



ASSESSMENT MEETING REPORT



Community Partnerships Section

APPLICATION CLOSING DATES
1 and 31 July 2007

Program Grants
Category B
Category C
Fellowships
Awards

AUSTRALIA COUNCIL
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ABOUT THIS REPORT

This report provides a context to the assessment of applications submitted to the Community Partnerships Grants Program for the 1 & 31 July 2007 closing dates for the following categories: Program Grants, Category C, Category B and Fellowships. The report also provides some information about the assessment of nominations to the Ros Bower Award and Young Leaders & Kirk Robson Awards.

Please note this report does not include information about the assessment of the Key Producers category, which took place separately and is provided in a separate assessment report also available via the same link on our website <http://www.ozco.gov.au/cpamr>.

The assessment meeting was held over three days from 24-26 October 2007. The successful applications to each category are itemised in the Approved Grants lists at the end of this report. The successful nominations to each of the Awards will be announced in a ceremony in early 2008.

You will find in this report some statistical analysis as well as detailed feedback from the Assessment Committee to assist all clients when submitting applications to Community Partnerships in the future.

The aims of the grant categories and awards assessed are as follows:

Program Grants: This category provides support for community art and culture activities and projects for a 12-month period to organisations that have demonstrated, through previous projects, the capacity to deliver significant and innovative community art and culture activities with cross-sectoral partners.

Category C: This category provides grants of \$20,000 to \$35,000 per grant, in support of one-off community arts and culture projects, which have a public outcome and involve cross-sectoral partners. Projects under this category are required to have sought financial support (co-funding) from sources other than the Australia Council.

Category B: This category provides funding up to \$20,000 per grant, for one-off community arts and culture projects, which may have a public outcome and must involve a range of partners. Individual artists and arts workers seeking support for professional development opportunities in community arts and culture should apply to this category.

Fellowships: Fellowships provide financial support for two years to an artist or arts worker with a solid record of achievement in community arts and culture, including community cultural development. Fellowships enhance the capacity of artists and arts workers to provide leadership in the field by offering them an opportunity to explore their creative practice and/or undertake a program of professional development.

Ros Bower Award: This annual award is being offered through Community Partnerships and the Ros Bower Memorial Trust, to an artsworker or artist with a proven record of high achievement in the field of community cultural development. It aims to recognise distinguished effort in fostering and furthering the philosophies and principles espoused by Rosalie Bower, founding director of the Community Arts Board.



Young Leaders and Kirk Robson Awards: Both these awards recognise, promote and encourage leadership among young community cultural development artists and arts workers in Australia.

ATTENDANCE

The Assessment Committee for this meeting was chaired by Community Partnerships Committee member Tiffany Lee-Shoy and comprised of four Community Partnerships Committee members and a number of peers. The selection of peers was based on their expertise in the area of community arts and culture and their relevance to the key priority areas represented in the spread of applications. There was also a commitment to ensure representation at the meeting from each State and Territory. All peers had the delegation to score applications.

Acting Chair

Tiffany Lee-Shoy (NSW) is a Senior Cultural Planner for Fairfield City Council. She was previously the Regional Cultural Planner at Western Sydney Regional Organisations of Councils LTD – one of Australia’s oldest and most respected local government lobbying and research organisations and a key advocate for Western Sydney. In late 2004, she finalised the first Regional Cultural Strategy for Greater Western Sydney, “Authoring Contemporary Australia”. Tiffany is also a member ACMAC - Australia Council’s Multicultural Advisory Committee.

Jack Ritchie (NSW) has been Executive Officer for Arts North West, NSW for more than a decade. Arts North West supports the development of arts and culture regionally and is involved in the successful development of regional projects and initiatives independently and in collaboration with numerous partners. Jack has a background in Design, was a founding member of the Griffin Theatre Company and is currently a member of the NSW Arts Advisory Council.

Titiana Varkopoulos (VIC) is a community cultural development practitioner and playwright. She has worked with young people from diverse cultural backgrounds on theatre projects with local government and with Footscray Community Arts Centre in Melbourne. She has co-directed and co-written a number of plays and worked as a writer/script facilitator. Titiana presently works as a Cultural Development Officer for Local Government in Melbourne.

Prof Brad Haseman (QLD) is the Head of Drama at Queensland University of Technology, winning the university's award for outstanding academic contribution and the Student Guild's best lecturer award in 1999 and 2000. In recognition of his contribution to drama education, he has been awarded lifetime membership of the Queensland Association for Drama in Education. Brad has served for more than a decade on a number of committees advising on arts in Queensland schools as well as being President of Contact Youth Theatre.

