

DEPARTMENT OF PEOPLE, SPORT AND CULTURE

# Northern Territory Government Arts Grants Program

## Grant Guidelines 2025-26



# Acknowledgement of Country

The Northern Territory Government respectfully acknowledges the First Nations people of this country and recognises their continuing connections to their lands, waters and communities. We pay our respects to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, and to their leaders past, present and emerging.

Whilst this document uses the term 'Aboriginal', we respectfully acknowledge that Torres Strait Islander peoples are First Nations people living in the Northern Territory. Therefore, strategies, services and outcomes relating to 'Aboriginal' Territorians should be read to include both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Territorians.

## COVER IMAGES:

Image 1: Bula'bula Arts x Black Cat Couture, 'Garkambarryirri' (Daybreak), Country to Couture, 2025, Photo by Dylan Buckee

Image 2: Strategic Initiatives and Partnerships 2023-24. Naminapu Maymuru-White, *Mayajura malaŋu milŋ'milŋ* - Stars reflected in the River installation in Venice Biennale, Arsenale di Venezia. Photo: Buku Larrngay Mulka

Art Equipment 2023-24. Desert Mob 2024 official opening. Photo by Sara Maiorino. Courtesy Desart



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# Information and assistance

## Key contacts

For more information on applying to the Northern Territory (NT) Arts Grants Program (AGP), please contact Arts NT, Department of People, Sport and Culture.

 **Free call 1800 678 237**

Email: [arts.office@nt.gov.au](mailto:arts.office@nt.gov.au)

## Darwin office

Level 1, JHV2  
Jape Homemaker Village  
356 Bagot Road, Millner  
Phone: (08) 8999 8981

## Postal address

Arts NT  
Department of People, Sport  
and Culture  
GPO Box 3970, Darwin, NT 0801

## Contact

Phone: (08) 8999 8981  
Free call: 1800 678 237  
Email: [arts.office@nt.gov.au](mailto:arts.office@nt.gov.au)

## Accessibility

If you have accessibility needs that affect your ability to apply for a grant, contact Arts NT to discuss alternative application methods. Integrated disAbility Action may also be able to provide assistance with applying.

## Darwin office

Nightcliff Community Centre  
4/18 Bauhinia Street, Nightcliff

## Postal address

PO Box 645  
Nightcliff NT 0814

## Contact

Phone: (08) 8948 5400  
Email: [gm@idainc.org.au](mailto:gm@idainc.org.au)  
Web: [idainc.org.au](http://idainc.org.au)

## Interpreter services

If you have difficulty with the English language and would like an interpreter, you can contact the following services for assistance.

## Aboriginal Interpreter Service NT

Phone: 1800 334 944  
Email: [ais@nt.gov.au](mailto:ais@nt.gov.au)

## Interpreting and Translating Service NT

Phone: (08) 8999 8506  
Email: [itsnt@nt.gov.au](mailto:itsnt@nt.gov.au)

## National Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS)

Phone: 131 450

## Stay up to date



[scan here](#)

Subscribe to our Bite Size Arts News to stay up to date on current grant programs, as well as other Territory and Australian Government updates and initiatives.

## GrantsNT

The Northern Territory Arts Grants Program (AGP) is administered through GrantsNT, the Northern Territory (NT) Government's online grants management system. All applications must be submitted via Grants NT, at [grantsnt.nt.gov.au](http://grantsnt.nt.gov.au).

If you are a first-time user, you will need to register to create an account and setup an individual or organisation profile.

Note: Individuals with ABNs must apply through an organisation profile. The GrantsNT website has a comprehensive help section to guide you, and you can contact Arts NT for assistance.

## Arts NT

Arts NT is a business unit within the Department of People, Sport and Culture (DPSC) and is responsible for the development, growth and promotion of the arts sector of the Northern Territory by investing in and activating arts and culture opportunities across the region.

Arts NT provides funding, resources, and strategic guidance to artists, arts organisations, and cultural initiatives. It aims to foster a vibrant and diverse arts sector that contributes to a thriving social, cultural, and economic future of the Northern Territory.

Arts NT works to enhance the visibility and accessibility of the arts, encourage community engagement and participation, and support the professional development of individuals and capacity building initiatives for the benefit of the broader arts sector. This is achieved through the following:

- Funding – support for artists, arts workers, arts and cultural organisations and community groups to activate arts initiatives, expand access and participation in arts and culture and encourage innovation and excellence through strong leadership.
- Advice - arts, culture and creative industry policy, strategies, research and advice to the arts sector and NT Government
- Partnerships – leveraging opportunities across sectors and programs that build capacity, sustainability, job and career development, market and profile NT arts and culture, grow audiences and visitors contributing to a vibrant and thriving arts sector.
- Cultural infrastructure - develop and support access to affordable arts venues and facilities located within Northern Territory (NT) Government owned and leased assets.

Strategic Initiatives and Partnerships 2023-24 Naminapu Maymuru-White, *Mayanjura malanju milŋ'milŋj - Stars reflected in the River* installation in Venice Biennale, Arsenale di Venezia. Photo: Buku Larrngay Mulka





Creative Fellowships and Residencies 2023-24, Canberra Glassworks; 'Mythica Ignota at Canberra Glassworks, 2024' Photo Pew Pew Studio

# Arts Grants Program (AGP)

**A strong and vibrant arts, culture and creative sector is integral to the development of healthy, thriving communities. Arts and culture improve health and wellbeing, develop the economy and promote inclusivity and diversity. This is achieved through providing opportunities to grow the creative and cultural economy, encouraging artistic excellence and innovation, and expanding access to participation in arts and culture.**

Artists and arts workers are the heart of our arts, culture and creative sector and contribute value, vibrancy and innovation to the NT. The AGP strives to support opportunities, initiatives and projects that employ and develop artists and arts workers; recognise, develop, and showcase the value of arts and culture; encourage creativity, imagination and innovation; improve access and participation in arts and culture; and promote the expression of culture through NT stories.

Funding is prioritised to NT artists and arts workers, arts organisations and arts initiatives that benefit the NT community and deliver on government strategies, goals and priorities.

Current NT plans and strategies include:

- *NT Arts Strategy 2034*
- *Northern Territory Gender Equality Action Plan 2022-2025*
- *Multicultural Strategy for the Northern Territory*
- *Screen Territory Strategic Plan 2022 - 2026*
- *NT Major Events Company Playbook 2021 - 2032*
- *NT Youth Strategy 2023 - 2033*
- *NT Disability Strategy 2022 - 2032*
- *NT Education Engagement Strategy 2022 - 2031*
- *Tourism Industry Strategy 2030 (T2030)*
- *NT Aboriginal Tourism Strategy 2020 - 2030*
- *National Agreement on Closing the Gap*
- *Digital Territory Strategy*
- *Restoring the Territory Lifestyle Strategy*

The NT Government partners with 17 Leading Arts Organisations, 3 Strategic Arts Venues, 3 Strategic Arts Organisations, 1 National Arts Organisation, 6 Key Arts Organisations, and First Nations Capacity Building partnerships. Through a five-year funding framework, this investment supports the delivery of arts programs and services across diverse artforms and regions. It helps strengthen the arts sector, grow the creative economy, and promote artistic excellence and participation.

# Arts Grants Program outcomes

The following are 5 broad outcomes which the AGP aims to achieve:



## Employ

Increase employment opportunities for NT artists and arts workers, ensuring they are paid at the appropriate award rate

Increase access and participation in arts and culture

Increase opportunities and access to the arts for people with disability as artists, participants and audiences



## Access

Increase opportunities and access to the arts for Aboriginal people and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds as artists, participants and audiences

Increase capacity and accessibility of regional and remote arts facilities to be fit for purpose to produce, present, showcase and sell quality, ethical artworks and art products by NT artists



## Upskill

Strengthen professional practice and leadership for NT artists and arts workers through the increase of skills, knowledge, networks and capacity

Support the development of new work by NT artists



## Create

Enable risk-taking, experimentation and innovation. May include digital and emerging technologies



## Profile

Showcase and profile NT artists and arts and culture to build markets and sustainable careers

## 2024-25 Arts Grants Program statistics



**\$7.849m**

invested



**201**

activities



**66**

artists



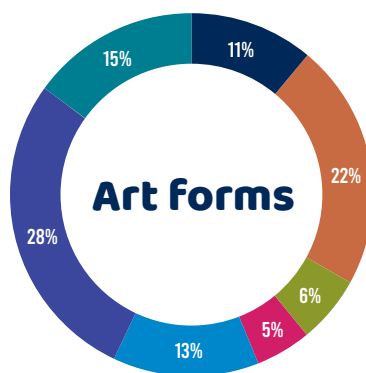
**29**

arts workers



**106**

arts organisations

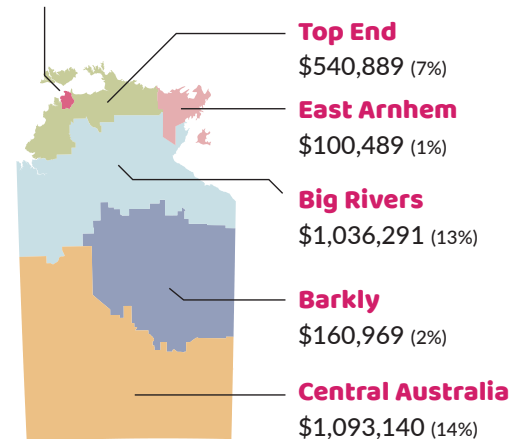


- Community arts and cultural Development
- Cross art form (multi arts)
- Dance
- Literature and writing
- Music, including musical theatre and opera
- Theatre, including circus, physical theatre and comedy
- Visual arts, craft and design

