

MUSWELLBROOK REGIONAL ARTS CENTRE PROGRAMS

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre is seeking Expressions of Interest from Art Professionals to participate in the gallery's ongoing programs. Expressions of Interest are invited from artists, curators, arts tutors, arts writers, composers, musicians, collaborators and organisations at all career levels.

ABOUT THE GALLERY

Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre is located on the New England Highway, three hours' drive northwest of Sydney and under two hours from Newcastle. The town of Muswellbrook lies in the Upper Hunter Region among a diverse rural and industrial economy encompassing coal mining, farming, viticulture, electricity generation and the equine industry.

Achieving regional gallery status in 1976, Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre presents a diverse and engaging exhibition program of curated exhibitions drawn from the collections, local and national art prizes, along with the work of contemporary practicing visual artists in a spacious, historic-meets-modern gallery space.

Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre is home to the Muswellbrook Shire Art Collection and the Max Watters Collection, both of which were established in the late 1950s. The Max Watters Collection is regarded as one of the most significant collections of its type in rural Australia and showcases some of the most influential names in Australian contemporary art. These works are complemented by the Muswellbrook Shire Art Collection, the core of which are the works acquired as a direct result of the Muswellbrook Art Prize, among the richest art prizes in Australia.

ELIGIBILITY

Expressions of Interest are open to all Arts Professionals resident in Australia. Collaborative proposals are accepted. Art Professionals with diverse backgrounds and lived experiences are encouraged to apply. Employees of the Muswellbrook Shire Council and their immediate family members are not eligible to apply.

PROGRAM AIMS

Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre delivers a balanced program, with a focus on providing our audiences with rich and diverse arts experiences. Arts Professionals are sought to add value to Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre's programs with the aim of:

- Providing opportunities for the creative and professional development of artists
- Providing high-quality, diverse arts experiences for audiences
- Encouraging arts practice and creative engagement between artist, community and place
- Contributing to the long-term cultural development of the community
- Creating awareness and appreciation, and facilitating meaningful connections with art
- Facilitating equity of access

PROGRAM OPPORTUNITIES

OPPORTUNITY	ACTIVITY
Exhibition	• Solo, group or touring

	• Non-acquisitive commissioned or loaned • Micro-small (4-16 running metres; 22 square metres; 15-16 weeks), medium (20-42 running metres; 48 square metres; 15-16 weeks), or large (37-92 running metres; 172 square metres; 7 weeks)
Exhibition Essay	Research and write essay to accompany gallery initiated, leading exhibition
Arts Article	Arts focused article in area of expertise or interest
Art Workshop	• Adult workshop (3 hours) • Virtual workshop • Youth Term Program
Artist in Residence	One week Artist Residency within Muswellbrook Shire and subsequent exhibition; 1-2 Artists
Musical Composition	Compose music to accompany virtual exhibition
Performance	Live performance at exhibition launch or immersive event

Appointed Arts Professionals will be provided with a fee to participate in our programs.

SUBMISSIONS

Expressions of Interest are open year-round with proposals assessed biannually according to the program selection criteria, by a gallery panel. Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre may make direct approaches to potential Arts Professionals as a part of this process. Please note that Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre are not able to offer feedback to unsuccessful applicants.

If you experience barriers to meeting the requirements of our Expressions of Interest process, please contact the gallery by phone or email to discuss. We are prepared to cater for alternative means of application.

Muswellbrook Shire Council is committed to protecting your personal information. For information in relation to this, please refer to Council's [Privacy Policy](#).

PROGRAM SELECTION CRITERIA

Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre assesses applications according to the following criteria:

Quality:

- Presents considered, conceptually sound ideas
- Represents innovative approaches, as well as excellence in a professional contemporary practice

Value:

- Engages and challenges audiences
- Provides benefit to the event or program or activity
- Contribute to Council's strategies and goals including [Community Strategic Plan](#) and [Upper Hunter Regional Cultural Development Strategy](#)

Reach

- Facilitates meaningful connections with the arts
- Delivers outcomes relevant to the needs of audiences

Viability

- Achievable outcomes
- Demonstration of good planning, including appropriate timeline and effective use of resources
- Public liability insurance up to \$20 million where required to activate on-site

HOW TO APPLY

Expressions of Interest are to be made via the online portal -

<https://www.artgalleria.com/portal/muswellbrookeoi>

All Expressions of Interest are to outline the following:

- Biography
- A statement that includes the conceptual premise and/or a description of the proposal
- Images (10 maximum)

Any enquiries regarding the Expressions of Interest should be emailed to

arts.centre@muswellbrook.nsw.gov.au