

26/27 - Contemporary Music Festivals

Form Preview

About the Grant

* indicates a required field

Grant Information

This funding program supports music businesses and industry professionals to deliver local contemporary music festivals that build new audiences and supports local music collaboration.

- festivals with capacity of up to 12,000 can apply for up to \$100,000
- festivals with capacity of over 12,000 can apply for up to \$250,000.

Funding can support costs for programming and presenting contemporary music festivals relating to:

- artist fees
- salaries, wages and fees for staff and industry professionals involved with the delivery of the festival
- production costs to deliver the festival
- marketing and promotion
- travel and accommodation costs
- administrative costs.

Key dates:

- Applications Open: 28 September 2026
- Applications Close: 9 November 2026 at 2pm
- Activity Dates: The project cannot start before 1 February 2027 and must be completed by 28 February 2028.

Sound NSW Support

Find the answers to frequently asked questions [here](#).

Sound NSW staff are here to help you and can be contacted between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) via:

- Telephone: James Sherley, Funding Coordinator (02) 8276 8698
- Email: info@sound.nsw.gov.au
- Schedule an online meeting to speak to Sound NSW staff using the link to [Microsoft Bookings](#)

Sound NSW Updates

Do you wish to receive updates about other grant opportunities, initiatives or events from Sound NSW? *

☐ Yes ☐ No

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Eligibility

* indicates a required field

Eligibility Requirements

Please confirm your eligibility by answering the following questions:

Are you based in NSW? *

☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you have an active ABN? *

☐ Yes ☐ No

Is the festival presented in NSW? *

☐ Yes ☐ No

Are you primarily programming new and original contemporary music? *

☐ Yes ☐ No

Are you primarily programming local music and acts? *

☐ Yes ☐ No

Are you programming artists from NSW Government priority groups? *

☐ Yes ☐ No

NSW Government priority groups include Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people, people who identify as women and non-binary, people with disability, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, LGBTIQ+, young people (under 25), and people from Western Sydney and regional and remote communities.

Are you collaborating with local venues and community organisations to deliver activity that supports growth in audiences? *

☐ Yes ☐ No

You will need to demonstrate this through the application and provide evidence as support material.

Do you commit to paying a minimum performance fee of \$250 (plus superannuation) per artist? *

☐ Yes ☐ No

The NSW Government requires that all musicians involved in publicly funded events receive a minimum performance fee of \$250 (plus superannuation). You will need to demonstrate this through the budget.

Do you acknowledge that superannuation regulation has changed?

Superannuation is a Commonwealth legislative requirement administered by the Australian Taxation Office. More information related to the obligations of the new superannuation requirements can be found [here](#).

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☐ Yes

☐ No

Unable to continue

Based on your response to the above Eligibility question, you are unable to continue and apply. Refer to the guidelines for more details.

Sound NSW staff are here to help you and can be contacted between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) via:

- Telephone: Telephone: James Sherley, (02) 8276 8698
- Email: info@sound.nsw.gov.au

Eligibility Confirmation

Please declare that this application meets the eligibility criteria:

I confirm that I've read the guidelines and the information supporting my/our eligibility is accurate *

☐ Yes

Applicant Details

* indicates a required field

Does the applicant organisation have an Australian Business Number (ABN)? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

What is your entity type as per your ABN?

Please select the entity type as per the ABN you are applying with, and if successful, we will contract with *

- ☐ Individual / Sole Trader
- ☐ Partnership
- ☐ Trust
- ☐ Other Incorporated entity
- ☐ Australian Private Company (Pty Ltd)
- ☐ Australian Public Company (Ltd)

Applying as an individual/sole trader

You have selected you are applying with an individual/sole trader ABN. If successful, we will contract with this ABN name and pay the funds to a bank account in the same name.

Please enter your ABN in the space below.

In the Applicant Details section:

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- select Individual
- enter your Title, First name and Last name
- enter your address and contact details.

Applying as a partnership

You have selected you are applying with a partnership ABN. If successful, we will contract with this ABN name and pay the funds to the bank account of the applicant lead (someone clearly listed in the partnership).

Please enter your ABN in the space below.

In the Applicant Details section:

- select Individual
- enter the details of the applicant lead - this person needs to be listed in the partnership:
 - Title, First name and Last name
 - address and contact details.

Applying as an organisation

You have selected you are applying with an organisation's ABN. If successful, we will contract with this ABN name and pay the funds to a bank account in the same name.

