Access Arts individual artist mentoring is supported by the City of Port Phillip as part of a commitment to a range of cultural and leisure opportunities that foster a connected and engaged community.

The mentoring project welcomes individual emerging artists with lived experience of disability, and/or mental illness who live or work in the City of Port Phillip. The mentoring project provides an opportunity for individuals to work closely with Council’s Community Cultural Development Officer to develop skills and increase confidence.

The project has a strong focus on the arts, health and wellbeing. The project values collaborative and inclusive artistic processes and outcomes.

The mentoring project is delivered by an experienced and welcoming council officer, committed to supporting people with diverse backgrounds and needs.

The mentoring project encourages choice-making and expression in the development of the work, whilst recognising and nurturing individual strengths and abilities.

**Activities**

Through their involvement in the Access Arts mentoring project, individuals have the opportunity to:

* Develop unique arts projects, create project plans and identify outcomes and opportunities
* Developing particular skills such as; grant writing, project management, fund raising and event management
* Undertake work in the Council’s offices at The St Kilda Town Hall, including access to desk space, internet, email, computer and telephone and kitchen facilities

**Cost**

The individual mentoring project is a free service that is supported by the City of Port Phillip. Council provides support and direction through its Access Arts Development program. The City of Port Phillip recognises the central role arts and cultural development play in building community identity and celebrating diversity within the community.

**Criteria**

The mentoring project is open to individual emerging artists with lived experience of disability, and/or mental illness who live or work in The City of Port Phillip. This project aims to encourage people with lived experience of disability, and/or mental illness to express their experience in a contemporary society through art. The successful applicant will be an adult person with lived experience of disability, and/or mental illness, with an original idea for an artwork or art project.

Interested people (or their advocates) should contact the Community Cultural Development Officer on 03 9209 6530 for further information.

**Transport**

Project participants must be able to arrange their own transport to and from weekly activity.

**Location**

Mentoring activity takes place at the St Kilda Town Hall, 99a Brighton Road, St Kilda. Additional activities may take place in community facilities, library spaces, arts organisations, service provider locations, online and by telephone.

**Duration**

Mentoring activity is usually one day per week (to be negotiated and based on availability of the CCD Officer and mentee). Mentoring duration is based on the scale and development stage of the proposed arts project. Project duration may decrease or increase depending on reaching agreed milestones (i.e. fund-raising) and taking into account health and wellbeing of the mentee.

**Complaints**

On commencement, individual mentoring project participants will be made aware of the City of Port Phillip’s complaints procedure and will receive a copy. If an individual wishes to make a complaint they will be directed to the City of Port Phillip’s complaints procedure here -<http://www.portphillip.vic.gov.au/complaints.htm>

**Consent & Release**

Consent and release will be sought from individuals, including (but not limited to), photography, video, sound recording, performances, and interviews.

**Contact**

Cathy Horsley, Community Cultural Development Officer, City of Port Phillip

**Telephone:** (03) 9209 6530

**Mobile:** 0409 047 849

**Email:** cathy.horsley@portphillip.vic.gov.au