Sue Codee (WA) is a visual, community and mosaic artist based in regional Western Australia. Sue works both nationally and internationally exhibiting and as a community cultural development arts worker with culturally diverse groups and Indigenous communities. Sue is currently completing a mentorship on the development of “Open Access”, an art studio for ‘at risk’ youth.

Malcom Bywaters (TAS) is the Academy Gallery Director at the University of Tasmania. Since 1993 Malcom has curated over 16 exhibitions for various venues in Victoria and Tasmania. In 2004 the Academy Gallery was awarded the Vice



Chancellors University of Tasmania inaugural Community Engagement Award for developing an outstanding program of cultural activity for Northern Tasmania.

Mia Christophersen (NT) is a community cultural development worker based in the Northern Territory. She has worked as a producer for the Northern Territory Indigenous Music Awards and Project Officer for the Darwin Festival Association and for the Indigenous Arts Development Unit of the Northern Territory Government. In these roles, Mia has provided ongoing advocacy and advice to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists and across the government sector. In 2001, Mia was announced as the NAIDOC Young Aboriginal Person of the Year.

Claudia Chidiac (NSW) is a director, community arts practitioner, producer and performer. Since 2005 Claudia has been the artistic director of Powerhouse Youth Theatre (PYT) in South West Sydney, where she has been responsible for directing, and producing the company's artistic program and developing training opportunities for emerging artists. Claudia previously worked with young people, migrant and refugee communities as a freelance director and performance artist. In 2006 Claudia was recognised with an Australia Council Young Leaders award.

Jeff Meiners (SA) has worked widely in dance for 20 years, teaching all ages and running programs with artists, teachers and community workers to support development in metropolitan and rural regions. Jeff's work has included projects with young children, youth dance and people with disabilities, plus a range of partnerships with local government areas, the NSW Department of Education and Training and NAISDA. Jeff is currently a lecturer with the School of Education at the University of South Australia.

The following Australia Council staff attended all or part of this meeting:

Community Partnerships and Market Development (CPMD)

Karilyn Brown Executive Director, CPMD

Community Partnerships

Frank Panucci Director

David Sudmalis Manager, Education and the Arts
Cecelia Cmielewski Manager, Policy and Partnerships

Sandi Woo Program Officer
Kate Baker Program Officer
Sue Kucharova Program Officer
Madeleine Martin Program Officer

Lucy Mendelssohn Project Coordinator
Hayley Johnson Project Coordinator/Administrator
Sabine Horner Project Coordinator
Siena Balakrishnan Project Coordinator



CHAIR'S COMMENTS

This year marks the inaugural year of the new Community Partnerships Grants Program, which has been developed in response to the outcomes of the 2006 Community Partnerships Scoping Study. The new grants categories each have their own specific purposes and criteria yet all have a strong emphasis on partnership development and the value of collaborating with communities. The new program has also identified a number of key priority areas, which the majority of applications to each of the categories successfully addressed.

The new grants program attracted a range of diverse and innovative proposals, many of which were from new clients who have not previously applied to the Australia Council to undertake work with communities. The Committee was very satisfied with the overall quality of the applications funded and was very encouraging of the many proposals that unfortunately missed out on this occasion. The debate undertaken by the Committee for each of the categories was rigorous with applications being discussed against each of the criteria at length.

The Program Grants category this year will support a range of organisations, many of which have not previously received Program funding from the Australia Council. Each organisation chosen will undertake a comprehensive annual program of artistic activities with communities, each involving a number of projects. It is expected in this category that each successful program be underpinned by well-developed partnerships, secured co-funding and a strong management committee appropriate to the project.

Many of the applications to Category C were impressive, in particular the quality and innovation demonstrated in many of the proposed artistic outcomes. The level of co-funding secured for a number of projects in this category was also very encouraging to see. Applicants at this level need to be careful when using popular terms like 'sustainability' in their applications, unless they also intend to provide a clear rationale of how they intend to achieve this objective.

The \$20,000 cap on Category B applications proved very successful in increasing access to our new grants program for first time applicants and less experienced groups. Whilst we had many applications to Category B we were delighted to be able to provide funding to almost 50% of projects.

This year the Committee made the decision to award one Fellowship. It is currently being considered how to best support research and development for individuals and the community arts and cultural sector more broadly in the future.