Please enter your ABN in the space below.

In the Applicant Details section:

- select Organisation
- enter the Organisation name (as per the entity name on your ABN)
- enter the address and contact details of the organisation.

In the Primary Contact Details section:

- enter the name and contact details of the primary contact for this application.

Applicant Organisation ABN *

The ABN provided will be used to look up the following information. Click Lookup above to check that you have entered the ABN correctly.

Information from the Australian Business Register	
ABN	
Entity Name	
ABN Status	
Entity Type	
Goods & Services Tax (GST)	

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DGR Endorsed

ATO Charity Type

[More information](#)

ACNC Registration

Tax Concessions

Main Business Location

Must be an ABN.

Applicant Details

Applicant *

☐ Individual

☐ Organisation

Organisation Name

Title

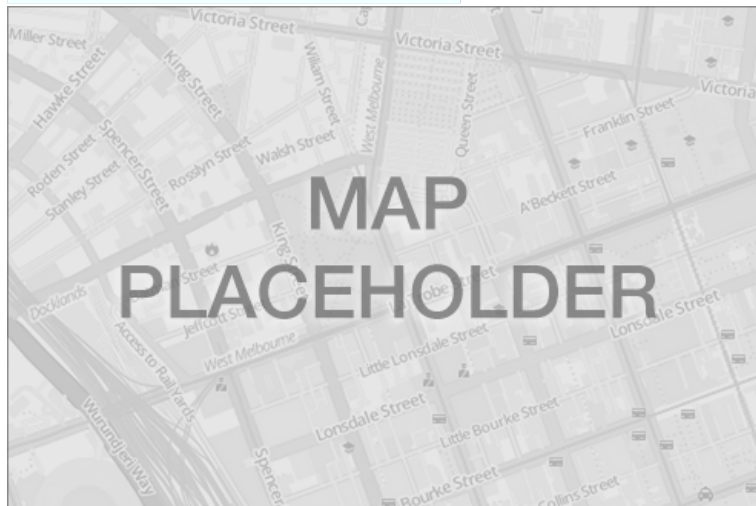
First Name

Last Name

For organisations: please use the organisations full name. Make sure you provide the same name that is listed in official documentation such as that with the ABR, ACNC or ATO.

Applicant Primary Address

Address



Applicant Postal Address

Address

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Applicant Primary Phone Number *

Must be an Australian phone number.
Country code not required, area code for landlines is required.

Applicant Email Address *

Must be an email address.

Applicant Website

Must be a URL.

Primary Contact Details

Primary Contact *

Title First Name Last Name

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This is the person we will correspond with about this grant.

Primary Contact Position *

e.g., Manager, Board Member or Fundraising Coordinator.

Primary Contact Phone Number *

Must be an Australian phone number.
Country code not required, area code for landlines is required.

Primary Contact Other Phone Number

Must be an Australian phone number.
Country code not required, area code for landlines is required.

Primary Contact Email *

This is the address we will use to correspond with you about this grant.

About You

* indicates a required field

Tell us about you or your organisation and your connection to your local music scene or community *

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Word count:
Must be no more than 400 words.

What experience do you have delivering live music events? Include any recent key achievements? *

Must be no more than 200 words.

About Your Festival

* indicates a required field

In the **Primary location of your initiative** field please enter the suburb where the festival is happening.

Title *

Word count:
Must be no more than 25 words.
Provide a name for your initiative. Your title should be short but descriptive.

Brief description *

Word count:
Must be no more than 50 words.
Include a brief summary of who will benefit from this initiative, what activities you will do and what outcomes you expect from your activities.

Anticipated start date *

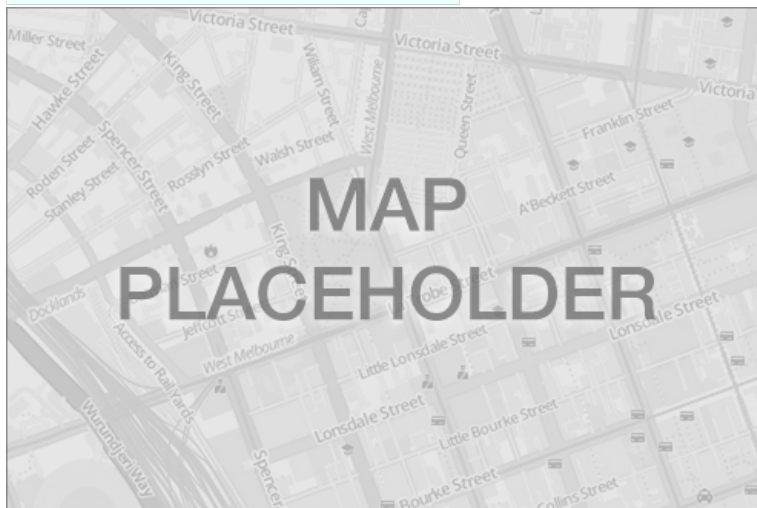
Anticipated end date *

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Primary location of your initiative

