

Creative Hobart Small and Medium Grants Guideline

OVERVIEW

Creative Hobart Grants fund artist-led creative activities that contribute to Nipaluna (Hobart) as a creative city and are delivered within the City of Hobart local government area.

The grants support projects that strengthen cultural identity and storytelling, increase participation in creative life, support artists and creative practitioners, encourage innovation and experimentation, and create vibrant connections between people, communities and places.

WHAT CAN YOU APPLY FOR?

The Creative Hobart Grants support activities in the City of Hobart that:

- strengthen cultural identity, storytelling and the visibility of creativity in Nipaluna (Hobart)
- support artists and creative practitioners to develop, present and sustain their creative practice
- increase opportunities for participation in creative and cultural life
- create place-based and community-connected creative experiences
- celebrate diversity, accessibility, inclusion and belonging
- support Tasmanian Aboriginal culture, creativity and leadership
- encourage collaboration and partnerships across communities, organisations and creative sectors
- activate neighbourhoods, precincts and public spaces through creative activity
- encourage experimentation, innovation and new approaches to creative practice

AVAILABLE FUNDING

The Creative Hobart Small Grant offers cash support from \$1,000 to \$5,000 per application.

The Creative Hobart Medium Grant offers cash support from \$5,000 to \$15,000 per application.

Multi-year funding is not available.

Activities can only be funded once per financial year. If successful, the supported activity cannot receive additional funding through other City of Hobart grants.

HOW TO APPLY

Read the Guidelines in full, review the previous rounds Application Form and start preparing your documentation.

All applications are to be submitted through the grants system, Smarty Grants hobartcity.com.au/Grants.

If you have any questions about the guidelines or using the SmartyGrants platform, our Grants Team is here to help.

Please contact our Customer Service Centre on **(03) 6238 2711** and mention that your enquiry relates to the **Creative Hobart Grant**.

Alternatively, you can email the Grants Team at fundingprogram@hobartcity.com.au

WHO CAN APPLY?

Below is a list of eligible and ineligible applicants to this grant stream.

Eligible applicants	Ineligible applicants
Applicants must be either: ✓ a registered charity ✓ a not-for-profit organisation ✓ an incorporated association ✓ an unincorporated group ✓ an individual with an ABN* (if the applicant is under 18, they must be auspiced*) ✓ a social enterprise ✓ a registered school or training organisation ✓ a small business based in the City of Hobart matching the request for support and ✓ have not received other funding from the City for the same activity this financial year ✓ have fulfilled the conditions of a previous City of Hobart grant by the due date and no overdue debts to the City ✓ have adequate public liability insurance.	✗ current employees of or staff contractors to the City of Hobart ✗ federal, state and local government agencies and bodies, with the exception of the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery and Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens ✗ political parties

*AUSPICING

Individuals and unincorporated groups applying for a Creative Hobart Medium Grant are required to enter into an auspicing agreement with a registered charity or incorporated organisation.

The auspicing body then becomes legally responsible for the project, financial management, and public liability coverage.

Applicants who are auspiced must provide full details and confirmation from their auspicing organisation with their application.

A [sample letter](#) is available online.

For more information about auspice agreements visit [Auspicing Agreements](#).

* AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS NUMBER (ABN)

All applicants must have either an active Australian Business Number or provide a [Statement by a Supplier Form](#).

ACTIVITY ELIGIBILITY

Applications for the Creative Hobart Small and Medium Grants must demonstrate that the activity:

- ✓ contributes to Nipaluna (Hobart) as a creative city and supports and enhances the cultural life of the City
- ✓ aligns with at least one of the identified [City of Hobart's Strategic Plan](#) outcomes
- ✓ has outcomes that are delivered in the City of Hobart local government area, or check the address of your activity by clicking [here](#)).

ACTIVITY INELIGIBILITY

Applications are ineligible if the request for support:

- ✗ is an activity that has already commenced or does not meet the activity timeframe criteria
- ✗ is part of a larger festival or event, which has received a grant or sponsorship from the City of Hobart
- ✗ is commercial, has the potential to make significant profit or be self-sustaining
- ✗ is part of ongoing administration or operational costs of the applicant
- ✗ is made by a registered school or registered training organisation and seeks supports for costs associated with the employment of teaching or support staff and/or the delivery of curriculum.

FUNDING USE

This grant cannot be used to fund:

- ✗ activities or programs that are already delivered by the City of Hobart or are our core business
- ✗ donations or fundraising activities that support the recurrent operations of the applicant
- ✗ a contribution towards payment of rates
- ✗ activities that have already commenced or are scheduled to prior to the eligible activity timeframe

- ✗ programs which have already commenced, unless the proposed activity substantially increases the impact of the existing program
- ✗ capital works, construction, or improvements to buildings
- ✗ the purchase of equipment that is not specific to the delivery of the activity and would otherwise support the operations of the applicant
- ✗ individual pursuits or professional development, unless there is a public outcome
- ✗ school camps or travel expenses to attend sporting trips, educational, civic, political events, conferences, seminars, forums or similar trips or excursions
- ✗ activities that are primarily for the delivery of sporting or recreation programs, unless the application can demonstrate strong alignment to the City of Hobart [Social Inclusion Policy](#)
- ✗ the core delivery of national conferences or seminars to be staged in Nipaluna (Hobart)

PUBLIC ART

Public art framework

Applicants proposing a public art project should demonstrate how their activity aligns with the City's [Public Art Framework](#).

The Public Art Framework outlines the City's approach to public art, including the outcomes we seek to achieve, the principles that guide our decision-making and the role public art plays in contributing to Nipaluna (Hobart)'s identity, creative life and public spaces.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to discuss their proposal with the Public Art Team before submitting an application. Early conversations can help identify opportunities, requirements and potential support for your project.

