

Creative Australia
Tuesday, 5 March 2024

Re: Arts Projects for Organisations Round 2024

Dear Creative Australia Assessment Panel,

I write this letter in strong support of Arts & Cultural Exchange's (ACE) application for the *Capabilities and Leadership Skills in Community Arts and Cultural Development For Emerging Producers in Western Sydney*.

Arts & Cultural Exchange (ACE) is a cultural organisation working on Dharug Country in Western Sydney. ACE has a longstanding reputation being committed to social justice, using creativity to reverse disadvantage and produce ground breaking interdisciplinary, intergenerational collaborative projects co-devised with diverse communities. ACE is passionately committed to Western Sydney and its diversity, uniqueness and spirit, and the opportunities to unleash its creative capacities.

Blacktown Arts is a recognised leader in the development of contemporary arts in Australia. Supporting artistic innovation, it offers exciting, new experiences for audiences through an award-winning curated program of exhibitions, performances, workshops, residencies and events. Blacktown Arts is committed to exploring dynamic, culturally diverse work that reflects Blacktown, its history and its communities.

Community Arts and Cultural Development (CACD) is embedded in ACE's core programs by engaging diverse communities to express themselves and share their stories on their terms while deepening their cultural understanding and artistic skills. ACE are committed to social justice and are leaders in producing new work and supporting artists, organisations and creative communities.

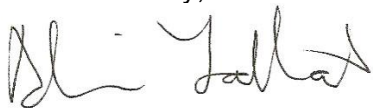
This application comes at a timely moment for Western Sydney where there is a shortage of CACD trained producers, working in an ethical and meaningful way with diverse communities. There is a critical labour shortage in Western Sydney and this opportunity will provide much needed professional skills development and increase the capacity building of young people from Western Sydney.

This will revitalise the arts and culture sector in Western Sydney as the training will be inclusive and involve most arts organisations in Western Sydney. ACE sees this project as a whole sector development opportunity and we are supportive of this vision.

We are highly supportive of ACE's application as ACE is a key arts and cultural organisation and leader in Western Sydney and beyond.

As an organisation, we will support the project as associate partner and will provide a opportunities for emerging producers through a paid internships model.

Yours sincerely,



Alicia Talbot Director Blacktown Arts, Blacktown City Council