

2026 Information Kit

PASSAGE

Artist Development Program

Acknowledgement

Yura, bunji. Redland City Council honours our global First Nations community by cultivating a shared sense of belonging the moment set foot on country. We acknowledge the **Goenpul** [goo-rra-bal / goo-ren-pull], **Ngugi** [noo-ki / noo-gee] and **Noonuccal** [noo-na-gul / noo-knuckle] Peoples, the Traditional Owners of Quandamooka country and the land in which Redland City Council occupies. We wish to celebrate the richness and diversity of the world's oldest living culture, continuing a legacy through ongoing storytelling and sharing through art.

"Artists help us to see the world in new ways and to understand ourselves more deeply. Supporting them is essential for a vibrant and reflective society."

- Yo-Yo Ma, cellist and cultural ambassador

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Purpose

PASSAGE is an initiative of Redland City Council running since 2022. The program provides a professional incubator for emerging and established artists, creating opportunities to develop skills with and alongside industry professionals. In 2026, the PASSAGE program will focus on mentorship for artists, providing in-kind and financial resources alongside engagement with industry professionals and Redland City Council's Creative Arts Unit. The aim is to promote the role and value of creative expression and artistic development as key drivers of diverse, vibrant, and connected communities.

PASSAGE is delivered by Redland City Council (RCC) in partnership with the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland.

Objectives

PASSAGE Artist Development Program will:

- act as a professional incubator program for emerging and established artists and creatives.
- generate professional development opportunities for artists and creatives to build capacity as business owners.
- allow artists and creatives to experiment with new, innovative ideas and renewed ways of working.
- increase access to Redland City Council's creative services, providing resources to artists and creatives working in the sector.

Strategic Alignment

PASSAGE is aimed at the development of emerging and established artists, creative practitioners, and producers. Funding is awarded to individuals or organisations creating new work that aligns with Redland City Council's Corporate Plan [Our Future Redlands: A Corporate Plan to 2026 and Beyond](#) and the [Creative Arts Service Strategic Plan 2024-2029](#) priorities: Engagement, Partnerships, Spaces & Sustainability.

Framework

PASSAGE is a mentorship opportunity for artists with **new work in development**, providing an important platform to engage in critical response and review. Each year, up to five artists or organisations can apply for in-kind venue support and a \$2,000 stipend to fund artistic contribution for the duration of the mentorship. The Creative Arts Unit will assist artists by providing time and expertise during the development process, encouraging and empowering artists to focus on process rather than outcome.

There are four (4) spaces available for use throughout the mentorship:

1. **RPAC Auditorium:** Suitable for development, rehearsals, and performance with large groups. [Venue specifications.](#)
2. **RPAC Events Hall:** Suitable for development, rehearsals, presentations with large groups, and exhibition outcomes. [Venue specifications.](#)

3. **RPAC Green Room:** Suitable for small performing arts projects e.g. writing, development, and readings with smaller groups (1-10 pax).
4. **Redland Art Gallery Workroom:** Suitable for small visual arts projects e.g. writing, development, making, and workshops with small groups (1-5 pax). Workroom availability is subject to negotiation and written confirmation.

Redland City Council will provide:

- In-kind access to space for creative development, during venue's non-peak periods. The standard offer would consist of anywhere between 10 and 35 hours between Monday and Friday, 8:30am to 5pm. To be negotiated with the artist/s and Creative Arts Unit.
- Funding of up to \$2,000 per project to pay professional artists and arts workers.
- Advice and mentoring from Council's Creative Arts Unit.
- Advice and ideas on documenting, marketing, promoting, and touring the work.
- Access to mentors and industry professionals.
- Final roundtable discussion with Creative Arts Unit to workshop the next phase of development.

Artists need to:

- Treat Council spaces and staff with respect, leaving the space in the same condition it was provided.
- Advise a self-determined outcome for the conclusion of the development depending on the needs of the project. This could take the form of a research sharing, work in progress presentation, or performance.
- Facilitate a closed debrief with Council's Creative Arts Unit to provide feedback and discuss learnings and next steps.
- Provide Council with adequate visual documentation (photographs and/or video) from the program, which may be used in marketing, promotions, and reporting.
- Be open to sharing the creative process via social media or other means.
- Be open to other possible avenues of support, such as future performance, continued collaborations, and exhibition outcomes.
- Enter into an Agreement with Council committing to the above expectations.
- Acknowledge Council in any future print and online marketing for the project with the following:
"This project is supported by Redland City Council through the PASSAGE Artist Development Fund and the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland."