## Investments

### Darwin, Palmerston and Litchfield

\$3,820,542 (49%)



**Territory-wide** \$1,097,535 (14%)

# Art forms

The AGP is responsible for supporting the creation and presentation of artwork across the following art forms:

<b>Circus and physical theatre</b>	Circus and physical theatre encompass both the creation and presentation of circus and physical theatre. Physical theatre is movement-based expression with or without music and with or without narrative impetus.
<b>Comedy</b>	Comedy includes the creation and presentation of written or spoken artistic material intended to be humorous or amusing.
<b>Community arts and cultural development</b>	Community arts and cultural development contributes to positive community wellbeing and social cohesion, is focussed on the creative processes and relationships developed between artists and communities and ensures all Territorians have access and opportunity to participate in a broad range of arts and cultural activity.
<b>Cross art form (multi-arts)</b>	Cross art form (multi arts) includes the creation and presentation of artistic performances or works that involve multiple art forms, or arts projects that are not art form specific.
<b>Dance</b>	Dance includes the creation and presentation of dance, including ballet, classical, contemporary or traditional cultural dance.
<b>Literature and writing</b>	Literature and writing include the creation and presentation of creative writing such as poetry, prose, drama, fiction, scriptwriting, writing for children and young people and non-fiction writing.
<b>Music</b>	Music includes the creation and presentation of contemporary, traditional, classical, experimental, instrumental, electronic, live and recorded music and compositions.
<b>Musical theatre and opera</b>	Musical theatre and opera include musical performance, composition and presentation of musical theatre or opera in which there is a relatively even balance between the musical and the theatrical elements.
<b>Theatre</b>	Theatre includes plays and scripted work, cabaret, installation theatre performance, puppetry, media-based theatre work, live art, and contemporary inter-disciplinary performance.
<b>Visual arts, craft and design</b>	Visual arts, craft and design encompasses a wide range of genres including curating, art writing, interdisciplinary arts (e.g. installation, multi-media, experimental practice), craft and design (e.g. jewellery, ceramics, weaving) and visual arts (e.g. painting, sculpture, installation, video art).

## Roles

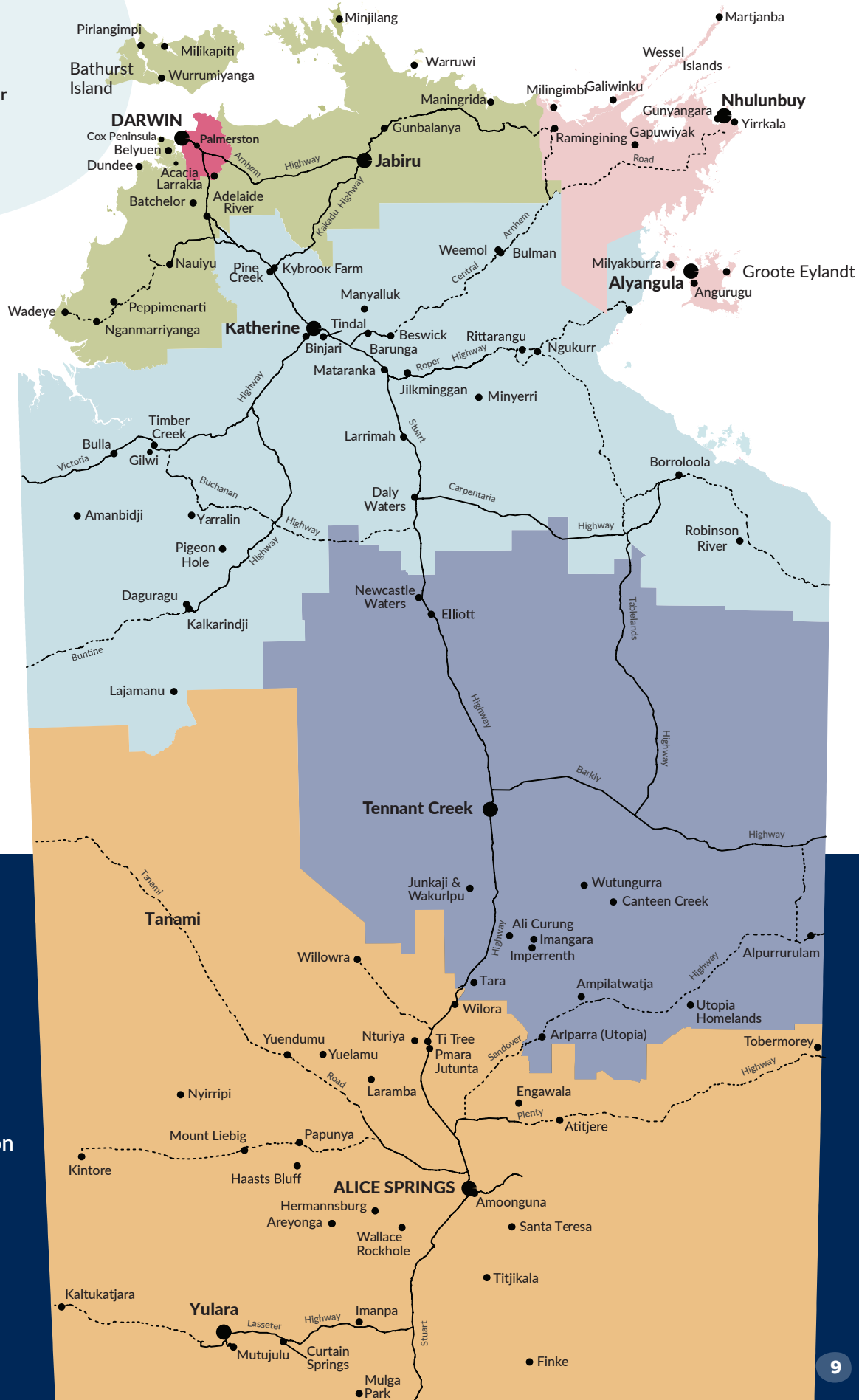
The Australian Bureau of Statistics has released the second edition of the Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (ASCO). This updated classification is used across a range of areas, including statistical surveys, labour market analysis, vocational education and training, job placement, and career guidance. For more information, visit [www.ausstats.abs.gov.au](http://www.ausstats.abs.gov.au).

For the purposes of the AGP, the following classifications are used to define roles:

- artist
- creative practitioner
- arts worker
- arts manager
- producer
- technical production
- board member

# Regions

For the purposes of the AGP, the Territory's regions are defined as per the following map



Some grant programs refer to a 'remoteness' calculator to help identify places in the NT on a scale of 'Very Remote Australia', 'Remote Australia' and 'Outer Regional Australia'. To find out the classification of the area in which you live, please contact Arts NT or visit ABS Maps - Australian Bureau of Statistics.

## Legend

- Barkly
- Big Rivers
- Central Australia
- Darwin, Palmerston and Litchfield
- East Arnhem
- Top End

# Grants at a glance

Program	Category	Funding	Eligibility	Description	Key Dates*
Activating Arts	Quick Response	\$1,000	Individuals	Support artists and arts workers to access arts and cultural opportunities that arise at short notice.	<b>Open:</b> until 31 May 2026, or until budget expended
	Small Arts Projects	\$5,000	Individuals Groups Organisations	Supports arts and cultural activities across the NT that increase community access, engagement, and participation in the arts.	<b>Open:</b> until 31 May 2026, or until budget expended
	Art Equipment	\$10,000	Organisations	Support for arts organisations to purchase new equipment that is used for the production, presentation, promotion and sale of art by NT artists at arts facilities in the NT.	<b>Open:</b> until 31 May 2026, or until budget expended
	Arts Projects	\$30,000	Individuals Groups Organisations	Support for projects that create and showcase the arts of the NT, provide employment opportunities for NT artists and supports emerging artists to grow their artistic practice and creative capacity.	<b>Round 1:</b> <b>Open:</b> 1 September 2025 <b>Close:</b> 2 October 2025 <b>Round 2:</b> <b>Open:</b> 2 February 2026 <b>Close:</b> 5 March 2026
Career Development	Professional Development	\$2,000	Individuals	Support artists and arts workers to access career development opportunities that build skills, knowledge, networks, and leadership capacity, strengthening professional practice and raising the profile of NT artists and arts workers.	<b>Open:</b> until 31 May 2026, or until budget expended
	NXT Gen ARTS	\$13,000	Individuals (18-25 years)	Supports structured career development for early career artists aged 18-25 through a work placement with a host NT arts organisation.	<b>Opens:</b> until 31 May 2026, or until budget expended
	Creative Fellowships	\$50,000	Individuals	Supports mid-career and established NT artists to undertake a planned period of professional development, research, mentorship, or skills exchange that strengthens their own practice and contributes to the growth of the arts, culture, and creative industries in the NT.	<b>Opens:</b> 20 October 2025 <b>Close:</b> 27 November 2025
Industry Development	Arts Industry Development	\$30,000	Organisations	Supports activities that strengthen the capacity, capability, and sustainability of the NT arts sector, aligned with the NT Arts Strategy 2034 and Action Plan 2025-29.	<b>Open:</b> 1 September 2025 <b>Close:</b> 31 October 2025
	Touring the Territory and Export Fund	\$20,000	Individuals Groups Organisations	Supports NT and interstate tours that grow audiences, increase access to arts and cultural participation, and strengthen market opportunities for NT artists.	<b>Opens:</b> 1 September 2025 <b>Close:</b> 2 October 2025
	Strategic Initiatives and Partnerships	By invitation and expression of interest	Individuals Groups Organisations	Supports priority arts, culture and creative industry initiatives and partnerships that provide ongoing strategic outcomes aligned to NT Government and national priorities.	<b>Opens:</b> until 31 May 2026, or until budget expended
	First Nations Capacity Building	By invitation and expression of interest	Individuals Groups Organisations	Supports strategic and targeted funding to arts, culture and creative industries projects that strengthen First Nations capacity, leadership capability and wealth, and trial innovative ways to support the development of First Nations Cultural programs.	<b>Opens:</b> until 31 May 2026, or until budget expended

