



FUSE FUND 2025 GUIDELINES

Council is seeking to support the development and presentation of arts & cultural projects and events from Darebin based artists and community organisations within Darebin's festival FUSE. A limited number of grants between \$1,000 & \$15,000 to present as part of **FUSE 2025** will be awarded. Presentations must take place in Spring 2025. Exact dates will be confirmed by FUSE staff once successful.

Criteria

[FUSE](#) is a multi-arts festival that aims to reflect and celebrate what is unique about Darebin, celebrate belonging and enable creative connections between people and uncover and explore new ideas and spaces.

Core values of FUSE

- First Nations First
- Artist led
- Bold and Contemporary
- Activate our municipality
- Reflect Darebin's uniqueness
- Inclusive
- Creative

Arts & cultural projects must culminate in a presentation or event, which will take place within the City of Darebin and be suitable for inclusion in the FUSE program.

The following will not be supported:

- Events and projects that are not arts or cultural in nature
- Fundraisers
- Neighbourhood Street Parties

Funds cannot be used to pay for:

- Hire of Council venues

You should make clear:

- How your arts and cultural project or event is suitable for the FUSE program
- How your arts and cultural project or event aligns with FUSE's core values

The following will be prioritised:

- Applications from artists or community organisations from our priority communities (Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, Deaf or living with Disability, Culturally and Linguistically Diverse, Young People, Older People, Women, LGBTIQ+)
- Applications from artists or community organisations with a demonstrated history of delivering arts or cultural projects or events of excellent quality

Applications will be strengthened by:

- Evidence of the projects or events viability, including quotes from venues you intend to use.



Additional Support and Obligations

Successful applicants will be required to:

- Sign their Artist Contract within 2 weeks of successful notice, which outlines the details and timeline of their project
 - FUSE must have the first right of refusal of work if applying for a development, meaning the work needs to be premiered at FUSE before it can be presented elsewhere. If there are any existing or new plans involving other presenters or funding partners, you must inform FUSE.
- Adhere to FUSE Code of Conduct
- Have Public Liability Insurance (\$20 million)
- Prepare a COVID-19 scenario plan
- Meet the requirements of Councils' [Event Permission Process](#) if applicable
- Administer own ticketing (Note: ticketing charges applicable to platform may apply, 10 complimentary ticket holds to be held for use by FUSE and timely sharing of ticket sales applies)
- Meet minimum access requirements where applicable including:
 - use of captioning & vision description of any video or social media posts
 - a willingness to allow your show to be Auslan interpreted (Cost to FUSE)
 - consider offering an audio described or relaxed performance
- Attend a debrief meeting and submit a grant acquittal

Additional support will be provided as follows:

- Producing consultation (x 3 meetings)
- Production consultation (up to 3 meetings if required)
- Publicity & Marketing consultations (x 2 meetings)
- Photography – for the purposes of Marketing & Publicity (if required)
- Photography - for the purposes of documentation

COVID-19

As a result of COVID-19 things can change and quickly, so we need to be as responsive as possible with FUSE Fund projects and events. As part of your application, you will need to provide an outline of how your project or event could be adapted to meet any easing or tightening of public health restrictions. Successful applicants will be required to develop a scenario plan detailing how the project could be reshaped to meet easing or tightening of public health restrictions.

Assessment

Council assesses each application on its merits. Eligible applications will be assessed by a panel of three who will consider the following questions:

- Is the project or event idea suitable for the FUSE program? (Score out of 5)
- To what extent does the project or event align with the core values of FUSE? (Score out of 5)
- To what extent is/does the individual or community group seeking funds from or representing one or more of our priority communities? (Score out of 5)
- Does the artist or community organisation have a history of delivering projects or events of excellent quality? (Score out of 5)
- Is the project or event viable? (Score out of 5)



How to apply:

Applications to FUSE Fund are submitted on-line using:

<http://darebin.smartygrants.com.au/fusefund2025>

Step 1: Access the SmartyGrants webpage - by using the above link.

Step 2: Log in; if you haven't used SmartyGrants to submit an on-line application form before, you need to register. To do this you need to have an email address and set up a password.

Step 3: Select FUSE Fund and begin application.

Step 4: Start your application.

Key Dates:

Applications open: Friday 9 February 2024, 9am

Information Session #1 & Grant Writing Tips:

(On-line via zoom): Thursday 15 February 2024, midday– 1pm.

RSVP here: <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1172325>

Information Session #2 & Grant Writing Tips:

(Online via zoom): Wednesday 28 February 2024, 5.30pm – 6.30pm

RSVP here: <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1172325>

Application support sessions*:

Looking for more information or advice for your FUSE project application? Limited sessions, click for availability.

Book here: <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1172949>

Sessions will only open for booking after Information Session #2

Applications close: Sunday 7 April 2023, 11.59pm

Applicants notified: mid-late July 2024

Queries:

For all queries, please email Kenny Waite, Associate Producer – Creative Culture & Events

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