The Ros Bower, Young Leaders and Kirk Robson Awards attracted some outstanding nominations this year. We look forward to announcing the winners of these awards ceremoniously in early 2008.

Whilst decisions were at times difficult, all members of the assessment panel considered the three-day meeting a great privilege. It was unanimously agreed that the community arts and cultural sector is most certainly alive and well and we very much look forward to seeing the outcomes of projects throughout 2008 and beyond.

Tiffany Lee-Shoy
Acting Chair, Community Partnerships

OUTCOMES

Program Title	Application (Number)		Success %	Application (Amounts - \$)	
	Received	Approved		Requested	Approved
Category B	70	33	47.1%	\$1,242,189	\$602,179
Category C	35	11	31.4%	\$1,131,967	\$364,500
Fellowships	7	1	14.3%	\$630,000	\$90,000
Program Grants	21	10	47.6%	\$1,837,480	\$778,022
Total	133	55		\$4,841,636	\$1,834,701

Support Letters

Letters of support are a crucial element to all good applications.

A project proposal needs to demonstrate strong support from all participating communities as well as any partners and/or supporting organisations.

Well-written support letters evidencing a clear commitment to the project is the most convincing way to communicate community support for the proposed activity.

The Committee does not consider templates or 'form-letters' to be sufficient evidence of support from community stakeholders or partners.

Other Sources of Funding

A high number of applications this year have been active in seeking funding from other sources.

The Committee encourages all applicants, even those in Category B to research possibilities of other resources, including other potential avenues of funding.

Other sources of funding itemised in project budgets need to be confirmed prior to the commencement date of the project. Failure to do this could result in an offer of funding being withdrawn.

Management/Steering Committees

It is very important that members of project management/steering committees are appropriate to the communities being engaged in the project/program.

When targeting a key priority area of Community Partnerships i.e.: youth, disability, indigenous etc, it is essential that these groups are represented on the steering committee managing the project/program.

Content of Applications

The Committee often has new members and participating peers who may not be familiar with your previous work. It is best to assume the Committee has no prior knowledge of your past achievements or other details relating to your application.

Clearly articulate the aims, objectives and outcomes of your project. Your application needs to pitch a convincing business case to the Committee, which details your plan of how to implement the project.

Evaluation Plans

The Committee emphasised the importance of a well-developed evaluation plan to be clearly documented in project proposals.

This particularly applies to Program Grants, Fellowships and Category C applications.

It is not sufficient for applications to note that they will be undertaking an evaluation without clearly articulating what methods they will be using to ensure this is effective.

Feedback/Advice

Unsuccessful applicants to all categories, especially first time applicants are encouraged to seek feedback about their application from the Community Partnerships program staff.

Future applicants are also encouraged to discuss their proposals with program staff prior to lodging their application.

Whilst staff cannot read drafts of applications they can discuss client proposals and provide detailed information on how to strengthen your application.



STEPS IN THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS

BEFORE THE MEETING

Staff check eligibility and register applications on the Council's computer database. You will receive a letter acknowledging your application with an application number and staff contact for your reference. Staff analyse the statistical information provided by applicants to help Council measure the effectiveness of its grant programs. Staff prepare applications and support material for the Committee assessment meeting. Applications are made into booklets and sent to Committee members. Peers are invited to participate as advisers to the Committee at the meeting bringing additional expertise and perspectives to the assessment process. Staff also check and manage any conflicts of interest that Committee members and peers have with applications and study the applications in order to provide information to the Committee as required (see below *).

AT THE MEETING

ASSESSMENT

Committee members assess your application against the published selection criteria. Committee members may examine support material at the meeting or by prior arrangement.

Committee members may also take into account information from other sources such as:

- their attendance at performances and other events;
- reports from members of the Register of Peers who may be asked to provide formal assessments of designated works;
- reviews, videos and recordings, referee reports and other material;
- any previous Australia Council grant acquittal reports and performance agreements you may have had; and
- communication with State and Territory agencies.

Committee may decide not to fund the application at the level requested. While your application may meet the stated selection criteria, this does not guarantee you a grant. The Australia Council receives many more applications than it can support. The success of your application must rest ultimately on the merits of your proposal against published criteria and in competition with all the other applications considered for funding.

NOTIFICATION OF DECISION

All applicants will be notified of the Committee's decision by mail during the month indicated on the Australia Council's website www.ozco.gov.au and the application forms. Information about grant decisions will not be released over the phone.

