philanthropy, donors and corporate sponsorship across industries, sectors and local government. The peers were impressed by the ways in which organisations were able to leverage the investment made by the South Australian government through Arts South Australia.

The peers noted that there was a sense of uncertainty and apprehension expressed by the majority of organisations regarding the reported cuts to the arts sector and the possible long-term impact on their organisations, development of work and professional careers.

The small-to-medium arts sector is a diverse mix of organisations across artform and business focus that are deeply inter-connected with the entire South Australian arts and cultural sector – including our world acclaimed festivals and cultural institutions – as well as the arts nationally and internationally.

It is central to the arts ecology and recognised as the engine room for the broader arts sector. It achieves this by fostering experimentation, presenting work, engaging with diverse audiences and providing a platform for emerging and professional artists to develop their practice.

The peers reinforced the value and integrity of the peer assessment process.

Arts Organisations Program – Funding 2019

The Peer Assessors recommended funding for the following organisations:

Organisation	Recommended Funding 2019
	Annual Funding 2019
Adelaide Chamber Singers	\$99,000
Gravity & Other Myths	\$95,000
LWDance Hub	\$75,000
Open Space Contemporary Art	\$100,000
Tutti Arts	\$100,000
Zephyr Quartet	\$100,000
	Multi Year Funding (2019–2021)
Act Now Theatre	\$112,000 per annum
ACE Open	\$310,000 per annum
Ananguku Arts	\$161,500 per annum
Artlink Australia	\$110,000 per annum
Brink Productions	\$381,794 per annum
Chamber Music Adelaide	\$150,000 per annum
Guildhouse	\$217,000 per annum
The Mill	\$117,000 per annum
Slingsby Theatre	\$376,000 per annum

The table below details organisations in receipt of current Multi-year funding through the Arts Organisations Program.

Organisation	Funding Term	2019
Access2Arts	2017–2019	\$128,283
Australian Network for Art and Technology	2017–2019	\$109,242
Australian String Quartet	2017–2019	\$260,100
No String Attached Theatre of Disability	2017–2019	\$124,848
Nexus Arts	2018–2020	\$214,725
SALA Festival	2018–2020	\$204,500
Vitalstatistix	2018–2020	\$337,425
Writers SA	2018–2020	\$168,713
National Organisations		
Arts Law Centre of Australia	2017–2020	\$30,000
Australian Copyright Council	2017–2019	\$4,554
Playwriting Australia	2017–2019	\$7,856