\*Key dates are subject to change.

# Eligible expenses

Eligible expenses differ between grant categories. The most common expenditure types are in detailed in the following table.

Expenses	Activating Arts				Career Development			Industry Development	
	Quick Response	Small Arts Projects	Art Equipment	Arts Projects	Professional Development	NXT Gen Arts	Creative Fellowships	Arts Industry Development	Touring the Territory and Export Fund
Applicant artist fees	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Catering costs	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Collaborator/consultant fees	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Contingency	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Equipment purchases	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Hire fees	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓
Marketing/documentation	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
Material costs consumables	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
Registration fees	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Travel allowance (per diem)	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓
Travel and accommodation	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓

# Activating Arts

## 1. Quick Response

### Grant objective

Support artists and arts workers to access arts and cultural opportunities that arise at short notice.

Examples:

- Travel costs to participate in a showcase, marketplace, or conference within the NT, interstate or nationally that arises at short notice
- Opportunities to present or promote artworks and arts and cultural activities at short notice, including travel costs and freight

### Funding available

- Up to \$1,000 per applicant, per financial year, available to individuals
- If your activity involves travel and you live in a 'Very Remote Australia' area, you may be eligible for up to an additional \$500 per financial year to help cover travel to or from that location.

### Key information

<b>Opening and closing date for applications</b>	Open until 31 May 2026 or until budget expended
<b>Assessment</b>	by the Department
<b>Notification</b>	within 20 working days of submission
<b>Activity start date</b>	Activity must start after execution of the funding agreement
<b>Acquittal</b>	self-acquittal

### Grant outcomes



### Eligibility

- Must meet the General eligibility requirements
- At least 50% of the total activity budget must come from sources other than Arts NT
- Arts organisations may only administer this grant when supporting applicants with accessibility requirements

### Essential support material

- *Confirmation of involvement*
- *Artistic material* – CV and relevant examples of work
- *Budget and budget support material* – including quotes for expenses using grant funds over \$1,000

## 2. Small Arts Projects

### Grant objective

Supports arts and cultural activities across the NT that increase community access, engagement, and participation in the arts.

Prioritises applicants in 'Very Remote Australia', Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, young people, people with disability, seniors and multicultural communities.

Examples:

- A series of theatre workshops for young people resulting in a performance created by the young participants and open to the wider community to attend
- A visual arts project with participants from multicultural backgrounds, resulting in an exhibition and community celebration
- Engagement of an Aboriginal Elder as the cultural workshop teacher for the sharing of knowledge and preservation of traditional arts practice

### Funding available

- Up to \$5,000 per application, per financial year, available to individuals, groups and organisations

### Key information

<b>Opening and closing date for applications</b>	Open until 31 May 2026 or until budget expended
<b>Assessment</b>	by the Department
<b>Notification</b>	within 20 working days of submission
<b>Activity start date</b>	after execution of the funding agreement
<b>Acquittal</b>	Case study report due 3 months after completion of the approved activity

### Grant outcomes



### Eligibility

- Must meet the General eligibility requirements
- At least 50% of the total activity budget must come from sources other than Arts NT
- The activity must have a clear arts and cultural outcome and/or output
- Organisations and groups must have a lead artist confirmed to apply
- Arts organisations receiving over \$50,001 per annum through the AGP are not eligible to apply

### Essential support material

- *Artistic material* – CV and relevant examples of work by lead artist
- *Budget and budget support material* – including quotes for expenses using grant funds over \$1,000
- *Letters of support*

# 3. Art Equipment

## Grant objective

Support for arts organisations to purchase new equipment that is used for the production, presentation, promotion and sale of art by NT artists at arts facilities in the NT.

Prioritises “Remote” and “Very Remote” arts organisations and Aboriginal owned art centres.

Examples:

- Arts production equipment (e.g. kilns, printing presses, amplifiers) for creating and developing work by NT artists
- Arts presentation equipment (e.g. sound systems, gallery fittings) for displaying NT artists work
- Furniture and tools for storage, display or documentation (e.g. drawer, display units, stretchers)

## Funding available

- Up to \$10,000 per application, per financial year, available to organisations

## Key information

Opening and closing date for applications	Open until 31 May 2026 or until budget expended
Assessment	by the Department
Notification	within 20 working days of submission
Activity start date	Activity must start after execution of the funding agreement
Acquittal	Case study report due 3 months after completion of the approved activity

## Grant outcomes



## Eligibility

- Must meet the General eligibility requirements
- Arts NT does not fund the entire cost of an activity. Applicants must demonstrate funding from other sources to cover the complete cost of their project.
- Expenditure must comply with the Buy Local Plan. (Refer to the Budget and budget support material section of this document
- Consumables (e.g. paint, staples, paper) and vehicles (e.g. trailers) are ineligible expenses
- Arts organisations receiving over \$400,000 per annum through the AGP are not eligible to apply
- Applications for equipment that will be fixed to a facility must include written approval from the building owner

## Essential support material

- *Budget and budget support material* – including quotes for expenses using grant funds over \$1,000. If the arts organisation is registered for GST, all expenses should be listed excluding GST

## 4. Arts Projects

### Grant objective

Support for projects that create and showcase the arts of the NT, provide employment opportunities for NT artists and supports emerging artists to grow their artistic practice and creative capacity.

### Funding available

Available to individuals, groups and organisations

<b>Arts Development</b> Up to \$30,000	For the research, development or creation of new work
<b>Presentation &amp; Promotion</b> Up to \$30,000	For the presentation, exhibition, distribution, or promotion of NT arts practice
<b>Skills Development</b> Up to \$30,000	For the development of skills, knowledge, and experience for NT artists and arts workers, for themselves or others
<b>Emerging artists</b> Up to \$15,000	For early career artists to develop or showcase new work

### Key information - Round 1

<b>Opening date for applications</b>	8am on 1 September 2025
<b>Closing date</b>	2pm on 2 October 2025
<b>Assessment</b>	Panel of Peers
<b>Notification</b>	From 11 December 2025
<b>Activity start date</b>	from 1 January 2026
<b>Acquittal</b>	Case study report due 3 months after completion of the approved activity

### Key information - Round 2

<b>Opening date for applications</b>	8am on 2 February 2026
<b>Closing date</b>	2pm on 5 March 2026
<b>Assessment</b>	Panel of Peers
<b>Notification</b>	14 May 2026
<b>Activity start date</b>	from 1 July 2026
<b>Acquittal</b>	Case study report due 3 months after completion of the approved activity

### Grant outcomes



### Eligibility

- Must meet the General eligibility requirements
- Arts NT does not fund the entire cost of an activity. Applicants must demonstrate funding from other sources to cover the complete cost of their project.
- This category does not support the presentation of arts activity at a NT major event. Refer to the What is not funded section of this document
- Arts organisations receiving over \$100,001 per annum through the AGP are not eligible to apply or act as an Administering Body for an Individual if the project is, or will be, part of their annual program
- Individuals who are not sole traders (i.e. do not apply with an ABN) and are applying for more than \$15,000, must use an Administering Body

### Essential support material

- *Confirmation of involvement*
- *Artistic material* – CV and relevant examples of work
- *Letters of support*
- *Budget and budget support material* – including quotes for expenses using grant funds over \$1,000
- *Project plan*

# Career Development

## 1. Professional Development

### Grant objective

Support artists and arts workers to access career development opportunities that build skills, knowledge, networks, and leadership capacity, strengthening professional practice and raising the profile of NT artists and arts workers.

Prioritises ‘Remote’ and ‘Very Remote’ arts organisations and Aboriginal owned art centres.

