



12.1 **FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT FUND- FESTIVALS AND EVENTS GRANT RECIPIENTS FOR 2022/23**

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1. PURPOSE

1.1 To present the recommended Cultural Development Fund- Festivals and Events grant recipients for 2022/23 Round One for Council's approval.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Cultural Development Fund (CDF) – Festivals and Events funding stream aims to encourage and assist not-for-profit arts, cultural and community groups to stage small to medium scale events. Festivals or events should celebrate the City's community spirit, identity, arts and culture and engage our community as active participants.
- 2.2 Council's CDF-Festival and Events grants has two rounds in 2022/23.
- 2.2.1 Round One – opened in July 2022 for events taking place between January – December 2023
- 2.2.2 Round Two – opening in December 2022 for events taking place between July 2023 and June 2024
- 2.3 At the 15 June 2022 Council meeting, Council endorsed an updated Terms of Reference for the CDF – Festivals and Events Grants 2022/2023, including the increase of the grant threshold from \$10,000 to \$20,000.
- 2.4 The CDF– Festivals and Events funding stream is intended for seed and development funding of events and festivals. The purpose of increasing the grant threshold to \$20,000 was to support Council's intention of nurturing and supporting new Festivals and Events that can grow over time and seek alternative avenues of funding.
- 2.5 This report presents Council with a list of proposed grants recommended by the Cultural Development Fund (CDF) Reference Committee for Round One. Funded projects will occur between January 2023 and December 2023.
- 2.6 A total of \$68,000 in grants has been recommended for 6 events for this 2022/23 Round One.
- 2.7 21 applications were received, requesting Council funding of \$317,111 for events with an estimated total event budget of \$1,130,423.00.
- 2.8 6 events with a total value of \$427,150 have been recommended. This represents an average of \$6 for every \$1 invested by Council.
- 2.9 If Council endorses the 6 recommended successful applicants, a total of \$67,000 would be left available for the CDF– Festivals and Events Round Two funding.
- 2.10 The CDF Reference Committee recommends that any funding allocated to applicants that need to withdraw or do not have the ability to proceed with their application, should



be re-distributed to the available funds for the CDF– Festivals and Events Round Two funding.

- 2.11 Other funding support sources sought by recommended applicants include local business and private sponsorship, local Traders Associations, Palais Theatre Community Fund, Creative Victoria and other Vic Gov grants, philanthropic grants, organization volunteer and in-kind contribution
- 2.12 The recommended events will take place in St Kilda, St Kilda East, Elwood and South Melbourne with the bulk of applicants focussed on St Kilda.

3. RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 3.1 Endorses the recommended successful applicants as proposed by the Cultural Development Fund Reference Committee for the Cultural Development Fund – Festivals and Events Grant 2022/23 Round One as outlined in Confidential Attachment 1
- 3.2 Releases details on the successful recipients of the Cultural Development Fund – Festivals and Events Grant 2022/23 Round One from confidence, once all applicants have been advised of the outcome of their application and those successful have confirmed their ability to proceed with their application.
- 3.3 Approves any funding allocated to applicants that need to withdraw or that do not have the ability to proceed with their application, be re-distributed to the available funds for the Cultural Development Fund – Festivals and Events Grant 2022/23 Round Two funding.
- 3.4 Thanks, the Cultural Development Fund Reference Committee for their work in assessing applications and making recommendations to Council.
- 3.5 Thanks, all applicants who participated in the 2022/23 fund Round One for the Cultural Development Fund – Festivals and Events.

4. KEY POINTS/ISSUES

- 4.1 The purpose of the 2022/23 CDF-Festivals and Events Round One fund is to support arts, cultural and community organisations to develop creative events in the City of Port Phillip that engage our community, between January 2023 and December 2023.
- 4.2 The grant round can include all artforms and is designed to support festivals and events that celebrate the creative and cultural life of the City develop, share new work, and connect with our communities.
- 4.3 CDF – Festivals and Events program objectives:
 - 4.3.1 Support organisations to develop and manage creative and cultural festivals and events in the City of Port Phillip.
 - 4.3.2 Support capacity building, mentoring, partnerships or collaborative development, and arts engagement activities.
 - 4.3.3 Support and engage diverse communities of all ages and backgrounds, including the development of work that engages with the wider Port Phillip community.



4.3.4 Generate arts, cultural and heritage activity in our neighbourhoods and precincts.

4.4 Selection criteria includes:

4.4.1 Essential Funding Criteria

- Projects must demonstrate creativity, artistic intention and or cultural significance.
- Funded activities must be based in the City of Port Phillip.
- Applications should indicate the project's value and engagement opportunities for City of Port Phillip audiences.
- Project participants living or working in the City of Port Phillip are involved in the project.
- Project expenditure equals project income, and the applicant must demonstrate the project can proceed if other funding applications are unsuccessful.

