**Spotlight: NT Artists Creative Development Fund**

**Information and Frequently Asked Questions**

**What is it, what do you get?**

The Creative Development Fund is an exciting new initiative for Darwin Festival to support the development of new work by Northern Territory artists. Artists can apply for between $5,000 and $20,000 to support the creation of new work, creative development of existing work, or seeding of new ideas.

We’re looking for ideas and projects that are fresh, innovative and timely. Projects that support the professional development of Northern Territory artists, explore new ways of working and are collaborative.

Our ambition is to support artists to develop and produce high quality work for eventual presentation in Darwin Festival. This funding is not for the presentation of work, and presentation in Darwin Festival is not a guaranteed outcome of successful applications.

Funded activities will need to take place between February - October 2022, unless otherwise agreed.

The Creative Development Fund has been made possible through the generous support of our donors, and the amount of total funding available to artists each year will be dependent on our total donations from the previous year. In 2022, the total pool of funding available is $25,000.

**Who is it for?**

The Creative Development Fund is for Northern Territory based artists and collectives at any stage of their career to develop new work and seed ideas.

We encourage applications from artists who are Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, First Nations, culturally diverse, LGBTQIA+ or who are D/deaf, neurodiverse or have a disability.

**Am I eligible to apply?**

To be eligible for the Creative Development Fund you must be a Northern Territory based artist. However, if most of your collaborators are based in the NT or your work is deeply connected to the NT community you can get in touch with the Festival to discuss your eligibility.

**What’s the application process?**

You will need to submit a written application form on the Darwin Festival website. Information you’ll be asked for in the form includes:

* Description of the project you’re seeking funding for
* How much money you’re applying for
* Project plan or timeline of activities
* Access requirements
* Details of artists and collaborators involved, and other project partners
* A detailed budget
* Support materials

**Access and inclusion**

The application process is an online, written form. If this format is not an accessible option for you, we can arrange a different method, such as a video or audio application. Please get in touch with us at [hello@darwinfestival.org.au](mailto:hello@darwinfestival.org.au) or 08 8943 4200.

If you have questions about how your access needs can be accommodated, please get in touch prior to the closing date.

**Selection Criteria**

* Quality of proposed artistic outcomes
* Impact of the outcome on the further development of creative team
* Viability of proposed budget and timeline
* Potential for presentation in the Darwin Festival program
* Fresh, innovative ideas, new ways of working

**Selection Process**

* Successful applicants selected by a panel of 2x Darwin Festival staff and 2x artists or arts industry representatives

**Acquittal Process**

You will be required to submit an acquittal of your project at completion and in order to apply for future rounds of creative development funding. The acquittal will include:

* How you spent the money – including evidence
* What the artistic outcomes of your project were – work in development showings, documentation etc

**Key dates**

22 November 2021 Applications open

23 November 2021 In person information session (also livestreamed), 5.30pm ACST

17 January 2022          Application deadline

14 February 2022 Successful applicants notified

30 November 2022 Creative Development Fund acquittals due

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**Who can apply?**

To be eligible for the Creative Development Fund you must be a Northern Territory based artist. However, if most of your collaborators are based in the NT or your work is deeply connected to the NT community you can get in touch with the Festival to discuss your eligibility.

Artists working in any genre (theatre, dance, performance, circus, music, cabaret, visual arts) can apply and your proposed project can be at any stage of development. This funding does not support the presentation of work.

**If I’m successful in receiving Creative Development Funding, does it mean there is a guaranteed presentation outcome for my work at Darwin Festival?**

No, there isn’t a guarantee of presentation in Darwin Festival but we will be selecting work on its potential to be presented in the Festival in the future. Darwin Festival will also have first right of refusal to present the premiere of the work and will discuss with you the next steps of the project.

**What support material should I submit?**

Your support material is an important part of your submission, it’s an opportunity to show examples of your work. We prefer video documentation, especially for any work that involves performance. If you don’t have documentation of the project you’re applying for please include examples of your previous work. You can also include support letters, images, audio or text to support your application.

**What is the selection process?**

Your application will be assessed against the selection criteria by a panel of Darwin Festival staff and external advisors (artists and/or industry representatives).

**How many projects will be selected?**

There is not a set number of projects that will be funded. The Creative Development Fund has been made possible through the generous support of our donors, and the amount of total funding available to artists each year will be dependent on our total donations from the previous year. In 2022, the total pool of funding available is $25,000. As a result, there could be between 2-5 funded projects, depending on number of applications, how much they apply for and the quality of the applications.

**What financial resources am I offered if successful?**

Applicants can apply for between $5,000 and $20,000. We acknowledge that depending on the scale of your project this may not be sufficient for a full development and encourage you to look at applying for additional funding to support your outcomes. Darwin Festival are happy to discuss options with you.

We ask for a budget as part of the application and encourage you to get in touch if you have questions about this. [Here is a template you can use](https://www.darwinfestival.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Simple-budget-template.xlsx), but we will accept any format as long as it’s clear and accurate.

Things to consider as part of your budget:

* Artist fees – please refer to industry awards such as [Live Performance Australia pay rate guide](https://www.fairwork.gov.au/ArticleDocuments/872/live-performance-award-ma000081-pay-guide.pdf) and NAVA Schedule of Fees and Rates, depending on what art form you’re working in
* For regional artists: accommodation, per diems, travel costs
* Materials, production, hospitality, admin and other incidentals
* Any other income (cash or in-kind) you have for the project

**Will my grant need to be auspiced?**

If successful, you may choose to seek an auspicing agency unless you can supply evidence of an ABN (Australian Business Number) and meet the Australian Taxation Office requirements.

**Can I speak to someone before submitting?**

Yes! You can get in touch with the Darwin Festival Programming team to discuss your application by emailing [hello@darwinfestival.org.au](mailto:hello@darwinfestival.org.au) or calling 08 8943 4200. In fact, we strongly encourage you to get in touch before submitting an application.

We will also hold an information session on Tuesday 23 November 2021, 5.30pm at Browns Mart Theatre where the Programming team will be available to answer any questions you have. The session will be livestreamed and recorded for those unable to attend in person.