Examples:

- Participation in specialist workshops, arts industry forums, unaccredited learning activities, or national marketplaces and showcases - where there is a clearly defined professional development outcome

### Grant outcomes



Upskill

### Funding available

- Up to \$2,000 per applicant, per financial year, available to individuals
- If your activity involves travel and you live in a ‘Very Remote Australia’ area, you may be eligible for up to an additional \$500 per financial year to help cover travel to or from that location.

### Key information

<b>Opening and closing date for applications</b>	Open until 31 May 2026 or until budget expended
<b>Assessment</b>	Assessed by the Department
<b>Notification</b>	Within 20 working days of submission
<b>Activity start date</b>	After execution of the funding agreement
<b>Acquittal</b>	Self-acquittal

### Eligibility

- Must meet the General eligibility requirements
- At least 50% of the total activity budget must come from sources other than Arts NT
- Arts organisations may only administer this grant when supporting applicants with accessibility requirements
- Applicants must show how the proposed professional development opportunity will primarily support their own career, rather than the development of others

### Essential support material

- *Confirmation of involvement*
- *Artistic material* – CV and relevant examples of work
- *Budget and budget support material* – including quotes for expenses using grant funds over \$1,000

## 2. NXT Gen ARTS

### Grant objective

Supports structured career development for early career artists aged 18-25 through a work placement with a host NT arts organisation. The program aims to provide hands on experience in the creative industries and strengthen employment pathways for young people in the NT arts and culture sector.

### Funding available

- Up to \$13,000 per application, per financial year (\$10,000 for the early career artist and \$3,000 for the host organisation) is available to individuals aged 18 to 25 at the time of application.

### Grant outcomes



### Key information

<b>Opening date for applications</b>	Open until 31 May 2026 or until budget expended
<b>Assessment</b>	Assessed by the Department
<b>Notification</b>	Within 20 working days of submission
<b>Activity start date</b>	After execution of the funding agreement
<b>Acquittal</b>	Case study report due 3 months after completion of the approved activity

- Applicants must complete an eligible placement plan with their host organisation, outlining the program structure and expected outcomes. If you do not have a host organisation, please submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) so Arts NT can help connect you with one. Arts organisations seeking a young artist to host can also submit an EOI.
- NXT Gen Alumni contribute to the 10-year longitudinal Study of Emerging Artist Retention in the NT (2025-2034) - This study helps to understand the career trajectories of emerging artists supported through the NXT Gen Arts category of the NT Arts Grants Program, identifying factors that influence retention or departure from the arts sector in the Northern Territory.

### Placement outcomes

Managing yourself as a professional artist

- Develop a professional resume, biography and social media profile
- Understand cultural safety, health and wellbeing management

Arts management - the business of being an artist

- Access Creative Workplaces information and resources
- Understand workplace laws, employment award and conditions, and the Fair Work system

- Learn budgeting, invoicing and project financial management
- Apply for, manage and acquit grants, and learn to seek sponsorship or philanthropic support
- Develop an arts project plan

Arts industry - participation and contribution

- Understand intellectual property, copyright, licensing and required insurances
- Subscribe to industry bodies, awards and grant programs to stay informed

- Build networks, collaborate and take up professional development opportunities

Art form specific outcomes

- For example - develop and/or present new artworks during the placement

### Find out more

View stories from NXT Gen Arts alumni on Channel NT



scan here

## Eligibility

- Must meet the General eligibility requirements
- Individuals aged 18 to 25 years at the time of application
- Applicants must provide a written placement plan, developed with and endorsed by the host organisation, outlining the expected outcomes. Hosts can be an AGP funded arts organisation or another creative arts organisation. Contact Arts NT to discuss potential hosts.
- The placement must be continuous and completed as a full-time, 3-month placement. In some cases, part-time placements over no more than 6 months may be considered. All placements must total 400 hours.
- Applicants cannot be a current full-time or part-time employee of the host organisation. Casual employees may be eligible if the placement involves different duties, and the host maintains their casual employment alongside the placement hours.

## Essential support material

- *Artistic material* – CV and relevant examples of work
- *Placement plan* – developed and endorsed by the host organisation (template available from the NXT Gen Arts grant on GrantsNT)
- *Statement* explaining how the placement will support the applicant's future career as an artist
- *Letters of support* from an employer, teacher, lecturer, or professional arts worker reflecting on the applicant's skills, abilities and achievements
- *Proof of applicant's age*

Clockwise from left: 2023-24 Creative Communities. M3 Dance: Maansi Punn, founder Derrick Cheong, Thomas Mack, Patricia Rubi Sefu, Tyrell Linsay and Harnoor Kaur.



# Creative Development

## 1. Creative Fellowship

### Grant objective

To support mid-career and established Northern Territory artists to develop a body of work which may include research or knowledge exchange, to benefit their own professional practice and the development of arts and culture in the NT.

Three (3) Fellowships are offered:

- One Fellowship for an artist based in the Top End of the Northern Territory.
- One Fellowship for an artist based in Central Australia or the Barkly region.
- One dedicated Aboriginal Artist Fellowship (any region).

### Funding available

- Up to \$50,000 per applicant, per financial year, available to individuals

### Grant outcomes

-  Profile
-  Access
-  Create

### Key information

Applicants are encouraged to name their Fellowship after an NT creative who has inspired their career (with permission)

Applicants are expected to develop a body of work and present it in a public forum

Applicants may consider a residency at an NT Government cultural institution (such as Libraries and Archives NT, Araluen Arts Centre, or MAGNT) and are encouraged to engage with NT Government collections

<b>Opening date for applications</b>	8am on 20 October 2025
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<b>Closing date</b>	2pm on 27 November 2025
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<b>Assessment</b>	Panel of Peers
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<b>Notification</b>	From 19 February 2026
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<b>Activity start date</b>	From 1 March 2026
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<b>Fellowships</b>	May run for up to 1 year
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<b>Acquittal</b>	Case study report due 3 months after completion of the approved activity
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### Eligibility

- Must meet the General eligibility requirements
- Arts NT does not fund the entire cost of an activity. Applicants must demonstrate funding from other sources to cover the complete cost of their project.
- Applicants must demonstrate more than 5 years of professional practice.
- Applicants demonstrating the arts as their primary source of income will be prioritised.
- Applicants must not be undertaking this work as part of any existing funded program or employment arrangement. The proposed Fellowship must be a dedicated independent project.

### Essential support material

- *Artistic material* – CV and relevant examples of work
- *Letters of support* – evidence of confirmed partnerships or mentorship arrangements. If applicable, permission from who the Fellowship is named after
- *Budget and budget support material* – including quotes for expenses using grant funds over \$1,000
- *Project plan*

# Industry Development

## 1. Arts Industry Development

### Grant objective

Supports activities that strengthen the capacity, capability, and sustainability of the NT arts sector, aligned with the NT Arts Strategy 2034. Projects must deliver outcomes under at least one of the NT Arts Strategy's strategic priorities Empower, Connect, or Enrich.

Examples:

- Skills Development and Sector Capability
  - » Hosting industry forums, masterclasses, or roundtables (e.g. governance, inclusive workplaces, digital strategy)
  - » Delivering business upskilling workshops for independent artists (e.g. intellectual property, contracts, pitching, audience accessibility) and structured mentorship programs for arts workers
  - » Audience development and diversification initiatives
  - » New arts activation initiatives (in "Very Remote" areas will be prioritised)
- Strategic Sector Collaboration
  - » Developing and/or piloting shared services models (e.g. finance, marketing, touring) between multiple arts organisations
  - » Establishing cross-sectoral partnerships (e.g. with health, tourism, education) to increase impact and broaden the reach of the arts in our community
- Data, Research and Evaluation
  - » Producing a sector needs analysis or workforce development plan
  - » Sector-led research to inform future policy and investment

Initiatives that strengthen the arts industry in "Very Remote" communities are strongly encouraged, including new arts activation initiatives.





### Funding available

- Up to \$30,000 per application, available to organisations

### Key information

<b>Applicants</b>	encouraged to propose new and innovative initiatives
<b>Opening date for applications</b>	8am on 1 September 2025
<b>Closing date</b>	2pm on 31 October 2025
<b>Assessment</b>	by Northern Territory Government personnel
<b>Notification</b>	from 4 December 2025
<b>Activity start date</b>	After execution of the funding agreement
<b>Acquittal</b>	Case study report due 3 months after completion of the approved activity

### Grant outcomes

-  Profile
-  Employ
-  Access
-  Upskill

### Eligibility

- Must meet the General eligibility requirements
- Organisations must have operated in the NT arts sector for more than 5 years

### Essential support material

- *Artistic material* – CV and relevant examples of work
- *Letters of support* – evidence of confirmed partnerships or mentorship arrangements
- *Budget and budget support material* – including quotes for expenses using grant funds over \$1,000
- *Project plan*

## 2. Touring the Territory and Export Ready Fund

### Grant objective

Supports NT and interstate tours that grow audiences, increase access to arts and cultural participation, and strengthen employment and market opportunities for NT artists.

Prioritises tours to or from 'Very Remote' communities and activities that include community participation.