For advice, contact the Public Art Team on (03) 6238 2494 or publicart@hobartcity.com.au.

Public art platforms

The City's Public Art Program includes two ongoing platforms that may provide additional opportunities for successful applicants.

Soapbox is a series of public billboards that showcase creative responses from writers and artists, providing opportunities for storytelling and community expression.

The Loop is a large-scale outdoor digital screen that presents a diverse range of screen-based works, including short films, documentaries, experimental works, digital art and interactive media.

WHEN TO APPLY

Creative Hobart Small and Medium Grants are open for applications twice a year for a four-week period.

Applications open
18 August 2026
Applications close
3 pm Friday 18 September 2026
Notification of application outcome
November 2026
Activity timeframe
Activity starts between 1 January 2027 and 31 December 2027
Activity ends no later than 31 December 2028.

ASSESSMENT

Assessments for Creative Hobart Small and Medium Grants are undertaken by a panel of City of Hobart officers and external representatives with relevant experience in the subject matter. Panel recommendations are reported to the Chief Executive Officer, for approval.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Both Creative Hobart Small and Medium Grants require applicants to address the same assessment criteria.

Each eligible application will be assessed to determine its capacity to align with:

- **The City of Hobart Strategic Plan**
- **The Creative City Strategy**

Strategic Plan

The activity aligns with at least one of the identified [City of Hobart Strategic Plan](#) outcomes:

- 1.1 Hobart keeps a strong sense of place and identity, even as the city changes.
- 2.1 Hobart is a place that recognises and celebrates Tasmanian Aboriginal people, history and culture, working together towards shared goals.
- 2.2 Hobart is a place where diversity is celebrated and everyone can belong, and where people have opportunities to learn about one another and participate in city life.
- 3.1 Hobart is a creative and cultural capital where creativity is a way of life.
- 3.2 Creativity serves as a platform for raising awareness and promoting understanding of diverse cultures and issues.
- 3.3. Everyone in Hobart can participate in a diverse and thriving creative community, as professionals and hobbyists.
- 3.4 Civic and heritage spaces support creativity, resulting in a vibrant public realm.

- demonstrate involvement and benefits to the community through the project
- demonstrate that the activity is well planned, that suitably skilled people are involved and that the applicant and the activity are financially viable
- demonstrate value proportionate to the level of funding request and positive community impact.

Creative City Strategy

Nipaluna (Hobart) is a city where creativity is visible and valued in everyday life, connecting people, places and communities through culture, storytelling and creative participation.

The Creative City Strategy guides the Creative Hobart grants focusing on the following areas:

- creative and cultural impact
- artists and creative practitioners
- participation and community connection
- innovation and experimentation
- project planning and value.

The activity demonstrates alignment with the Creative City Strategy by contributing to one or more of the following:

- Creative and cultural impact - Demonstrates how the activity strengthens cultural identity, storytelling and the visibility of creativity in Nipaluna (Hobart).
- Artists and creative practitioners - Supports artists and creative practitioners through the development, presentation or sustainability of creative practice, including opportunities for emerging practitioners where appropriate.
- Participation and community connection - creates meaningful opportunities for people to participate in creative and cultural life, fostering inclusion, belonging and connection between people, communities and places.

- Innovation and experimentation - Demonstrates artistic quality through innovative approaches, creative experimentation or new ways of creating, presenting or engaging audiences.
- Project planning and value - Demonstrates that the activity is well planned, achievable, financially viable and represents value relative to the level of funding requested and anticipated community benefit.

LATE APPLICATIONS

Late applications will not be accepted. Please ensure you prepare all documentation and upload well before the due date and time. If you require technical support, get in touch with us as soon as possible.

SUCCESSFUL APPLICATIONS

Agreement

A formal agreement will be sent to the successful applicants. Inability to comply with the agreement may result in withdrawal of support.

Applicants who do not meet their obligations under a grant agreement may not be eligible to apply for future grants.

Payment and GST

Payment information will be provided with the letter of offer. Grants will be paid in full upon receipt of a tax invoice or the City can generate a Recipient Created Tax Invoice (RCTI).

Grant recipients registered for GST should add GST to the grant amount.

Recognition of assistance

Successful applicants must acknowledge the City of Hobart's assistance for their activity. Please refer to the Grant Partnership Acknowledgement Guidelines.

Activity variations

If there are significant changes to the funded activity, applicants must contact the Grants Team to confirm the variation is acceptable.

This includes, but is not limited, to activity start and end dates, venues, fees and charges.

Acquittal

Upon completion of the activity, successful applicants will be required to acquit their grant, providing evidence of the execution of their activity, expenditure and outcomes.

The acquittal form is available on Smarty Grants and must be completed online within three months of the activity completion date.

Grant recipients that do not satisfactorily acquit their grant may not be eligible for future funding and may be required to return the funds allocated to their activity.

UNSUCCESSFUL APPLICATIONS

Unsuccessful applicants are strongly encouraged to request feedback on their application. To request feedback, email us at fundingprogram@hobartcity.com.au.

INFORMATION AND ENQUIRIES

Accessibility

At the City of Hobart, creating an equitable and inclusive community is a core part of our work. We can provide grant information in different formats and answer other access questions. Please contact the Accessible City Coordinator on [03 6238 2413](tel:0362382413).

For Interpreter Services, please telephone an interpreter on [13 14 50](tel:0362382413) and state the language you wish to speak.

Then ask the interpreter to call us on [03 6238 2711](tel:0362382711).

Documents

Copies of all City of Hobart documentation referred to throughout these guidelines can be found via the hyperlinks contained in this document and on the City of Hobart website.

Contact Our Grants Team

To discuss your proposal or administration and technical matters, please contact us on 03 6238 2132 or fundingprogram@hobartcity.com.au.