



# CHECKLIST FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE PRINCIPLES

## RELEVANCE

- Providing a sound curatorial rationale through presenting ideas, contents and forms appropriate to the needs, abilities and interests of contemporary young children.
- Supporting families to make choices about all aspects of the performance, exhibition, festival or event.

## RESEARCH

- Engaging in 'cultural conversations' with children and their parents through consultative methods such as workshops, film/documentary making, writing projects etc.
- Conducting action research alongside arts programs to promote evaluation, review and design.
- Presenting forms, contents and styles that cater for a range of developmental levels and allow various entry and exit points.

## DIVERSITY

- Producing events and activities that showcase diversity in arts and culture, and encompass different modes of audience and participant engagement.
- Opening children to the many possibilities of the arts and catering for their multiple intelligences.

## SCAFFOLDED LEARNING

- Using the arts experiences as a catalyst for learning for all stakeholders.
- Supporting performances and experiences by investment in high quality resources.
- Complementing ticketed events with free activities to provide access for the community, and to enable all participants to engage with programming forms, styles, ideas and themes.
- Demystifying the arts by building partnerships between artists, educators, parents and children.
- Designing support materials to assist parents and teachers to prepare children for arts and/or festival activities and to 'unpack' them afterwards.
- Training volunteers and staff to assist children's, teachers', carers' and families' access to all elements of the event – aesthetics and logistics.

I hope Out of the Box will continue to showcase the 'fantastic' and unusual in performance/art as it has, and not become too focused on 'learning outcomes' 'matching to curriculum', or become too focused on being 'correct' about children's education. I think the important thing is to stimulate imagination by exposure to the amazing. – grandparent attending with grandchildren



### ACCESS

- Creating a public space that is socially and culturally sympathetic to young children and families.
- Providing low ticket prices and programming free events to recognise families' economic constraints.
- Inducting families to public (art) spaces e.g., "Welcome" experiences are critical.

### SPACE

- Preparing a holistic experience that begins with the journey, and builds accessible and creative entry points and routes to the destination. Develop partnerships with public transport providers.
- Achieving ownership of the arts and/or festival space through display of children's work and ideas – children take-over the arts space.
- Creating a richly textured aesthetic space that invites children to make meaning.
- Providing open-ended time scheduling of events to enable families to navigate the space – exploring it and understanding it along with the art works.