Examples:

- A live theatre production touring five very remote communities, with school workshops and community Q&A sessions
- A visual arts exhibition touring to remote art centres, featuring artist-led workshops and collaborative site-specific works
- An NT musician with a market-ready album tours interstate or overseas\*

### Grant outcomes



### Key information

Touring the Territory refers to the presentation of the same performance, exhibition, or activity in sequence across two or more NT communities outside the applicant's home location, within a cohesive timeframe

Export refers to the performance, exhibition, or activity that is market ready to tour outside of the NT and overseas.

<b>Opening date for applications</b>	8am on 1 September 2025
<b>Closing date</b>	2pm on 2 October 2025
<b>Assessment</b>	Assessed by Northern Territory Government personnel
<b>Notification</b>	from 11 December 2025
<b>Activity start date</b>	After execution of the funding agreement
<b>Acquittal</b>	Case study report due 3 months after completion of the approved activity

### Funding available

Up to \$20,000 per application, per financial year, available to individuals, groups and organisations

### Eligibility

- Must meet the General eligibility requirements
- Arts NT does not fund the entire cost of an activity. Applicants must demonstrate funding from other sources to cover the complete cost of their project.
- This category does not support the presentation of arts activity at a NT major event. Refer to the What is not funded section of this document
- \*Applications that include overseas travel must demonstrate market readiness and be accompanied by a Letter of Support from a relevant Northern Territory arts industry peak body
- Individuals who are not sole traders (i.e. do not apply with an ABN) can only apply for more than \$15,000 if applying through an Administering Body

### Essential support material

- *Confirmation of involvement*
- *Artistic material* – CV and relevant examples of work
- *Letters of support*
- *Budget and budget support material* – including quotes for expenses using grant funds over \$1,000
- *Project plan*

# Strategic Initiatives

Arts NT invests in strategic initiatives that align with the priorities of the NT Arts Strategy 2034 and deliver against agreed national priorities and deliver sector-wide benefits.

## Strategic Initiatives and Partnerships

Supports priority arts, culture and creative industry initiatives and partnerships that provide ongoing strategic outcomes aligned to NT Government and national priorities.

This category is by invitation only. Please contact Arts NT to discuss your proposal in the first instance. Requests for strategic initiatives and partnership funding are evaluated by the Department of People, Sport and Culture and approved by the delegate.

Creative Fellowships and Residencies 2023-24. Miriam Nicholls: Symphony of Stars, Araluen Arts Centre – Red Centre Suit



## First Nations Capacity Building

Supports strategic and targeted funding to arts, culture and creative industries projects that strengthen First Nations capacity, leadership capability and wealth, and trial innovative ways to support the development of First Nations Cultural programs.

The First Nations Capacity Building (FNCB) program is a fund for strategic initiatives that provide sector-wide benefits or strategic outcomes in line with NT Government strategic objectives and industry identified First Nations capacity building priorities. The FNCB program supports activities such as:

- Capacity building and strategic development initiatives that support a strong, sustainable and culturally safe Aboriginal arts and culture industry
- Capacity building and strategic development for leading NT Aboriginal owned and led arts and culture organisations, peak bodies and events
- Development and delivery of business strategies to strengthen the governance, succession planning, sustainability and capability of Aboriginal organisations to deliver Aboriginal-led arts and culture programs and events
- Training and professional development activities for Aboriginal Board members, artists and arts workers to develop Aboriginal workforce capability and increase employment and wealth
- Trialling innovative ways to support the development of First Nations Cultural programs.

This category is by invitation only. Please contact Arts NT to discuss your proposal in the first instance. Requests for strategic initiatives and partnership funding are evaluated by the Department of People, Sport and Culture and approved by the delegate.



Arts Projects 2023-24. Gary Lang NT Dance: The Other Side of Me, Janet Manyarryun and Sophie Kuswadi. Photo: Paz Tassone.

# General eligibility

General eligibility criteria must be met to apply for any grant under the AGP. Individual grant categories may specify additional eligibility criteria.

## Compliance

Applicants who currently have outstanding acquittals or reports with any NT Government grant are non-compliant and are not eligible to apply for grants until the outstanding reporting requirements are resolved.

## Who can apply?

Each grant category specifies whether individuals, groups or organisations are eligible to apply.

An applicant's track record of delivering funded activities in line with grant agreements, and submitting high quality, timely acquittals, will be considered when assessing applications.

If you are a/an	Register on GrantsNT as a/an
Individual	Individual
Sole Trader	Organisation
Organisation	Organisation

## Individuals

Individual applicants must be:

- an Australian citizen or have permanent residence status
- over 18 years of age
- a current resident of the NT.

You may be required to provide evidence of the above by providing a driver's license, utilities bill, electoral roll registration or other similar documentation.

If you are applying for a grant over \$15,000 as an individual, you must either:

- be a registered Sole Trader with an active ABN and apply via an Organisation profile in GrantsNT
- apply through an Administering Body

Individuals applying with an Organisation profile are still considered as Individuals for applicant eligibility purposes.

NT Government employees are ineligible if a direct or perceived conflict of interest exists. You must declare if you are an NT Government employee.

## Groups

Groups are 3 or more individuals who do not form a legally constituted organisation and are publicly known as a group, such as choir, dance group, or band. If your group is applying for a grant, you must nominate an individual to apply on behalf of the group. This person will be legally and financially responsible for the grant. An individual representing a group must meet the above criteria for Individuals and be registered as a Sole Trader with an Organisation profile of GrantsNT.

## Organisations

Organisations must be not-for-profit, legally constituted organisations that have their main place of business registered in the NT. **Only organisations whose core business is the delivery of arts programs and services for the benefit of Territorians are eligible to apply.** If your organisation's core business is something other than arts programs and services, contact Arts NT.

Organisations not registered in the NT are eligible to apply if they meet all the following criteria:

- have a physical presence in the NT (see Glossary of terms)
- an established track record of a minimum 3 years of grant funding auspiced through a NT arts and culture organisation and have successfully acquitted all funding. Applicants with a track record of non-compliance will not be eligible

- deliver activities that have significant arts and cultural outcomes that benefit NT artists, arts organisations and the NT arts sector.

Organisations that do not meet the above criteria cannot apply but may partner with an eligible NT organisation to administer the grant on their behalf.

NT Government agencies and associated entities, local government, educational institutions, hospitals and national charities are ineligible.

Organisations must be compliant at the time of application with the relevant act or body governing their organisational structure, including but not limited to the Associations Act 2003 (NT), Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations (ORIC) or Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC). Non-compliant or insolvent organisations are ineligible and cannot act as an Administering Body.

**Note:** Individuals and Organisations cannot apply for funding on behalf of another individual, unless they are supporting a person with accessibility requirements and have evidence of consent from that person. Note that payment will be made to the person benefitting from the grant.

## Administering bodies and auspicings

Administering Bodies are also referred to as auspicings bodies. They are not-for-profit organisations that take on the legal and financial responsibility of a grant. The Administering Body applies on behalf of an individual, group or organisation and manages all aspects of the funding terms and conditions.

It is strongly recommended that you have a written agreement with your Administering Body that sets out both parties' obligations and responsibilities before applying. Most Administering Bodies charge an administration fee, which must be included in your application budget.

The Arts Law Centre of Australia has an information sheet on auspicings and auspicings agreements.

Administering bodies must have their main place of business registered in the NT. You should consider one of the Leading Arts Organisations to be your Administering Body. Non-NT Administering Bodies will only be permitted in exceptional circumstances, and you must speak with Arts NT prior to applying.

Administering bodies must endorse applications in GrantsNT before they are submitted. However, endorsement alone does not complete the process - the applicant is still responsible for submitting the endorsed application. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure both endorsement and submission occur before the closing date.

# What is not funded

Unless otherwise stated in a specific grant category guideline, the following are not eligible:

- Activities that do not have a clearly defined arts outcome
- Activities that do not align with the objectives of the grant
- Activities that have already started, will start or end prior to the execution of the funding agreement
- Retrospective expenses incurred before the execution of the funding agreement
- The entire financial cost of an activity
- Fundraising activities or events
- Merchandise, awards, gifts or prizes
- Catering costs
- Contingency costs
- For-profit business activities
- Activities where the key artists, arts workers and service providers are not named
- Activities where payment or in-kind contributions to key personnel are not declared
- Restoration or conservation of cultural material (see NT Government Heritage Grants Program)
- Multiple applications to the AGP for the same activity. If you intend to apply for funding for the continuation of activity that you have previously had funding for, contact Arts NT
- Activities that have already received funding from Arts NT and/or the NT Government may not be considered a priority for additional support
- Activities that are the responsibility of other NT Government agencies are not funded. These include:

## Film and screen

- » Film and screen-based projects for cinema, film festivals, television, web series, media, advertising and gaming (visit Screen Territory)
- » If your activity includes the development of a music video, contact Arts NT

## Education

- » Arts activities in schools or school holiday programs
- » Accredited training or educational activities which are curricular activities in educational institutions and are listed in the Australian Government's National Training Register

- » Undergraduate, diploma, certificate and postgraduate studies including research or studio work for academic assessment

## Events and festivals

- » Expenses that directly relate to developing, presenting, or travelling to present arts activities at an NT festival, event or major event (visit NT Major Events)
- » Artists residing in a 'Very Remote Australia' who are presenting an arts activity at an open access NT event, festival, or major event may be eligible to apply for funding to support travel to this activity, contact Arts NT
- » Expenses related to the presentation of arts activity at a festival, event or major event outside of the NT are eligible for funding

Keanu Nelson performing at Desert Mob 2024.  
Photo by Sara Maiorino. Courtesy Desert



## Aboriginal cultural protocols

All applicants to the AGP must adhere to Creative Australia's protocols for using First Nations Cultural and Intellectual Property in the Arts when working with Aboriginal artists and communities or Aboriginal cultural material. The protocols and principles include; respect, self-determination, communication, consultation and consent, interpretation, cultural integrity and authenticity, secrecy and confidentiality, attribution, benefit sharing, continuing cultures and recognition and protection.

