

Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) Council Initiated Project: Creative Recovery Mentoring Program Expression of Interest Fact Sheet



Gympie region artists and creatives are invited to submit their Expression of Interest for participation in the 2024 Creative Recovery Mentoring Program. Successful applicants will receive a stipend of \$1,500 to participate in training and mentorship and develop their creative recovery project to a “shovel-ready” point, maximising their chances of achieving major grant funding. Up to two projects developed through the Creative Recovery training and mentoring program will be selected for implementation, and the artists paid an artist fee of \$8,000.

The Creative Recovery Mentoring Program is a collaboration between Community Recovery and Resilience, Community Development, and the Arts and Cultural teams and is a Council Initiative under the Regional Artists Development Fund. The Regional Artists Development Fund is a partnership between the Queensland Government and Gympie Regional Council to support local arts and culture in regional Queensland.

Background

The arts play a deep, real role in supporting communities and individuals to tackle disasters and the potential of reframing life, landscape, and connection beyond the impact. An arts/cultural response can mean many things – care, comfort, reduced feelings of isolation, increased community cohesiveness, empowerment, reimagining, celebration, memorialising, new personal and creative skills, strengthened connections to place, and a sense of shared optimism.

The role of cultural projects and activities in building community capacity and vitality in disaster-affected areas are now well understood. While other agencies were dealing with housing, trauma counselling and planning issues, there is usually no direct, professional support for locally determined cultural activity. At a community level, artists, small community choirs, youth groups, local festivals, local arts councils, and other community based cultural organisations can be supported to develop and deliver small, locally relevant, and locally determined participatory activities that would enable the telling and sharing of stories through the visual, performing, and literary arts, and in this way, provides an important step in the rebuilding process.

Creative Recovery is a framework and a process of connecting and embedding creative approaches within the disaster recovery activities of the broader community, particularly with local decision-making in collaboration with community members, community organisations and private industry. When implemented, this approach creates more effective opportunities for sustainable delivery and community support.

Courtesy of the Creative Recovery Network

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Aim

To equip local creatives with creative recovery skills, community connections, project planning skills, and funding to develop and implement effective and meaningful creative recovery projects and secure further grant funding.

Outcomes

- Enable local creatives to effectively design and execute creative recovery projects.
- Create partnerships with local creatives and community groups.
- Create meaningful creative recovery projects, connected to community and to the issue.
- Deliver the benefits of creative recovery to the community including building resilience and recovery.

Eligibility

The eligibility requirements are as follows:

Artists must:

- work or live in the Gympie Region
- be over 18 years of age
- attend the Arts and Cultural Forum on Wednesday 21 February
- participate in the provided training and mentorship sessions
- be able to demonstrate the support of, or partnership with, a community group
- hold current Public Liability Insurance
- have no outstanding debt with council.

Projects:

- must be based in or provide direct benefit to the Gympie Region
- must have Creative Recovery outcomes
- may be carried out in any relevant artform.

Successful Applicants

Creative Recovery training and mentorship program

Up to four creatives will be selected to participate in Creative Recovery training and mentorship. Participants will be paid a stipend of \$1,500. This stipend is to cover training and mentorship and concept development. Successful applicants will receive a Letter of Agreement and an induction session before proceeding.

Successful applicants to the Creative Recovery Mentorship program will be notified no later than Friday 19th April 2024.

Creative Recovery Projects

Up to two projects developed through the Creative Recovery training and mentoring program will be selected for implementation, and the artists paid an artist fee of \$8,000. Up to two artists may collaborate on a single project in order to maximise resources.

Successful project proposals will be notified no later than Friday 21 June.

How it works

1. Creative Recovery Mentorship and Training

Successful applicants will participate in a series of training and mentoring sessions to develop Creative Recovery skills, including but not limited to:

- Creative Recovery
- Accidental counselling/Psychological First Aid
- Arts Based Therapy
- Grant writing and Project planning.

Note: The training schedule will be provided with the Letter of Agreement to successful applicants.

2. Development of Creative Recovery Projects

Through a series of one-on-one mentoring clinics, you will be mentored to develop a project plan that is ready for implementation including sourcing funding and support. You are encouraged to work with other participants to develop collaborative projects, to maximise resources and in-kind support.

3. Creative Recovery Project Pitch and Co-Design Workshops

“Pitch” your project to a panel comprising council staff and creative recovery experts, then participate in a Co-design Workshop to incorporate the panel’s feedback and workshop your project with your cohort and council staff.

4. Submit your final project plan by Sunday 16 June

Following the Co-Design workshop, you will have two weeks to refine and submit your final project plan. Based on the submitted final project plan, up to two projects will be selected for implementation, and the artists paid a fee of \$8,000 to carry out their project. Up to two artists may collaborate on a single project in order to maximise resources.

Note: The artist fee may not cover all project costs, and artists are expected to source other funding to cover remaining costs.

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Acknowledgments

All successful applicants are required to publicly and formally acknowledge funding support. The format and obligations for acknowledgment are outlined in the Letter of Agreement and include specific wording and branding.

Evaluation and Acquittal

While the Creative Recovery Mentorship Program is not a grant, nevertheless we do have the equivalent of an acquittal process. This is a requirement of any council or external funding. An outline of outcomes for creative recovery project development will be required no later than Monday 30 September.

How to apply

1. Attend the Creative Recovery Forum

Attend the Creative Recovery Forum on 21 February 2024 to learn more about the creative recovery framework and connect with community groups and creative recovery experts. Attendees will be provided with the link to the online Expression of Interest form.

2. Submit your Expression of Interest for the Creative Recovery Mentorship Program

Submit your expression of interest to participate in the training and mentorship program by completing the online form. Your expression of interest should also include:

- Your current CV (no more than 2 pages), demonstrating your capacity to deliver a project;
- A Certificate of Currency for Public Liability Insurance

Selection of successful candidates will be made by an external panel, based on the submitted Expression of Interest, and your demonstrated capacity.

Timeline

Friday 12 January	EOIs open for Forum
Wednesday 21 February	Arts and Cultural Forum- Creative Recovery focus Launch of the Creative Recovery Mentorship Program
Wednesday 21 February	EOIs open for program participation
Sunday 7 April	Applications for mentorship program close.
Friday 19 April	Mentorship participants notified Letters of Agreement distributed Payment of concept development stipend (\$1,500)

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Thursday 2 May	Induction session 5pm to 7pm
2 May to 30 June	Mentoring and training sessions including one on one mentoring sessions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creative Recovery • Psychological First Aid • Arts based therapy • Project planning <p>Note: Training schedule will be provided with the Letter of Agreement</p>
Saturday 1 June	Project Pitch session and Co-Design Workshop
Sunday 16 June	Final Project Plan deadline
Friday 21 June	Successful applicant/s notified
Sunday 30 June	Artist Fee/s Payment Deadline
Monday 30 September	Evaluation Due

For more information

Please contact the RADF liaison officer by emailing radf@gympie.qld.gov.au.

Funding Acknowledgements



The Regional Arts Development Fund is a partnership between the Queensland Government and Gympie Regional Council to support local arts and culture in regional Queensland.



Australian Government



Queensland Government



Assistance is being provided through the jointly funded Commonwealth State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA)