

Applicant Information – King Island Artist Residency

The King Island Artist Residency offers Tasmanian, national and international professional artists working in any artform, between two to six weeks of creative time on King Island, Tasmania. In 2023 residencies will only be available to Tasmanian and national artists.

The residency includes free accommodation and access to a vehicle and studio while on the island.

Visiting artists are also invited to participate in the cultural life of King Island through informal exchanges with local artists and the community.

The residency is available to artists at any career stage in any art form and offers an opportunity for them to further develop their practice while experiencing the unique environment, history and lifestyle of King Island.

Arts and Cultural Centre

King Island Council established the King Island Arts and Cultural Centre in 2006 as a hub for the local creative arts community, artist exchanges and cultural tourism.

The residency is part of the centre's activities and as well as benefiting visiting artists, is seen by council as a way to encourage and inspire local artists and contribute to the cultural life of the island.

Eligibility

The residency is available to Tasmanian, national and international artists at any stage of their professional practice and across all artforms. In 2023 only Tasmanian and national artists are eligible to apply.

Residencies are available for one artist but may include a collaborator.

Artists are expected to be independent, self-sufficient and to readily engage with locals.

The residency does not include children or partners.

What the residency offers

The residency offers artists:

- Unhindered time and space to focus on their practice
- Self-contained accommodation in a one-bedroom flat
- Access to a studio-workshop with print press and/or the King Island Town Hall, or other space suitable to their needs
- Access to a dedicated council vehicle
- Co-ordination and promotion of workshops and events.

In total, a six-week residency is valued at around \$5000 in-kind support from King Island Council.

Artists are responsible for their airfares, freight, materials, equipment and all living costs while on King Island.

Residency requirements

At the start of the residency, the artist will give an introductory talk about their work and their intentions for their residency.

Though not essential, if artists choose to offer a workshop or performance as part of their residency, the centre will coordinate and promote the event.

Visiting artists are also encouraged to exchange with local artists and get to know the community through informal conversations and workshops, as locals highly value the exposure that visiting artists bring to the island.

Artists are also asked to provide a brief reflection on their residency experience and activities within four weeks after their residency end date.

Dates

Applications for the 2023 residency open 1 September 2022.

Closing date for submissions is 30 September 2022.

Applicants will be notified of the outcome in late October 2022.

About your application

The application consists of:

- About you and your arts practice (max 250 words)
- Your proposal - what you intend to do, including any workshops or events (max 250 words)
- Impact and benefit for you and the King Island community (max 250 words)
- Duration of your residency i.e. number of weeks
- Preferred residency dates including an alternative preference
- A current CV or bio (max 1 page)
- Support material.

Applications must include support material and a CV to be eligible.

The application form is available on the King Island Council website.

Submission of application

Your application must be submitted online via the King Island Council website.

Support material

Providing support material is a requirement of the application.

Support material will consist of recent examples that best demonstrate the quality of your past or present work and that are relevant to your proposal.

This may include, as appropriate to your artform, up to:

- 10 images
- 10 pages of written material (for example, excerpts of literary writing)
- 10 minutes of video and/or audio recording.

All support material should be submitted online with URLs linking directly to the relevant web page.

URLs must NOT be password-protected.

Support material must be in any of the following formats:

- Website URL
- Images - JPEG and PowerPoint
- Video - MP4, QuickTime, and Windows Media

- Audio - MP3 and Windows Media
- Written material - Word and PDF. Where possible, please combine all documents into a single PDF.

If you cannot supply support material via URLs, please upload it with your application however we can only receive up to 10 MB in total.

Assessing your application

Applications are assessed by a panel of representatives from King Island Council, the Arts and Cultural Centre Advisory Group, a local artist and an external peer.

Criteria for assessment are:

- Quality: A high quality artistic practice with a clear articulation of your ideas for the residency
- Impact: The impact and benefit to you and the King Island community.

Council encourages applications from all art forms however it may choose to prioritise any given art form to ensure equitable distribution across all forms in the long term.

Frequently Asked Questions

What sort of artists are eligible to apply?

Tasmanian, national and international artists at any stage of their professional practice and representing a variety of artforms. In 2023 only Tasmanian and national artists are eligible to apply.

Artists will be expected to be independent, self-sufficient and prepared to readily engage with local artists and the community.

Is the residency for solo artists only?

Residencies are suitable for a single artist and one other collaborator.

How long can I stay?

Residencies are available for between two to six weeks. Depending upon availability, longer residencies may be split across two stages.

When can I undertake a residency?

You can nominate two preferred dates between Jan and December 2023. As the residencies are competitive, we cannot guarantee your first preference.

How many residencies will be offered in 2023?

Between four to six residencies are offered to artists in 2023.

Will there be residencies offered after 2023?

Yes. Applications for residencies in 2024 will open on 1 September 2023 and close on 30 September 2023.

Am I expected to deliver an artistic outcome?

No. The focus for the residency is to give artists unhindered time and space away from their usual environment.

Where will I stay?

Accommodation is a small one-bedroom, fully self-contained flat close to the town centre and within walking distance of the Cultural Centre. A single bed in the lounge is available, if needed, for a collaborator.

Is there Internet access?

There is no TV or Internet connection available in the accommodation however there is access at the Cultural Centre, Town Hall and the studio-workshop.

Can I bring my family?

Unfortunately, the residency does not include children or partners.

What if I don't drive?

There is no public transport on King Island. Transport to and from the airport can be arranged. Please note this where prompted in your application. The accommodation, workspaces and shops are within easy walking distance.

What equipment can I access?

As there are limited resources on the island, artists need to provide their own essential equipment and materials for their practice.

Does my residency include an exhibition at the Cultural Centre?

No, however artists are welcome to submit proposals to the Arts and Cultural Centre Advisory Group for future exhibitions, performances or events resulting from their residency.

What assistance will be provided during my residency?

Support will be provided to artists for their introductory talk and for the co-ordination of any proposed workshops or events included in their application.

What's it like on King Island?

Situated around 80 kilometres from Tasmania's north coast, King Island is 64 kilometres long and 27 kilometres wide, very green and flat. There are deserted pristine beaches, four lighthouses, migratory birds, multiple shipwrecks, lush green pastures and lots of kelp and cows. The climate is mild but the weather is changeable and can get very windy with wild storms as the island is in the path of the Roaring 40's.

Given its small population of less than 1600 people, you'll often find yourself driving or walking alone. Locals are relaxed and friendly – be prepared to wave to passing cars. Due to the island's isolation and lack of natural predators, there's an abundance of native flora and fauna and introduced exotic birds. Look out for bush turkey, peacock, pheasant and wildlife, particularly early morning and at dusk.

Further information

For more information on the residency contact:

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