

DANCE PANEL

Arts Projects for Individuals and Groups

The quality of the applications was high, with a wide range of innovative and exciting proposals. The assessors recommend you seek advice from a grants officer before submitting your proposal. Where your project involves multiple stages, explain clearly which stage of the project you are seeking funding for.

The strongest applications

- incorporated diverse representation in a meaningful way
- made a strong case for the urgency of the project
- clearly outlined the project vision
- made a case for the timeliness and value of the proposed opportunity at this stage of the applicant's career
- clearly set out the trajectory of the applicant's practice
- presented a detailed activity plan
- included co-funding and/or in-kind support, especially if the request was for a larger sum
- had high quality support material that clarified the artistic potential of the proposal, especially for very conceptual projects
- provided support material that was easy to access and which followed the specifications provided in the grant guidelines
- selected an elective third assessment criterion which was well suited to the project.

Arts Projects for Organisations

We recommend you seek advice from a grants officer before submitting your proposal, even if you have applied before.

The strongest applications

- were innovative
- made a strong case for the urgency of the project
- clearly outlined the project vision
- included co-funding and/or in-kind support, especially if the request was for a larger sum
- paid industry standard fees to participating artists
- where unpaid youth participants were involved, made a clear case for the benefit of the activity for those participants
- made a clear and compelling case for the quality of the work or service at the heart of the proposal
- selected an elective third assessment criterion well suited to the project
- explained the project clearly in plain English

- where the project involved communities, adhered to all relevant cultural protocols
- articulated the role of the organisation in the sector, explaining what it did, or what services it provided
- supplied support material that was easy to access, and which did not exceed support material limits set out in the guidelines
- explained how projects involving international artists would deliver benefits to the Australian arts sector
- demonstrated artistic alignment between the organisation and its collaborators and partners.

Career Development for Individuals and Groups

The most competitive applications

- made a case for the value of the opportunity for the artist at this stage of their career
- proposed a unique, timely opportunity that aligned well with the artist's practice
- showed that the artist had developed their practice locally before exploring international opportunities
- had co-funding and/or in-kind support
- presented a coherent, achievable and confirmed plan of activities
- demonstrated a wide range of benefits – to the applicant, to the sector, or to international partners and collaborators
- included relevant, high quality support material that demonstrated the artistic merit and potential of the applicant and their proposal
- where the applicant was an emerging artist, provided letters of support that attested to the applicant's potential, particularly where they had not yet accumulated high quality artistic support material.

The panel provided the following suggestions for future applicants:

- Seek advice from a grants officer before submitting your application, even if you have applied before.
- Provide enthusiastic letters of support that speak to the merit of your proposal.
- In your plan, prioritise quality of activities over quantity.
- Focus on activities that will extend your skills, expertise and capacities as an artist. In this category the creation and presentation of new work is only a supplementary benefit. If your focus is on creating work, consider applying to Arts Projects for Individuals and Groups instead.
- Provide context for your artistic support material. If you are performing in other people's choreographic work, make this clear.