Address



Any, but at least one field is required.

Primary location does not need to be a specific address, and can be postcode, suburb, state, etc. If delivered online, please specify the area of focus for delivery.

The start date you have entered makes this application ineligible

Activity for this program cannot start before 1 February 2027 and must be completed by 28 February 2028. Please include only activity happening within these dates.

About your festival

Is the festival a free or a paid event? *

☐ Free

☐ Paid

Is the total capacity for the festival greater than 12,001? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

Tell us about your festival, and how it contributes to a thriving grassroots music ecosystem? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 400 words.

Have you delivered this festival before? *

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☐ Yes

☐ No

How will this funding support sustainability, expand the festival or generate new activity? *

Word count:
Must be no more than 200 words.

Need and impact of the festival

Outline the need for the festival and any evidence you have to support this *

Word count:
Must be no more than 300 words.

What impact do you anticipate this festival will have on your local music scene or community? Consider programming, employment and engagement with local business. *

Word count:
Must be no more than 300 words.

What is the long-term community benefit of this festival? Provide evidence across:

- employment
- local businesses
- local artists
- audience development.

Evidence may include historical data, industry benchmarks, audience research, economic impact analysis, and/or financial modelling.

*

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Word count:

Must be no more than 500 words.

Who are you collaborating or partnering with to deliver this festival? Who have you consulted with? Do you have examples of previous successful collaboration and partnerships with this organisation or individual? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 300 words.

Marketing and promotion

Outline your plans for marketing and promoting the festival *

Word count:

Must be no more than 300 words.

A diverse contemporary music sector in NSW

Sound NSW is committed to a diverse contemporary music sector in NSW and encourages projects to actively engage with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people, people who identify as women and non-binary, people with disability, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, LGBTIQ+ community, young people (under 25) and people from Western Sydney and regional and remote communities.

The data will be used to help us understand the contemporary music industry and support future diversity initiatives. For more information, please refer to the Privacy Notice available [here](#).

Please indicate if your event will be targeted towards any of these groups:

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander communities *
☐ Yes ☐ No

LGBTIQ+ *
☐ Yes ☐ No

Women and non-binary *
☐ Yes ☐ No

People living in Western Sydney *
☐ Yes ☐ No

People with disability and/or who are d/Deaf *
☐ Yes ☐ No

People living in Regional NSW *
☐ Yes ☐ No

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People from culturally and linguistically diverse (CaLD) backgrounds **People under the age of 25** *

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Yes

☐ No

Outline how you are considering these groups in the planning and delivery of the festival *

Word count:

Must be no more than 300 words.

Sustainability

Outline how you are considering climate sustainability in the planning and delivery of the festival *

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Viability and Safety

* indicates a required field

Licence verifications can be completed here: <https://verify.licence.nsw.gov.au/home/Liquor>

For a breakdown of license types and requirements for all-ages activity see <https://www.nsw.gov.au/business-and-economy/liquor-and-gaming/liquor-licensing/licence-responsibilities/underage-drinking>

All-ages events

Are you delivering all-ages events as part of this funding? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

Compliance documents

Please attach the following compliance documents. If you are unable to provide any of the following documentation, please explain in the provided text box.

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An event management plan (including risk management and crowd safety) *

Attach a file:

If relevant, a copy of your liquor licence

Attach a file:

If relevant, incident registers for alcohol service

Attach a file:

If relevant, Local Council approvals or Development Consent conditions permitting the activity

Attach a file:

An event management plan tailored for all-ages events (including risk management and crowd safety) *

Attach a file:

Child Safe policies (including working with children checks) *

Attach a file:

If relevant, a copy of your liquor licence

Attach a file:

If relevant, incident registers for alcohol service where minors are present

Attach a file:

If relevant, Local Council approvals or Development Consent conditions permitting all-ages use

Attach a file:

**Let us know any further information or context about the compliance documents.
If you have not uploaded all of the required compliance documents, please identify each missing document and the reason it cannot be produced**

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Word count:
Must be no more than 150 words.