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS SUCCESSFUL

If your application is successful, you will receive a letter of agreement offering you a grant. This letter outlines the terms and conditions of the offer. Payment of a grant will not be made until you have accepted the conditions by signing and returning the letter of agreement.

ACQUITTAL OF GRANTS

Acquittals are the artistic and financial reports that you must provide after completing your project. Acquittal reports enable the Council to fulfil its obligations of accountability as well as allowing us to learn about the success or otherwise of your project. These reports are a valuable way for you to contribute to the policy development work at the Australia Council.

**Staff do not make funding decisions. Staff provide information and advice to Council, Boards and advisory bodies to assist their determination of policy and assessment of grant applications. Staff also provide information to potential grant applicants and administer the Australia Council's grant programs to enable a simple, fair and efficient assessment of applications.*



GRANTS LIST

Community Partnerships Section
 Program Grants
 Round Id: 15455 Closing Date: 31-JUL-2007

Client Name	Application Title	State	Amount
Bankstown Youth Development Service Inc	Program of work in 2008 involving young people in Indigenous oral history and multi-media	NSW	\$61,000.00
Crossroad Arts Inc	Program of work in 2008 working with the Indigenous, multicultural and youth communities of Mackay	QLD	\$54,022.00
D'Faces of Youth Arts Inc	Program of work in 2008 involving young people in workshops, public performances and installations	SA	\$88,000.00
Glenorchy City Council	Program of work in 2008 involving a diverse range of community participants across artforms in Hobart	TAS	\$61,000.00
InCite Youth Arts Inc	Program of work in 2008 providing mentoring for young people in Central Australia	NT	\$120,000.00
Regional Arts Victoria	Program of work in 2008 to support regional artists/practitioners in theatre and music	VIC	\$90,000.00
Restless Dance Company Inc	Program of work in 2008 involving people with disabilities in workshops and performance	SA	\$80,000.00
Visionary Images Inc	Program of work in 2008 involving young people taking part in design and media	VIC	\$50,000.00
Vulcana Womens Circus Inc	Program of work in 2008 providing workshops and performance skills for young people and women	QLD	\$99,000.00
Westside Circus Inc	Program of work in 2008 providing circus training with young people and diverse communities	VIC	\$75,000.00
Grants this Round: 10		Amount Approved:	\$778,022.00



GRANTS LIST

Community Partnerships Section
 Category B
 Round Id: 15448 Closing Date: 01-JUL-2007

Client Name	Application Title	State	Amount
Arts Access Darwin	To exhibit work & hold a performance by artists with disabilities and to launch a logo	NT	\$20,000.00
Brisbane Canto Coro	To employ professional community arts workers to create a theatrical realisation of Epitafios	QLD	\$6,000.00
Browns Mart trustees	To facilitate workshops on online and web technologies with Indigenous and African communities	NT	\$20,000.00
Bundaberg Players Incorporated	To work with the community and key partners to develop a contemporary documentary drama	QLD	\$16,850.00
Carclew Youth Arts Centre	To deliver stage two of a regional youth arts project through intensive multi-artform	SA	\$20,000.00
Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre	To further produce the pilot Arab-Australian Social/Cultural Producer program	NSW	\$20,000.00
Centre for Multicultural Youth Issues	To take a group of young refugees & translate their stories into a performance piece	VIC	\$20,000.00
City of Port Phillip	To undertake inclusive theatre workshops culminating in public performance	VIC	\$15,000.00
Fingal Head Primary School Parent & Citizens Association	Celebrating local, indigenous stories via the Aboriginal Culture and Bush Tucker Interpretation Walk	NSW	\$15,300.00
Fiona Hogg	To provide funding for travel costs and artist's workshop fees for Big Square Eye, a multimedia artwork	QLD	\$19,500.00
Happy Chinese Performing Group	Development of a performance project with the local, elderly Chinese community	NSW	\$19,960.00
Inner West Cultural Services	Creative development for Galari Domigbane, a performed community story and cultural exchange	NSW	\$20,000.00
Knox City Council	To create a community dance piece with mixed ability participants and their carers	VIC	\$19,993.00
MHAD - St George Mental Health Arts Development	To impart audiovisual skills to people experiencing mental illness leading to a public screening	NSW	\$20,000.00
Milk Crate Theatre Project	To develop INTERSECTION, a public space performance tour by Sydney's homeless community	NSW	\$20,000.00



GRANTS LIST

Community Partnerships Section
 Category B
 Round Id: 15448 Closing Date: 01-JUL-2007

