

Innovation and excellence in the proposed partnership project

This criterion is designed to assess the level of experience in managing long term partnerships in the delivery of high quality arts and cultural development projects. The applicant needs to demonstrate experience in working collaboratively with a range of partners and communities over an extended period of time and demonstrate the potential for engaging new partners (How have you engaged new partners in the past?) In addition, this criterion also assesses the diversity and breadth of current partners engaged in relation to the partnership project.

- What are the aims and long term objectives of the partnership?
- Have a range of arts and non-arts partners been engaged?
- Does the proposal articulate how the partnership is going to be developed and maintained?
- How will the partnership be managed?
- Are partners recognised as experts and innovators in their field?
- What is the level of commitment from the partners?
- Is there evidence that the partnership will deliver long-term developmental outcomes?
- Is there potential for partner organisations to change the way they do business?
- Does the management of the project allow for the partners to work in different and innovative ways to achieve the desired outcomes?
- Are the responsible government portfolio agencies part of the partnership? If not, have they been approached?

Potential for developmental and sustainable outcomes for the communities identified within the Community Partnerships priority areas (regional Australia, disability, young people, cultural diversity, emerging communities, Indigenous people, remote Indigenous communities and specific critical social and cultural issues requiring focused attention).

This criterion focuses on the long-term benefits left in the communities after the partnership finishes. The partnership may target communities from different geographic areas, demographics and interest groups. Applicants should refer to the Community Partnerships priority areas. This criterion also focuses on the level of need in the identified communities.

- How does the proposal engage with communities and /or groups identified in the Community Partnership priority areas?
- Is the proposal authentic in its promotion of 'by, for and with' the community?
- Are the identified communities involved in the management, creative process and the direction of projects within the partnership?
- Is there an indication that the newly developed partnerships will continue beyond the term of the program?
- What are the sustainable long-term outcomes?
- Has evidence been provided that there is a need and demand for the proposed activities?
- Do the communities have access to other arts and cultural development opportunities?

Proven capacity and high level skills of artists and/or facilitators to achieve the project outcomes

This criterion assesses the ability and track record of the organisation, artists and facilitators to achieve the proposed project and partnership's outcomes and to implement high quality community arts and cultural development projects with arts and non arts partners. Applications should demonstrate evidence of skills and experience in relation to the outcomes of the specific proposal.

Effective planning, evaluation and use of resources

This criterion aims to assess the applicant's capability to plan, resource, identify and obtain funding from other sources and evaluate their activity.

The Community Partnerships Committee requires that clients demonstrate that at least 50% of the budget for the proposed partnership is derived from sources other than the Australia Council. At the proof of concept phase, partner funding should be identified; however, this funding need not be confirmed until the full written application. The Committee will also consider if the overall program is realistic and manageable within the proposed time frame.

- Is the budget financially responsible?
- Have all potential resources and co-funding been identified?
- What level of financial and in-kind support have the partners contributed?
- Is the timeframe appropriate?
- Have appropriate cultural protocols been observed?
- Does the applicant demonstrate how the partnership model will work?
- Who will conduct the evaluation?
- How will the partnership be evaluated?
- How will the outcomes of the project be evaluated?
- Has there been an appropriate allocation in the budget for evaluation?