If your activity involves Aboriginal cultural content, you will need to complete the relevant section in GrantsNT. Clearly identify whether Aboriginal Australians are leading, conceiving, participating or have been consulted.

You can demonstrate appropriate consultation through:

- written or video permissions for activity from relevant Aboriginal individuals, community or language groups
- letters of support for the agreed activity from Elders, custodians, Aboriginal land councils or other appropriate community representatives
- signed key personnel forms from participating Aboriginal artists and arts workers.

This requirement applies equally to Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal applicants.

Assessors cannot assume you have support for your activity – it is your responsibility to demonstrate community support, and that the activity adheres to these protocols.

You are encouraged to identify your project as Aboriginal in your GrantsNT application if you are an Aboriginal applicant. This identifies the activity you are undertaking as Aboriginal owned and/or controlled and will assist Arts NT to monitor grants distributed to Aboriginal applicants.

If the majority of the requested funding is for the benefit of Aboriginal participants but the applicant is not Aboriginal, the project must be identified as an Aboriginal project on GrantsNT, and the Aboriginal cultural protocols must be addressed.

## Working with children protocols

Applicants must adhere to the Northern Territory Care and Protection of Children Act 2007. Refer to Arts Law Centre of Australia for more information regarding children in the creative process. If your activity involves children under 18 years old, you are required to hold a Working with Children Clearance and have a current Ochre Card. Proof of an Ochre Card from all key personnel may be requested.

## Supporting people with disability

Arts NT supports the successful delivery of the Northern Territory Disability Strategy 2022 – 2032 to ensure people with disability are included and can engage, participate and contribute to community life. Where relevant, it is recommended that you include a statement with your application to show how you can make your arts activity accessible to people with disability as artists, participants or audiences.

NT programs and services prioritising access and inclusion for artists with disability include the following Arts Access funded arts organisations:

- Darwin Community Arts, Darwin Palmerston Litchfield
- Incite Arts, Central Australia
- Katherine Regional Arts, Big Rivers

Additionally, the following organisations have a range of resources such as checklists, guides and fact sheets about creating accessible arts events, accessible marketing and communications and disability employment:

- Choose Art
- Access2Arts
- Arts Access Australia

## Insurance and indemnity

Where relevant to your activity, you must have insurance policies covering each funded activity during the whole of the grant period. Insurances may include:

- general third-party liability (public risk) insurance
- liability on account of accident or injury to your volunteers and employees, including any workers' compensation insurance as required by law
- a policy for your full liability under the Return to Work Act 1986 (NT)
- loss, damage, or theft of your property and assets to their full replacement value or their full market value (except in cases where we direct in writing that full replacement value is required)
- any other insurance necessary or desirable for you to deliver the funded activity, or which we reasonably require due to the nature of the funded activity.

By signing the Funding Agreement, you indemnify the NT Government against all claims, proceedings or actions whatsoever brought or made against the NT Government and all losses, damages, costs or expenses that incur, whether directly or indirectly in connection with delivering your funded activity.

## Copyright and intellectual property and licensing

Where applicable, applications should include details of arrangements relating to copyright, intellectual property and licencing associated with the proposed activity. This includes details about authenticity, cultural ownership and appropriate contracts with artists for the publishing of their work.

Copyright information and advice are available from:

- Arts Law Centre of Australia
- Artists in the Black
- Australian Copyright Council
- Australasian Performing Right Association
- Phonographic Performance Company of Australia
- OneMusic

## Conflict of interest

You must declare that to the best of your knowledge you do not have any conflicts of interest in relation to the application. You must advise Arts NT as soon as practicable if any conflicts arise.

## Artist fees

Assessors consider the rates of pay, superannuation and on-costs for artists documented in all grant applications. Pay scales and conditions are often prescribed under relevant industrial awards and agreements or recommended by peak bodies. More information is available from:

- Creative Workplaces
- Australasian Performing Right Association
- Australian Society of Authors
- Australian Writers' Guild
- Fair Work Commission
- Live Performance Australia
- Media, Entertainment and Arts Alliance
- Musicians' Union
- National Association for Visual Arts
- Regional Arts Australia

You can search for relevant awards on the Fair Work Ombudsman website.

# The grant process

## 1 SUBMIT

You submit your grant application to Arts NT via GrantsNT.

## 2 REVIEW

Arts NT reviews your application to check eligibility and confirm you have no outstanding acquittals or compliance issues.

## 3 ASSESS

Eligible applications are assessed against the published assessment criteria.

## 4 PROCESS

If successful, you will be notified and sent a funding agreement along with a vendor creation/amendment form.

Once your signed agreement and completed vendor forms are processed, the grant payment will be made.

## 5

Once Arts NT receives your signed agreement and vendor form, your grant payment will be processed.

## 6

If unsuccessful, you can request verbal feedback from Arts NT.

# Application

## How to apply

All applications must be made online through GrantsNT. Before you submit your application, you should:

- ensure you have no outstanding acquittals or reports with the NT Government and are compliant with your regulatory authority (if applicable)
- read these guidelines in full
- speak to Arts NT to check if you are eligible to apply and if the grant category is suitable for your proposed activity
- define your activity and develop a project plan if required
- prepare a realistic and balanced budget, and get the necessary quotes
- ensure appropriate consultation is demonstrated and permissions are obtained
- where relevant, obtain working with children permission and/or authorisation
- collate your support material

Applicants are responsible for submitting applications on time. Late applications will not be accepted.

## Support material

Support material strengthens your application by confirming the detail in your application and demonstrates you have planned your activity thoroughly. See each specific grant category for more information on what support material should be submitted. The value of the grant you are applying for should guide the level and detail of the support material that you submit.

**Note:** Arts NT only accepts Microsoft Office compatible files: Pages, Numbers, and links to file-sharing platforms (e.g. Dropbox, Google Drive) are not accepted. All items must be uploaded directly to GrantsNT or linked to publicly available online materials.

## Artistic material

Artistic material demonstrates the artistic merit of your activity and provides the assessors with an understanding of your arts practice and the work you have produced. You can include the following as uploads or links:

- CVs or biographies for all key artists and organisers (maximum of 2 pages for each key person)
- up to 3 video/audio recordings (maximum of 10 minutes)
- up to 3 published and/or unpublished samples e.g. excerpts from a play, book or short story or examples of artwork
- one report providing evidence of previously completed works or activities (maximum 4 pages)
- up to 3 media reviews or marketing and promotional examples
- up to 10 images (maximum 10 MB per image).

## Project plan

A project plan strengthens your application by demonstrating that you understand the steps required to deliver your activity. The plan should include a schedule, key actions and milestones and who will be responsible for achieving them.

## Letters of support

Letters of support from organisations, community partners and industry peers demonstrate the quality, demand for and/or public value of your activity. They should endorse the competency of the key personnel, evidence the importance and viability of the activity and evidence any financial or in-kind support provided.

You may provide up to three activity-specific support letters with your application. Each letter must be signed and clearly state the nature and value of support (if applicable). Verifiable emails are also accepted. These must be submitted as .msg, .pdf, or .jpeg files, showing the full email content and address details. It is recommended that letters of support are no more than 6 months old at the time of submission.

Letters of support must not be provided by collaborators named in the application or by anyone who will financially benefit from the activity. Endorsements from government officials or parliamentarians will not be considered, to ensure transparency and fairness in the assessment process.

## Risk assessments

Risk assessments identify risks, plan ways to mitigate/reduce the risk and outline actions for dealing with situations should they arise. The provision of risk assessment is not mandatory, and the level of detail should reflect the grant amount you are applying for.

## Confirmation of involvement

It is important that applicants acknowledge the involvement of key personnel and the agreed amount they will be paid or the value of their in-kind contribution. Emails or key personnel forms can be used to provide this confirmation.

In-kind participation is when key persons contribute their time without financial payment. Volunteers can contribute valuable support in achieving successful activity outcomes and should be accounted for in budgets and evidenced through confirmation of their involvement.

Assessors consider the payments made to key personnel and it is essential that payments align to or are above the relevant award rates. For advice on relevant award rates or industry pay scales, see Artist Fees.

## Budget and budget support material

The budget must include all activity income and expenses and be submitted using the grant category specific Excel budget template which can be downloaded from GrantsNT. Ensure your budget is realistic, represents value for money, and does not include ineligible costs. Refer to the What is not funded section of this document.

