

Applicant Information – King Island Artist Residency

The King Island Artist Residency is offered by the King Island Council to Tasmanian and national professional artists working in any artform, between two to five weeks of creative time on King Island, Tasmania.

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

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.

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

The King Island Artist Residency operates alongside the King Island Gallery.

Located in the picturesque Currie Wharf precinct, the gallery acts as a hub for the local creative arts community, exchanges and cultural tourism and offers a glimpse into the uniqueness of the island's environment and its cultural life.

The Artist Residency Program and King Island Gallery are key parts of the cultural infrastructure of King Island.

Eligibility

The residency is available to Tasmanian, national artists at any stage of their professional practice and across all artforms.

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 Currie
- 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 five-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

Artists are encouraged to engage with the local community in whatever ways feel appropriate to their artform - either through a talk, open studio, workshops, performances, or readings - as local artists and the community value the exposure that visiting artists bring to the island.

Successful artists can discuss the activity with residency staff to ensure both artists and the community benefit from the activity.

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

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 2024 residency open 1 September 2023.

Closing date for submissions is 1 October 2023.

Applicants will be notified of the outcome in early November 2023.

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 200 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 King Island Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee, 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 and national artists at any stage of their professional practice and representing a variety of artforms.

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 five 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 2024. As the residencies are competitive, we cannot guarantee your first preference.

How many residencies will be offered in 2024?

Up to six residencies will be offered to artists in 2024.

Will there be residencies offered after 2024?

Yes. Applications for residencies in 2025 will open on 1 September 2024 and close on 1 October 2024.

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 fully self-contained, close to the town centre and within walking distance of the studio and King Island Gallery.

Is there Internet access?

Internet access is available at the King Island Gallery, 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 King Island Gallery?

No, however artists are welcome to submit proposals or Expressions of Interest to the Gallery 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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