- Acknowledge Council and Arts Queensland via the relevant logos in all future iterations of the work. Logos will be distributed to successful applicants on receipt of signed agreement.

Key Dates

Applications open: 3rd August 2026

Applications close: 31st August 2026 @ 11:59pm

Assessment: 2-4 weeks following closing date

Mentorship Sessions: 7th November 2026, 19th December 2026, 23rd January 2027, and 27th January 2027. The program mentor will be available for additional support via phone and email outside of these sessions.

Application Process

All artists and creatives, community groups and companies are encouraged to apply. We are looking to support works that can demonstrate an alignment with the City's goals and are viable in their development.

Eligibility

PASSAGE is open to:

- Individual artists at any stage of their career.
- Groups of artists including project funded companies where the lead artists are residents of South East Queensland.
- Artists and creatives who demonstrate a clear connection to Redlands Coast.
- We encourage proposals from artists from diverse cultural backgrounds, people with disability, and LGBTQIA+ artists.

Applicants must:

- Be available for all mentorship sessions.
- Be a permanent resident or Australian Citizen.
- Be over 18 years of age.
- Hold an Australian Business Number (ABN) or be actively working towards obtaining one.
- Be:

- an individual professional artist, emerging professional artist, arts worker, cultural worker, producer, or project coordinator based in Redland City, OR
- an arts and cultural organisation based in Redland City, OR
- an individual artist or arts and cultural organisation based outside the region clearly demonstrating how the project will directly benefit arts and culture on Redlands Coast.

Categories

PASSAGE provides opportunities for professional, semi-professional and emerging artists based in Southeast Queensland through in-kind support and funding in the categories of:

- Community Arts and Cultural Development
- Circus
- Dance & Physical Theatre
- Developing Professional Skills
- Digital Arts
- Fashion
- Film
- Gaming
- Multi-arts
- Music
- Theatre
- Visual Arts, Craft and Design
- Writing

Criteria

Applications will be assessed by the following selection criteria:

1. Quality of the Idea
 - Demonstrates creativity and innovation, driving artistic excellence.
2. Artistic and Cultural Context
 - Shows a deep understanding of the artistic and cultural landscape, reflecting current community ideas, concerns, and celebrations.
3. Confirmed Artists and Creatives

- Provides evidence of confirmed artists and creatives through relevant support material, including resumes, CVs, and letters of confirmation
- 4. Pre-application Discussion
 - The applicant has contacted the Creative Arts Unit to discuss the work prior to applying, ensuring alignment and partnership development.
- 5. Community Engagement
 - Demonstrates commitment to engaging throughout the program through networking and workshop opportunities, performances, open studios, or exhibition openings.
- 6. Strategic Alignment:
 - Connection to Redland City Council's Corporate Plan [Our Future Redlands: A Corporate Plan to 2026 and Beyond](#) and the [Creative Arts Service Strategic Plan 2024-2029](#) priorities: Engagement, Partnerships, Spaces & Sustainability.

How to apply

Step 1 – Access Council's [SmartyGrants webpage](#)

Step 2 – Log in (if you haven't used SmartyGrants to submit an on-line application form before, you need to register. To do this you need to have an email address and set up a password.)

Step 3 – Select **PASSAGE Artist Development Program**.

Step 4 – Ensure you have provided as much information as possible and contacted the Key Contacts below if you have any questions.

Step 5 – Submit application inclusive of all relevant support material.

Key Contacts

Brett Howe

Programming Manager

Redland City Council

Brett.Howe@redland.qld.gov.au

Funding Opportunities

Council provides financial assistance to individuals and organisations, which can assist with running festivals, events, and supporting professional and creative development.

Below is list of the types of funding opportunities available:

- [Sponsorship Grants](#)
- [Community Grants \(Organisation Support, Project Support, or Conservation\)](#)
- [Village Events and Activation Grant](#)
- [Regional Arts Development Fund \(RADF\)](#)

Other Government funding programs

- [Tourism and Events Queensland – Destination Events Program](#)
- [Arts Queensland Funding](#)
- [Small Business Queensland Grants](#)
- [Regional Arts Funding - Federal](#)
- [Creative Australia – Arts Projects for Individuals and Groups](#)
- [Gambling Community Benefit Fund](#)