Client Name	Application Title	State	Amount
Milner-Nichols, Tis (Christine)	To undertake professional development with Nalin Gamvary	SA	\$7,200.00
Outback Theatre	To implement stage one of the Water/Way project, an artist-in-school residency engaging youth	NSW	\$20,000.00
Project Respect Incorporated	To provide theatre workshops for marginalised women experiencing discrimination	VIC	\$17,800.00
Russell, Paula	To create a set of 4 children's storybooks for permanent care families in Victoria	VIC	\$20,000.00
Shire of Manjimup	A community generated photographic celebration in regional WA	WA	\$19,983.00
South East Arts Region Inc (Jindabyne & Cooma)	To create a digital video and photographic exhibition documenting the experience of young parents	NSW	\$20,000.00
South West Healthcare	To tour a community music-theatre production 'Morphed' in regional Victoria	VIC	\$20,000.00
Southern Youth Theatre Ensemble Inc	To create a working draft of a Forum Theatre script that explores party related behaviour	SA	\$17,400.00
Spaghetti Circus Incorporated	To facilitate circus workshops for young people in regional NSW	NSW	\$20,000.00
Tasmanian Regional Arts Inc	To produce a series of media arts events for young regional Tasmanian artists	TAS	\$19,260.00
The Big Issue Australia	To run a series of writing and visual arts workshops in the lead-up to the Homeless World Cup	VIC	\$20,000.00
The Write/Here Project	To collaborate with regional communities to produce the write/here project book	TAS	\$15,040.00
Tigereye Pty Ltd	Empower young indigenous people to create, develop and share stories using digital media	NSW	\$20,000.00
Tony Doyle	To take the 'Creative Village' installation to Mt Gambier and feature at two disability	SA	\$19,800.00
Trax Arts	To produce a multimedia exhibit and theatre show with Preston Live Market stallholders and patrons	VIC	\$20,000.00
Tuggeranong Community Arts Association Inc	To facilitate the creation digital stories with three community groups in the ACT	ACT	\$19,993.00



GRANTS LIST

Community Partnerships Section
Category B
Round Id: 15448 Closing Date: 01-JUL-2007

Client Name	Application Title	State	Amount
Unlock Creative Team	To deliver a workshop series in 2008 for adults experiencing a disability	NSW	\$20,000.00
Walton, Anne	Research and development of the Braille Window Project	NSW	\$13,100.00
Grants this Round: 33		Amount Approved:	\$602,179.00



GRANTS LIST

Community Partnerships Section
 Category C
 Round Id: 15449 Closing Date: 01-JUL-2007

Client Name	Application Title	State	Amount
Arts OutWest Incorporated	To create and implement a sustainable Arts and Health program for Bathurst Health Service	NSW	\$35,000.00
Big hART Inc	To create a multi-media performance event with at-risk young men through workshops in new technology	TAS	\$35,000.00
Fringe Family Festival	To create the 'My Keeping Cup' project, public artworks inspired by collections of the children	SA	\$35,000.00
Melbourne Fringe	Bring together youth from diverse suburbs to create a performance with parkour and multimedia artists	VIC	\$35,000.00
Next Wave Festival Inc	To undertake a project titled 'Closer Together' targeted at young regional artists	VIC	\$35,000.00
PACT Youth Theatre Inc	To create a multiart performance work titled 'Gathering Ground 2'	NSW	\$35,000.00
Rawcus Theatre Company Inc	To support a collaboration with Restless Dance, to create 'The Heart of Another is a Dark Forest'	VIC	\$30,000.00
Riverland Youth Theatre Inc	To produce 'HOONS', a new youth for youth performance work for school and community audiences	SA	\$25,000.00
Vocal Local	To transform cars into the characters in 'Othello' and present the work in a car park	VIC	\$35,000.00
Vulcana Womens Circus Inc	To present performance seasons as culmination of arts and cultural project with migrants and refugees	QLD	\$34,500.00
fLING Physical Theatre Inc	To create a contemporary dance production in Bega with members of the community	NSW	\$30,000.00
Grants this Round: 11		Amount Approved:	\$364,500.00



GRANTS LIST

Community Partnerships Section
Fellowships
Round Id: 15450 Closing Date: 01-JUL-2007

Client Name	Application Title	State	Amount
Cuming, Ian	Fellowship 2007-2009 undertaking research and projects in community arts and puppetry	VIC	\$90,000.00
	Grants this Round: 1	Amount Approved:	\$90,000.00
	Total Grants: 55	Total Amount Approved:	\$1,834,701.00