Key Activities

* indicates a required field

Activities

Please detail the activities expected to be completed as a result of the funding, including the location and dates.

You should include all key activities here, not just the festival – eg design, consultation, planning, marketing, delivery and evaluation.

Activity	Location	Expected start date	Expected end date	Notes
Activity type, eg marketing, festival, etc	Of the activity (suburb, state or country)	Activity start date	Activity end date	Add notes if you need to provide more context.

Location of the festival

What region is the festival taking place in?

Enter 1 (one) against the applicable region. Enter 0 (zero) for any that are not applicable.

Sydney (excluding Western Sydney) *

Western Sydney *

Regional and remote NSW *

Expected attendance

How many people do you expect to attend your festival?

Attendance *

Must be a number.

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Artists and Music Industry Professionals

How many artists or music industry professionals will be directly engaged in this project?

Enter 0 (zero) for any that are not applicable.

NSW Artists *

An artist is any musician, who is performing new and original music as part of this activity.

Artists from outside NSW *

An artist is any musician, who is performing new and original music as part of this activity.

NSW music industry professionals *

A music industry professional includes (but is not limited to) festival staff, technical production crew, operational crew, publicists, content creators, etc.

Music industry professionals from outside NSW *

A music industry professional includes (but is not limited to) festival staff, technical production crew, operational crew, publicists, content creators, etc.

Budget

* indicates a required field

Budget Information

Festivals with capacity up to 12,000 can apply for up to \$100,000 in funding, to support costs relating to:

- artist fees
- salaries, wages and fees for staff and industry professionals involved with the delivery of the festival
- production costs to deliver the festival
- marketing and promotion
- travel and accommodation costs
- administrative costs.

Please enter the amount in whole dollars (no decimal places).

Budget Information

Festivals with capacity over 12,000 can apply for up to \$250,000 in funding, to support costs relating to:

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- artist fees
- salaries, wages and fees for staff and industry professionals involved with the delivery of the festival
- production costs to deliver the festival
- marketing and promotion
- travel and accommodation costs
- administrative costs.

Please enter the amount in whole dollars (no decimal places).

Total Project Cost *

\$

What is the total budgeted cost (dollars) of your project?

Total Amount Requested

*

\$

What is the total financial support you are requesting under this grant?

Income

In the table below list all of the income associated with your application, including cash and in-kind.

Include the amount requested from this grant program, and ensure it matches the Total Amount Requested included above.

All amounts should be GST exclusive.

Income type	Income amount (ex GST)	Status	Notes
This Grant Government Grants Philanthropic Grants Donations Earned Income Other Income Cash co-contribution In-kind contribution Other	\$		
	\$		

Total Income Amount (ex GST)

\$

This number/amount is calculated.

Expenditure

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In the table below list all costs associated with your proposed activity. Use the 'Funding Source' column to indicate whether the cost will be covered by the Sound NSW funding request.

All items should be GST exclusive.

Expenditure type	Expenditure amount (ex. GST)	Funding Source	Notes
	\$		
	\$		
	Must be a dollar amount.		

Total Project Cost (ex. GST) *

\$

This number/amount is calculated.
Enter this amount into the Total Project Cost field above.

Applicant Co-contribution *

\$

This number/amount is calculated.

Project Quotes

Please attach quotes for the expenditure items included in your budget *

Attach a file:

Supporting Documentation

* indicates a required field

Support Material

You can provide additional material that helps support your application, including artistic support material, confirmation letters, letters of support, evaluations, reports and other material you feel is relevant to the project.

Support material can be provided as links or uploaded documents. Please note all attachments must be provided at the time your application is submitted.

Samples can be submitted as:

- Audio/visual - maximum 3 examples of 5 minutes each, sent as links
- Written material - provided as one document
- Still images - provided as one document

Restrictions on Attachments

- Files must not exceed 25MB
- Please provide attachments in .pdf format where possible.

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- Zip files cannot be accepted.

Note: Assessors will not view or consider support materials that exceed the above limits.

Examples of previous relevant festivals or events

As a link or attachment, provide examples of previous relevant events. Please select how you will be submitting the material.

