Arts & Culture Strategy 2018-2023

Community Plan Vision
Our Vision is for a city where history and differences are embraced, forming the foundations from which vibrant, diverse and sustainable communities thrive.

City of Maribyrnong Vision
A vibrant, diverse and progressive city striving for a sustainable future.

Arts & Culture Strategy Vision
The arts are a source of delight, invention and provocation. They help define us as human beings and shape our view of the world. At Maribyrnong City Council, we also strive to ensure art is a mechanism for place making, building social cohesion and a vehicle for social justice. Participation in the arts is a source of community wellbeing and a driver of economic vitality. Put simply, our investment in the arts is a catalyst for a better community.

Our Mission
To support the progress and evolution of the arts in Maribyrnong.

Our Manifesto
A catalyst for a better community.

Underlying Principle
To fund, broker and commission only to fill gaps, rather than developing competing programs.

Themes

Principles

1. First Peoples first
   A. Celebrate and ensure that the stories of the Traditional Owners continue to be told and promoted.
   B. Encourage the development of unique and distinctive public spaces and places, including art spaces, which reflect, respond to and acknowledge that Maribyrnong is part of the traditional lands of the Kulin Nation.

2. Access all areas
   A. Ensure that the community has easy access to all arts and cultural programs and facilities, irrespective of gender, sexual orientation, age, ethnicity or ability.
   B. Ensure that all artists have ready access to support and assistance, irrespective of gender, sexual orientation, age, ethnicity or ability.

3. Celebrating diversity
   A. Ensure that the cultural diversity of Maribyrnong is celebrated and featured in arts and cultural programming.
   B. Ensure that artists and art practitioners from diverse backgrounds, whether working in traditional or contemporary forms, have a multiplicity of opportunities to lead conversations and present their art.

4. Factory for the arts
   A. Ensure that the creative industries thrive in Maribyrnong, and that Maribyrnong is seen as a centre for creative excellence.
   B. Ensure that opportunities and affordable spaces are available to artists and other creative industry workers, enabling them to pursue their creative practice.

5. Participation
   A. Ensure that arts programming focuses on active engagement and creative agency by community participants.
   B. Work with local organisations that have a strong record and profile in community-engaged arts practice, in order to develop the skills of artists wishing to work with the community in their creative practice.

6. Places and spaces
   A. Ensure that the community has a range of state-of-the-art places and spaces in which to enjoy and experience a diversity of arts and cultural programming.
   B. Ensure that artists have ready access to the best spaces to create and present their work.

7. Culture across Council
   A. Ensure that all areas of Council look synergistically at engaging with the arts to enhance their service.