

SHINING A LIGHT ON NT ARTISTS

DARWIN
FESTIVAL



Spotlight is Darwin Festival's engagement program for Northern Territory artists. NT artists are at the heart of our program and every year are presented alongside events by highly regarded national and international performers.

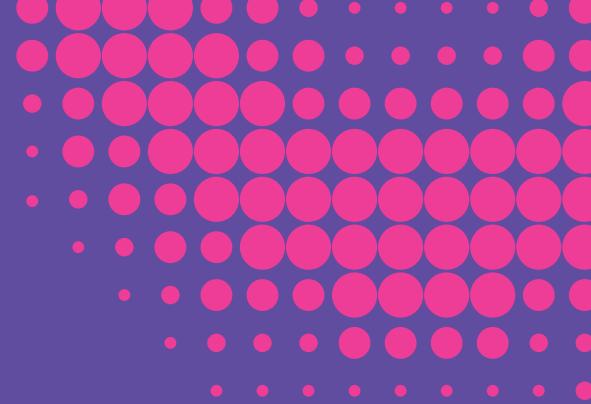
Darwin Festival is an 18-day multi-arts festival held annually each August, delivering a program of free and ticketed events across all art forms. The artistic program captures the spirit of Darwin and the Northern Territory: irreverent, provocative, diverse, engaging and inclusive.



Photo: Charlie Bliss Photography

Since 2009, we have had an Expressions of Interest process to connect with local artists, companies and arts workers who have ideas, works in progress or presentation-ready works. This is a primary access point for NT artists looking to present work in Darwin Festival.

In 2021, we're excited to continue our existing Expressions of Interest process and also launch a new Creative Development Fund for NT artists, made possible through donations from our audience.



EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

The Expressions of Interest is an opportunity for NT artists to submit an application to the Festival to either present a work, tell us about an idea, or let us know what you do.

We welcome applications from artists who work in any artform. That could be theatre, dance, experimental performance, circus, cabaret, comedy, visual arts, music, spoken word or installation.

We are particularly interested in new work or work with a point of difference. We get excited about artistic collaborations, free community projects and unusual performance works. We look for artists who have begun to build a profile within their field and for whom Darwin Festival would be the logical next step.

WHO IS IT FOR?

Northern Territory based artists at any stage of their career to express their interest in performing at Darwin Festival.

We have a separate application form for musicians, to make the process simple and easy to apply. Lots of opportunities exist for musicians in the Festival, from mainstage shows to free outdoor performances and support gigs.



CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT FUND

The Creative Development Fund is an exciting new initiative for Darwin Festival to support the development of new work by NT 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 NT 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.

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.

WHO IS IT FOR?

Northern Territory based artists and collectives at any stage of their career looking 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.

HOW TO APPLY

Visit darwinfestival.org.au for all the information you need to apply, including frequently asked questions.

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 contact Darwin Festival's Programming team with any questions at hello@darwinfestival.org.au or 08 8943 4200.

KEY DATES

22 November 2021	Applications open for 2022 Festival
23 November 2021	In person information session (also livestreamed), 5.30pm ACST
29 November 2021	Music information session with Music NT
17 January 2022	Application deadline for NT Artists EOI and Creative Development Fund
7 February 2022	NT Musicians EOIs close
14 February 2022	Successful NT Artists EOI and Creative Development Fund applicants notified
7 March 2022	Successful NT Musician EOIs notified
4-21 August 2022	Darwin Festival

2021 NT ARTIST HIGHLIGHTS



WISH UPON A JELLYFISH

Aly de Groot
Visual Arts/Special Events

"My wacky idea to hang 100 jellyfish handwoven from fishing line and recycled materials throughout Festival Park for Darwin Festival 2021 was embraced wholeheartedly from conception to fruition by the Festival team.

This support remained strong even when the festivities came to a grinding halt due to the sudden three day lock down that occurred during the Festival.

The opportunity to have my work featured large scale and illuminated at my local festival was a dream come true and the Darwin Festival crew went above and beyond to ensure that my vision was fulfilled in the best possible way. Some of them did this quite literally, when they were up in a boom lift for two days patiently tying 100 jellyfish sculptures to trees."



WANHA! JOURNEY TO ARNHEM

Rosealee Pearson
Music

"We were so happy when we got the email confirming that our project Wanha! Journey to Arnhem had been selected to be a part of Darwin Festival 2021. It was made extra special for some of the artists in the show as it was their first time to be a part of Darwin Festival and a dream come true.

We got so much support and help from everyone.

We were also so grateful that we could showcase the amazing talent from East Arnhem Land during a period of time where these events have been cancelled or rescheduled due to Covid-19.

We had a blast. Thank you!"