4.4.2 Desirable Funding Criteria

Projects need to demonstrate that they meet three or more of the following:

- Support the development and presentation of new artistic and cultural work.
- Promote the City's cultural heritage.
- Enhance the profile of the City of Port Phillip as an outstanding, vibrant arts environment.
- Encourage participation in the arts.
- Explore the identity and diversity of the City and its residents.
- Explore issues related to access and equity.
- Demonstrate a high level of community involvement and interest.
- Demonstrate an attempt to source other funding where applicable.
- Support partnerships with other organisations.
- Encourage awareness of environmental sustainability through the arts.

4.5 The process for application is as follows:

- A call for applications was advertised through Divercity, Council's website and a social media campaign from 25 July 2022.
- Applicants could access the guidelines and application form through the website and receive assistance by contacting staff.
- Applications were made using the online grants management system, Smartygrants.
- Three free grant writing training sessions for community and arts projects were advertised in July and August 2022.
- Applications opened on 25 July 2022 and closed on 5 September 2022.



- Applications were assessed by the Cultural Development Fund Reference Committee according to the criteria at a meeting in September 2022.

4.6 Of the applications not recommended for funding there was 12 in St Kilda, 2 in Port Melbourne and 1 in South Melbourne.

5. CONSULTATION AND STAKEHOLDERS

The Cultural Development Fund Reference Committee is constituted through its Terms of Reference and is comprised of an independent community panel of experts with Councillor representation. The CDF Assessment Panel assessors noted: 5.2.1 the broad diversity of events that were activating some different areas of our municipality.

5.2.2 the family friendly elements and inclusivity of the events.

5.2.3 encouragement for events to seek broader ranges of funding and support from other sources.

5.2.4 recommends that any funding allocated to applicants that need to withdraw or do not have the ability to proceed with their application, should be re-distributed to the available funds for the CDF– Festivals and Events Round Two funding.

6. LEGAL AND RISK IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no known risks to Council in adopting this recommendation.

7. FINANCIAL IMPACT

The total amount of funding recommended for the 6 projects is \$68,000 out of the \$135,000 provided for in the 2022/23 budget. 7.2 If Council endorses the 6 recommended successful applicants, a total of \$67,000 would be left available for the CDF– Festivals and Events Round Two funding.

Creative practice is recognised as making a valuable contribution to the City of Port Phillip's economy. As a sector, creative and cultural practice and industries are the second largest employer in the City of Port Phillip. 7.4 Small to medium community cultural events engage with local business community as supporters but also draw community and broader audiences to business precincts.

8. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

8.1 Cultural and community organisations will be made aware of Council's commitment to environmental sustainability through the Council Plan and Cultural Development Fund Guidelines.

9. COMMUNITY IMPACT

9.1 2022/23 CDF- Festival and Events Round One grant will support community and cultural groups to celebrate community culture and connection as ongoing recovery from Covid19.

9.2 Community engagement and cultural participation are contributing factors to community health and wellbeing.

9.3 Funded projects offer free or low-cost access to diverse cultural events across the municipality.

9.4 Community members of all abilities and diverse backgrounds are encouraged to participate in funded programs.



9.5 Contribution to the local economy through activity generated through attendance at festivals and events.

10. ALIGNMENT TO COUNCIL PLAN AND COUNCIL POLICY

10.1 Funding under the Cultural Development Fund delivers on the Council Plan 2021-31:

10.1.1 Inclusive: a place for all members of our community, where people feel supported and comfortable being themselves and expressing their identities.

10.1.2 Vibrant: with a flourishing economy, where our community and local business thrive, and we maintain and enhance our reputation as one of Melbourne's cultural and creative hubs.

11. IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

11.1 TIMELINE

11.1.1 Successful projects will be listed on Council's website and promoted through the community events listing.

11.1.2 The successful applicants will receive their funding in early January 2023.

11.1.3 Funded projects will be conducted between January 2023 and December 2023 and acquitted within eight weeks of completion.

12. COMMUNICATION

12.1 Applicants will be advised of the outcome of their application soon after Council decision.

12.2 Details of funded projects will be available on the Council website.

12.3 Unsuccessful applicants are notified in writing and are invited to receive feedback from Council Officers.

12.4 No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any material or general interest in the matter.

13. OFFICER DIRECT OR INDIRECT INTEREST

13.1 No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any material or general interest in the matter.

ATTACHMENTS 1. *Confidential* - CDF Festivals and Events grant - Recommended applicants Round 1