- ☐ Links/URLs
- ☐ Uploading files
- ☐ Both of the above

Provide links and passwords to any externally hosted examples of previous events relevant to this application.

Note: Make sure the link/URL works and passwords are correct and remain accessible for the next 3 months during the assessment period. Assessors will only be able to spend a limited time looking through links, so please ensure you choose the most relevant and strongest examples.

Website	Password	Description
Must be a URL.		

Attach, as a single document, examples of previous events relevant to this application. *

Attach a file:

Evidence of community consultation

Attach, as a single document, evidence of community consultation *

Attach a file:

Provide as a single document

Confirmation from key people and organisations

Attach, as a single document, the confirmations from key people, organisations and partners involved in the event *

Attach a file:

Provide as a single document

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Letters of support

Attach, as a single document, letters from industry, community, previous participants, etc that show support for your events *

Attach a file:

Provide as a single document

Other relevant documents

Attach, as a single document, any other documents, reports, images or samples that help support this application.

Attach a file:

A maximum of 3 files may be attached.

Declaration and Authorisation

* indicates a required field

Disclaimer

The applicant acknowledges and agrees that:

- Changes to the application and any additional materials cannot be submitted after the advertised closing date and time.
- Sound NSW has the right to investigate any information provided in this application and/or to request additional information where Sound NSW deems it necessary for the purpose of assessing your application or administering the Program.
- Sound NSW may re-open an application after the closing date, provided it doesn't give the applicant an advantage over other applicants.
- Sound NSW staff are not able to provide advice on content or choices required within an application.

Privacy Notice

Sound NSW (part of the Department of Creative Industries, Tourism, Hospitality and Sport) is collecting your personal information. Personal information collected is managed in accordance with the *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act*.

Sound NSW collect your personal information for the purpose of:

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- Assessing your application against the eligibility criteria for the Local Audience Development Grants - Contemporary Music Festivals (**Program**) and contacting you to discuss your application;
- If your application is deemed eligible, to manage and administer the Program;
- To monitor and evaluate the Program.

Providing us with your personal information is not required by law. However, if you choose not to provide us with the requested information, Sound NSW will be unable to assess your eligibility for the Program.

Your personal information may be disclosed by Sound NSW:

- In accordance with the requirements of the NSW Government's Grants Administration Guide;
- To comply with our obligations under the *Government Information (Public Access) Act*;
- To comply with an order for the production of documents to Parliament under Standing Order 52.

We may share your personal information with consultants and contractors who help us assess your application or provide evaluation services.

We only share your personal information with them when it is necessary and we make sure they follow the privacy law.

Otherwise, your personal information will not be provided to a third party without your consent or unless it is authorised by law.

To access or seek amendment of your personal information, or for more information on our privacy obligations, contact the Department's Privacy Officer at information@dciths.nsw.gov.au. For more information about how DCITHS complies with its privacy obligations visit its [website](#).

Use of Information

The applicant acknowledges and agrees that:

- Subject to privacy legislation, if Sound NSW assesses your application as successful, the information contained in this application form may be used for media and communication purposes by Sound NSW and/or the NSW Government.

Do you agree that subject to privacy legislation and if Sound NSW assesses your application as successful, the information provided in the application will be used for media and communication purposes by Sound NSW and/or the NSW Government? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

Declaration

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Before you can complete and submit this application, you must accept the following conditions by declaring:

- If an entity is the applicant, I have the authority to complete and submit this application on the entity's behalf.
- All information supplied as part of this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.
- All activities proposed by this application will be conducted in accordance with applicable law, including but not limited to, complying with Working with Children legislation.
- I acknowledge:
 - funding will not be granted or released if the applicant has outstanding acquittals for this or other projects/programs across Sound NSW or the Department of Creative Industries, Tourism, Hospitality and Sport (DCITHS);
 - Sound NSW may withdraw any offer of funding or demand the return of funds already paid if this declaration is found to be incorrect or misleading; and
 - Sound NSW and DCITHS may disclose any information in this application as described in the NSW Government's *Grants Administration Guide*, or according to applicable law.

Authorisation

I agree *

☐ Yes

Name of authorised person *

Title First Name Last Name

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Must be a senior staff member, board member or appropriately authorised volunteer

Position *

--

Position held in applicant organisation (e.g. CEO, Treasurer)

Phone number *

--

Must be an Australian phone number.

We may contact you to verify that this application is authorised by the applicant organisation

Email *

--

Must be an email address.