



From vacant  
to vibrant.

## Creative Places – Exhibitions Guidelines

### About Creative Places

Creative Places is a pilot program by Maribyrnong City Council that aims to transform underutilised commercial properties in the Footscray Central Business District into dynamic, vibrant and accessible creative spaces.

This program, supported by investment from the Victorian Government's Creative Neighbourhoods Partnerships Pilot Program, will foster community involvement, stimulate economic revitalisation, and address the need for affordable venues for the local creative community.

### About the Exhibitions Opportunity:

Through the Creative Places pilot program, three x one-month duration exhibitions will be available to creative practitioners, arts and cultural organisations or creative entrepreneurs from **17 February to 30 May 2025** in the VU Connectivity Centre (Shop 1-13 at Metro West Shopping Centre), in partnership with Victoria University through the Footscray University Town Initiative.

Please nominate your preferred dates (Exhibition 1, 2 or 3) in your application and any display requirements that you might have for your exhibition. The dates of the exhibitions are:

- Exhibition 1: Installation 17-19 February, Opening Night Thursday 20 February 2024, Closing 21 March 2025. Deinstall 24 March 2025.
- Exhibition 2: Installation 25-26 March 2025, Opening Night Thursday 27 March 2025, Closing 25 April 2025. Deinstall 28 April 2025.
- Exhibition 3: Installation 29-30 April 2025, Opening Night Thursday 1 May 2025, Closing Thursday 29 May 2025. Deinstall 30 May 2025.

The exhibition space is a large open room with gallery walls within a larger co-working space (VU Connectivity Centre). Depending on the scale of the exhibition, additional temporary walls, plinths or TV screens can be added to the space.

VU Connectivity Centre has wireless internet, breakout space, toilets, kitchen facilities and concierge.

**Please note: Hours of operation for the exhibition space is Monday-Friday 9am-5pm.** The space can be made available outside of these hours but will incur security costs (approximately \$67/hour). Security costs for the Opening Night of each exhibition will be supported by the Creative Places pilot program.

### **Key dates**

- Expressions of interest open: Monday 6 January 2025.
- Expressions of interest close: **11.59pm Thursday 30 January 2025.**
- Applicants will be advised of the outcome of their application within three weeks of applications closing.
- Selected participants agree to install and deinstall on the dates specified in their agreement.
- Creative Places pilot program will be available to selected participants until 30 May 2025. Beyond this date, any future negotiations on use of spaces would be between the participants and the building owner.

### **Eligibility**

- Applicants should be able to demonstrate a connection with Melbourne's west.
- Applicants must be ready to install exhibitions for their selected month/s at agreed dates and within business hours.
- Applicants must have acquitted any existing Council grants or artist residency program but may be current recipients of Maribyrnong City Council's Triennial Arts Partners program.
- If the applicant's planned program involves working with children, applicants must be able to provide evidence of a Working with Children certification.
- Applicants are limited to one application per program type (eg: exhibition opportunity, co-working).
- Applicants must be over the age of 18.
- Applicants must have Public Liability Insurance to the value of \$20 million.

### **Selection Criteria**

- A meaningful connection to Maribyrnong and/or Melbourne's West.
- A compelling proposal for an exhibition relevant to the Maribyrnong community.
- Skills and experience demonstrated by the artist's/organisation's CV and other works
- A strong marketing and communications plan for sharing the project with the community.

### **How to apply**

- Please fill out the application form at the end of this webpage, ensuring that you select "Exhibitions Opportunity" when asked to nominate the program you are applying for.

- For any questions about your application or to discuss your application with a Council officer (highly recommended) please get in touch with Maribyrnong Arts & Culture via (03) 9688 0200 or [arts@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au](mailto:arts@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au)

This exhibitions opportunity has been developed through a collaboration between Maribyrnong City Council, Victoria University and Footscray University Town Initiative. The Creative Places pilot program is supported by the Victorian Government's Creative Neighbourhoods program.