You must include budget support material for expenses over \$1,000 that use grant funds. Budget support material may include quotes or a detailed breakdown of component costs.

You should list all artist/arts worker fees and include a breakdown to show the rate of pay in your budget notes or support material, referencing the award or pay scale used to calculate them (see Artist fees). Budgeted fees must align with the agreed rates as per confirmation of involvement/ Personnel forms.

The AGP will not fund the total cost of an activity. You must demonstrate that you have significant financial or in-kind support from other sources.

- **In-kind contributions** are those that are provided to the project without payment, such as volunteer hours, use of a venue without hire charges or the applicant's time they are contributing to the project without taking a fee. In-kind contributions should be given a dollar value in your budget, be included as income and have a corresponding expense. You should include evidence of confirmed support. You must declare all partner and stakeholder arrangements in your application.
- **Applicant-cash contributions** are those that the applicant is paying for using their own funds.

Arts NT supports the employment of local NT artists and arts workers and the engagement of local service providers. Assessors will determine the viability of your budget by considering value for money in line with the NT Government Buy Local Plan. The primary objective of the Buy Local Plan is to ensure that the largest possible proportion of every dollar invested by the NT Government stays in the Territory and delivers benefits for the local economy and community. Where possible, you should buy local and use services located in, and goods available within, the NT. In circumstances where you cannot obtain the required good or service in the NT, you must demonstrate that it is impractical for commercial, technical or other reasons to do so.

# Arts NT top tips

- 1** Plan and give yourself plenty of time to develop your application
- 2** Read the guidelines, including the general eligibility requirements and grant objectives, before contacting Arts NT
- 3** Provide CVs or published biographies for all the key personnel and include artistic support material where relevant
- 4** Only include letters of support that are specific to the proposed activity and demonstrate community support
- 5** Prepare a clear project plan and budget using the Excel budget template provided
- 6** Prepare and save your application content offline prior to entering it into GrantsNT to avoid losing your content
- 7** Be brief and concise, avoid repetition and write in plain English
- 8** Do not assume the assessors know you, your activity, your audience or your previous work
- 9** Proofread your application and ask someone else to read and consider your application against the grant outcomes and objectives
- 10** If applying through an Administering Body, plan sufficient time for the Administering Body to review and endorse your application in GrantsNT. Once the Administering Body has done so, you then need to submit the application
- 11** If unsuccessful, seek feedback from Arts NT on how to strengthen future applications

# Assessment

Each application is assessed against the following assessment criteria, (unless otherwise stated in specific grant category guidelines) based on the information and support material you provide. For peer-assessed grants, additional balancing criteria may be applied to ensure equitable distribution of funding across regions, art forms, sub-categories and strategic objectives. You must first address the primary objective of the grant.

## 1. Quality

Artistic/cultural merit, innovation, quality and creativity

- Clear artistic rationale and/or vision
- Well-articulated creative, engagement or development process
- Innovation in process, form, interpretation and/or audience engagement
- Demonstrated track record of professional arts practice
- Cultural integrity and relevance, particularly for First Nations or community-based work
- Acknowledgement of diverse creative forms and knowledge systems

## 2. Viability

Effective planning, use of resources and budget viability demonstrating value for money

- Project plan is timely and well thought through - demonstrates good planning and effective use of resources, including contingency planning
- Budget is viable and realistic, includes breakdown of expenditure and other sources of funding or in-kind contributions
- Quotes and budget support material clearly demonstrate value for money
- Artists and service providers' participation is confirmed, and payment aligns with relevant industry award rates
- Project plan demonstrates an understanding and adherence to Aboriginal Cultural and Working with Children protocols where relevant

## 3. Capacity

Capacity and skills of the applicant and key personnel

- People nominated in the activity have the appropriate skills and knowledge to deliver the activity on time, and within budget
- Experience of key artists and others involved demonstrated through CV, past work and letters of support from industry peers
- Capacity-building potential, including contribution to sustainable arts practice
- Supports Aboriginal employment or regional creative workforce development

## 4. Impact

Benefit to the applicant, their arts practice, the arts sector and the NT community

- Community and regional engagement in arts and cultural activities as creators, participants and/or audiences
- The activity is relevant and builds on the artists' career
- Demonstrates arts sector/community consultation
- Responsive to identified need or demand
- Benefit to the NT regional and remote communities

## Who assesses applications

Before your application is assessed, an eligibility check is performed. This is to verify that your application is complete, that you have no outstanding acquittals or compliance issues, and that your application addresses the grant category objective and outcomes. You will receive a notification advising you of the reason/s, if your application is deemed ineligible.

The assessment process varies depending on the grant category. Check the specific grant category for further information on how your application will be assessed. Applications are usually assessed by one of the following:

- **Department** - Arts NT assesses applications and makes funding recommendations, with approvals granted by senior departmental delegates
- **Panel of Peers** - an expert group selected from the Arts NT Register of Peers to provide fair, informed recommendations based on art form and industry expertise, with approvals made by senior departmental delegates
- **NT Government Personnel** - a group convened to provide subject matter expertise and make recommendations, with approvals by senior departmental delegates

Grant decisions are not subject to appeal. Applicants must not assume they will be successful or start the activity prior to notification.

Arts Projects 2023-24. Arafura Music Collective, Palmerston Saturday Meditation on Country. Photo: Paz Tassone.



# Notification and feedback

## Notification

After your application is assessed, you will be notified of the outcome by the category notification date.

Successful applicants will receive:

- a letter of offer
- a funding agreement outlining the purpose of the grant and the conditions under which the grant is provided
- vendor creation/amendment form

If your signed funding agreement is not returned within the timeframe stipulated in the letter of offer, the offer will be withdrawn. You will be advised in writing.

## Feedback

Some applications meet the published assessment criteria but are unsuccessful. Arts NT receives more applications of merit than can be supported within the available program budget. Verbal feedback on funding decisions is available to all applicants on request. Arts NT does not provide written feedback.

Arts Projects 2023-24. Betty Sweetlove, Aylija Freeborn and Angela Carr performing in *Maybe Baby* by Emily Gorton at Theatre Makers 2024. Image by Nico Liengme.



# Funding agreement

## Agreement

Read the funding agreement in its entirety to ensure that you understand your obligations and the conditions and clauses. If you do not understand any part of the funding agreement, contact Arts NT or seek legal advice.

Funding agreements must be signed by the appropriate signatory and returned in a timely manner as stated in the Letter of Offer.

If you have nominated an Administering Body for your grant, then the Administering Body will sign the Funding Agreement and be legally and financially responsible for the grant activity.

## Payment

For grant funding payments to be made, all grant recipients must:

- be registered as a vendor in the Government Accounting System (GAS), and
- ensure their bank details are included in their GrantsNT profile and match their bank details in GAS.

A VA Vendor Creation/Amendment Form will be sent to you with your Funding Agreement. If you are not already registered as a vendor, you will need to complete and return the form.

The grant amount is GST exclusive. If you are registered for GST, Arts NT will pay you the grant amount plus GST with a Recipient Created Tax Invoice (RCTI). If you are not registered for GST, you warrant that you are not required to be registered for GST, and Arts NT will only pay you the grant amount.

If an Individual has applied on behalf of another Individual with accessibility requirements, payment will be made to the person benefitting from the grant. If payment is required to be paid to the person applying on their behalf, they must be an Organisation and apply as an Administering Body.

Grant payments will not be made if you have outstanding acquittals or are not compliant with a regulator.

## Variations

A request to vary your Funding Agreement must be made in writing via GrantsNT. You must seek written approval from Arts NT before you change your activity. Variations submitted after the grant agreement end date will not be accepted.

This may include changes to:

- the scope of activity
- key personnel
- the budget or timeline.

If your application was submitted with the support of an administering body, please note that all variation requests must be lodged through Grants NT by the administering body.

## Acknowledgement requirements

If you receive funding, you must acknowledge this support in all media releases and promotional activity. Acknowledgment requirements will be outlined in your funding agreement. Please also refer to 'How to acknowledge grant funding' to access the NT Government logo.

## Publication and privacy statement

The personal information you provide in an application is necessary to assess you/your organisation's eligibility for a grant and for related contact purposes.

By signing the application form in GrantsNT, you consent to your personal information being provided to Arts NT within DPSC and other Government departments for the purpose of assessing, promoting and reporting the outcomes of the funding. If you do not provide the requested details, your application may not be processed. Applicant information is held by the NT Government and managed in accordance with the Information Act 2002 (NT). Personal information will not be disclosed other than for the primary purpose for which it was collected, unless otherwise agreed to, or authorised by law. You can access and update the personal information you provide through your user profile in GrantsNT.

By signing the application form in GrantsNT you consent for the applicant's name, funded activity description, funded amount and location to be published on the NT Government website and social media, and in a public announcement by the Minister. To assist in the promotion and development of arts and culture in the NT, information may be shared with Commonwealth, State and Territory agencies and the media.



Arts Projects 2023-24. Ashleigh Musk. Fertile Ground at Melbourne Fringe. Credit Ivan Trigo Miras.

# Acquittal

Acquittal reports show Arts NT how your grant was spent and help meet government and community accountability requirements. To build, measure and understand the impact of activities funded through the AGP, we collect information on applicants, art forms, and regions and other relevant demographic information. We will only ask for information that directly contributes to building relevant programs to support strengthening, profiling and showcasing our dynamic NT arts and culture.

Grant acquittal requirements are outlined in your funding agreement. You should read the requirements before you begin your activity. Failure to complete an acquittal may result in you being deemed non-compliant for future grant applications or payments.

With your permission, Arts NT may promote a grant category by showcasing information and images provided in the acquittal. It is essential that you include in your acquittal report a completed Talent Release Form as evidence that every person portrayed in the images has given consent for the images to be forwarded to the NT Government for publication.

## Case study

Case study acquittal reports are submitted through GrantsNT no later than 3 months after the agreed activity completion date, unless agreed differently in your funding agreement.

The case study approach to acquitting grants and feedback is an opportunity for Arts NT to celebrate the stories from the NT arts and culture sector. It assists Arts NT to advocate for the sector and contribute to the national arts dialogue and the development of NT Government policy and strategies.

A complete case study acquittal includes:

- an artistic and statistical report using the case study template from GrantsNT
- an income and expenditure statement:
  - Individuals (including sole traders):** signed by an authorised person. If the statement varies significantly from the approved budget without prior approval, it may be rejected, and funds may be repayable. Budget changes must be approved via contract variation before the acquittal date.
  - Organisations:**
    - » Grants up to \$100,000 - signed income and expenditure statement by an authorised person
    - » Grants of \$100,000 or more - audited financial statement signed by an authorised person
- three high-resolution images (minimum 1MB each) with signed talent release forms
- a report on any special conditions in your funding agreement (if applicable)

## Self-acquittal

You are not required to provide an acquittal report on the completion of your activity; however, you must keep all receipts relating to the activity as you may be randomly selected to provide receipts.

# Glossary of terms

**Aboriginal** describes someone who is of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander descent, identifies as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander and is accepted as such in the community where they live or come from.

**Aboriginal cultural content** refers to Aboriginal cultural material or Aboriginal artistic practice and outcomes relating to Aboriginal artists and their communities. Refer to the [Aboriginal Cultural Protocols](#) section of this document.

**Aboriginal project** is an activity where the applicant identifies as an Aboriginal individual/group, an Aboriginal organisation, or the majority of the grant will benefit Aboriginal artists and arts workers.

**Accredited training** is a course which has been independently assessed by the Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) and meets the [Standards for VET Accredited Courses 2021](#).

**Acquittal** is the format by which you report at the conclusion of your grant activity. Acquittal requirements are outlined in your funding agreement. Refer to the [Acquittal](#) section of this document.

**Applicant contribution** is any monetary or in-kind contribution provided to the project by the applicant.

**Arts Development Officers** are Arts NT staff who advise and support applicants on the AGP.

**Arts Organisations** are not for profit organisations with a primary purpose to deliver arts and culture programs and services documented in their constitution or governing documents.

**Artist fee** is the payment made for artists' labour. Refer to the [Artist fees](#) section of this document.

**Artistic merit** refers to the quality of the artistic work to be produced by the activity, the experience of the artists involved and the value and quality of the concepts that inform the work as described in the application.

**Artistic support material** supports the grant application by providing high quality examples of current or previous artistic practice and activities. Refer to the [Support material](#) section in this document.

**Artist** refers to a person who produces art and identifies art as their principal occupation and source of income. While an artist may not regularly earn income from their practice, they must be identified and recognised by their peers as a practicing artist, arts worker or cultural practitioner. Artists can include dancers, writers, musicians, community art practitioners, performers, producers and curators. Refer also to Early Career, Mid-Career and Established Artist definitions.

**Arts NT Register of Peers** is a non-statutory group established by Ministerial direction and is administered by Arts NT. A panel of peers is established with membership drawn from the register to assess some grant rounds. Refer to the [Who assesses applications?](#) section in this document.

**Arts Worker** is a person who manages, administers or facilitates arts and cultural activity, including technical and production specialists. In this document, the term Artist also refers to Arts Workers.

**Assessment criteria** are the established and published standards used to evaluate an application to determine if a grant should receive funding. Refer to each grant category page for the objectives of the grant and also the [Assessment](#) section of this document.

**Associated entities** as listed in the Northern Territory Administrative Arrangements Order.

**Buy Local Plan** ensures every dollar spent by the NT Government can have wider benefits for the community, through the flow-on effect of wages, economic stimulation, community development and corporate social responsibility. For more information visit [Buy Local Plan](#).

**Budget** is a detailed list of projected activity income and expenses, e.g. ticketing sales and associated costs, art sales income and art materials, labour and other delivery costs. Refer to the [Budget and budget support material](#) section of this document.

**Contingency** is a financial reserve set aside for uncertain costs. Contingency costs will not be funded through any grant category.

**Copyright** is the ownership of intellectual property. You need to get permission to use the intellectual property of someone else. Refer to the [Copyright, intellectual property and licencing](#) section of this document.

**Disability** refers to a person with a limitation, restriction or impairment, which has lasted, or is likely to last, for at least 6 months and restricts everyday activities.

**Donations** may include cash, fees or time towards activity, new or used goods such as vehicles or equipment, or services. The donation of services is also called in-kind support.

**Emerging or early career artist** for the purposes of applying to the AGP is a person within the first 5 years of professional practice.

**Established artist** for the purposes of applying to the AGP is an artist recognised as an outstanding professional in their field with an extensive track record of artistic practice and a history of public presentation/achievement and peer recognition. An established artist has more than 10 years of professional practice.

**Funding agreement/contract** is the document signed by the grant recipient and the NT Government delegate that outlines the conditions of funding. Refer to the [Agreement](#) section of this document.

**GrantsNT** is the NT Government's online grants management system used by applicants to apply for grants.

**Income and expenditure statement** is the financial statement detailing and certifying the income and expenditure of a funded activity.

**Indigenous cultural protocols** - see Aboriginal cultural content

**In-kind support** can include volunteer labour, volunteer administrative support, rent-free accommodation or donations of materials or equipment. Refer to the [Budget and budget support material](#) section of this document.

**Insurance.** Grant recipients must hold the agreed insurance policies, including public liability insurance, to protect you against legal liability in the event that someone is injured, or has their property damaged while you are providing a service to them. Refer to the [Insurance and indemnity](#) section of this document.

**Key personnel** are the persons who are integral to the delivery of the activity and should include key artists and key organisers. Key personnel forms are available on GrantsNT. These can be used to confirm the involvement of key personnel, artists other than the applicant and payment. Refer also to [Confirmation of involvement](#) section of this document.

**Legal requirements** are Australian, State and Territory standards and regulations including fair labour, civil rights, accessibility, age discriminations, lobbying with appropriate monies, accounting records and other published requirements to which an applicant accepting a grant must adhere.

**Letters of support** provide evidence of community, arts sector and other partners support for the activity and must be current and specific to the activity. [Refer to the Letters](#) of support section of this document.

**Marketing/public relations/promotions** are activities that inform the public and media about the activity and include advertising, electronic marketing, media releases, social media posts, radio interviews, brochures, flyers and posters.

**Mid-career artist** for the purposes of applying to the AGP is a person with 5 to 10 years of professional practice.

**Not for profit organisations** are organisations that do not operate for the profit, personal gain or other benefit of particular people – assets and income of the organisation are solely to further the organisations objectives as per its constitution.

**NXT Gen Arts** (artists) are defined as young creatives (18-25 years of age) who have recently finished formal secondary (or tertiary) education and are interested in embarking on a career in the arts, culture and/or creative industries and are seeking vocational pathways, formal learning opportunities and employment within the NT arts sector.

**Open access festivals, events or major events**, for the purposes of the AGP, are programmed via artist expression of interest (e.g. Fringe Festivals).

**Physical presence** for an organisation means the organisation has been delivering arts and cultural programs/services at an established NT physical address for a minimum of 3 years.

**Regions** are defined in [Regions](#) section of this document.

**Remote Australia** – see Very Remote Australia

**Self-acquittal** means that at you do not have to provide an acquittal report unless requested to by the department. Refer to the [Self-acquittal](#) section of this document.

**Short notice** refers to time-sensitive opportunities that could not have been planned for or funded through other grant rounds.

**Travel allowance** or per diems are funds for accommodation and meal expenses incurred as part of travel away from home overnight to work on the project/grant activity. The Australian Taxation Office lists [reasonable travel allowance](#) on its website.

**Touring** refers to the presentation of the same performance, exhibition, or activity in sequence across two or more communities outside the applicant's home location, within a cohesive timeframe.

**Variation** is a change to a contract. A variation to a contract could include, but not be limited to, a change to the product, delivery, timeframe, personnel, or price. Refer to the [Variations](#) section of this document.

**Very Remote Australia.** The AGP uses 'remoteness' calculator to help identify places in the NT on a scale of 'Very Remote Australia', 'Remote Australia' and 'Outer Regional Australia'. To find out the classification of the area in which you live, visit [ABS Maps - Australian Bureau of Statistics](#).

<sup>1</sup> As defined in 'artistic vibrancy – A way for organisations to talk about artistic impact', Australia Council for the Arts.

