

CultureLAB Expression of Interest FAQs 2020/2021

Arts House is new art, new people and new ideas. We develop and present contemporary art in all its guises, with an explicit interest in interdisciplinary work, audience relations and art that explores society's most urgent questions.

CultureLAB is dedicated towards independent artists and small-medium companies of all disciplines, with a focus on the potential of performance. Artists are supported with fees, space, equipment, expertise and community.

The current/upcoming EOI is for creative developments taking place from July 2020 – June 2021. We are looking for projects at any stage of development. Arts House is composed of a variety of spaces, suitable for a range of purposes: research, rehearsal, technical experimentation and more. We encourage you to consider the full potential of working with Arts House's producing and production resources. Our full time production team are available to provide technical expertise and access to in-house technical equipment. CultureLAB artists receive an investment of \$10,000, access consultation and in certain circumstances contribution to interstate travel.

For this round we have two areas of focus in addition to general programming. The next Dance Massive will take place in March 2021, and so we are keen to hear from choreographers and makers interested to present in this context.

In addition, we are excited to announce a new partnership with Science Gallery Melbourne for an interdisciplinary research and creative development residency. This is an opportunity for artists to work across Arts House, and at 'The Residency' as part of the new Science Gallery Melbourne at The University of Melbourne. Over four weeks, selected artists will receive two weeks at Arts House, and two weeks in a space certified for biological experimentation (PC1Lab), and meeting with leading academics and scientists of the University of Melbourne.

Our EOI form asks you to outline an idea, and how you think it might progress towards presentation. If you are not already aware of Arts House's program, or need a refresher, look at our past work here ([LINK](#)). There are also some FAQs here ([LINK](#)). The deadline is midnight, Thursday 29 August.

CultureLAB is supported by Creative Victoria and the City of Melbourne.

What are the dates for CultureLAB?

OPEN: Monday 15 August

CLOSE: Thursday 29 August midnight

Have more questions? Give us a call on 03 9322 3720 or send us an [email](#).

[APPLY NOW](#)

How can I apply?

Please see website for link and more information Arts House. EOI submissions are made through the SmartyGrant portal.

Is the expression of interest for both development and presentation?

No. The EOI is for the development of new work only.

Where can my project be developed?

Your project needs to be developed at Arts House, North Melbourne Town Hall.

My EOI is not for a Science Gallery Melbourne or Dance Massive project. Does this mean I cannot apply?

You can apply for any project and any potential outcome. These are just two areas of focus for this current round, but it does not mean that all successful EOIs will be directed towards these potential outcomes.

I'm interested in the Science Gallery Melbourne Residency. Do I need to be an academic?

No. And it is our preference that you are not. This is an opportunity for an artist who does not have this kind of opportunity and networks to connect into a research environment.

Is there a theme for the Science Gallery Melbourne Residency? And a potential outcome?

This Residency will coincide with the opening exhibition MENTAL that has a focus on Mental Health. It is not essential that your project is about mental health, but in your EOI it would be good to detail which departments you'd like access to, and why it would be important for the work. We'd want to see why your project would benefit from being based at Science Gallery Melbourne.

I want to nominate to be considered for the Science Gallery Melbourne Residency, but does this mean that I will not be considered for general CultureLAB projects?

We will consider any EOI based on its merits and fit to the overall Arts House program. As there is only one residency available with Science Gallery Melbourne, and if your project is not chosen for that, then we would still consider it for CultureLAB. It is not an either / or option for you.

When would the development take place?

Between 1 July 2020 and 30 June 2021.

Can EOI funds be used to cover an interstate or international artist?

EOI funds can be used to support international or interstate artist fees, however the project needs to be initiated by an Australian artist and the cash request made to Arts House cannot cover travel or accommodation costs.

****Please contact the Arts House artistic team if you are an international artist wanting to present work at Arts House.**

What is the expression of interest process?

- Arts House is requesting an expression of interest that outlines the idea of the project and key artists.
- These projects will be assessed by Arts House creative team and, with advice from industry peers, a shortlist of expressions of interest will be chosen.
- If your idea makes it to the shortlisting stage, you will need to meet and discuss your project in more detail with members of the Arts House team. You will be required to fill out a budget template for this meeting.
- Shortlisted meetings will happen in the weeks of 21 & 28 October.

- The Arts House creative team will make the final decisions as to successful expressions of interest, considering the idea, its fit to Arts House and our programming priorities and the projects financial feasibility.
- Artists will be notified week beginning 11 November.

Who are the industry peers?

Four industry peers are selected to ensure appropriate artform and arts sector knowledge.

If I'm shortlisted does it mean I am successful?

No. You should make no assumptions that if you are shortlisted to meet with the Arts House team that your EOI has been successful. If you are shortlisted, it means we really like your idea and think it will work well with our programming and we would like to meet with you and see if your idea is financially feasible and viable.

When will you notify shortlisted artists if they are successful?

Shortlisted artists will be notified in the week beginning 11 November, 2019.

If I get a CultureLAB, does it mean there is a guaranteed presentation outcome at Arts House?

No. Arts House have first right of refusal to present the premiere of the work. On completion of your CultureLAB, Arts House will meet with you and talk about the next steps for your project.

What support material should I submit?

The support material you provide is an integral part of your submission. You may not have video documentation for the work that you are submitting; therefore we suggest that you submit video documentation of previous work or some of your collaborators' previous work.

Make sure that the documentation information is correct and easily accessible and that you detail what the video is showing us. Video documentation that shows the work unedited is preferred. Highly edited documentation with music/text overlays (like a trailer) is not advised.

You can also submit other types of documentation if needed. The EOI form allows for up to three additional pieces of documentation which is not a video link.

What should I cover in the 500-word project description?

In this section you should outline the idea of the project, its concept and what you are trying to do or achieve with the project. We are also very interested in what the intended outcome for the audience will be.

If I get a CultureLAB are there any desired outcomes? What does Arts House expect from the project?

You are encouraged to do a showing of your work during your development period. This is not a public presentation, rather an informal sharing of ideas and explorations to an invited audience.

If I get a CultureLAB, what does Arts House provide (outside of the cash contribution)?

For works in development, Arts House provides the venue, some technical assistance for any bump in and bump out, and you'll also have access to any of the house technical equipment. If you require any additional equipment and technical crew/operators, this will be negotiated with you.

Can I receive feedback from my application if I am not shortlisted?

No, feedback is only available to artists who make the shortlist to meet with the Arts House creative team.

Do I need to submit a budget?

Not at the EOI stage. If you are shortlisted you will be provided with a budget template from Arts House to complete to bring with you to the shortlisted meeting.

Do I need an ABN?

Whoever receives the payment for the project needs to have an ABN. If you do not have an ABN, there are auspicings bodies who can administer this for you. We will also require you to have public liability insurance to \$20 million and all artists need to be covered with work cover and to be paid superannuation. As individuals cannot provide work cover to others, this would be an instance where you would need to be auspiced.

Have more questions? Give us a call on 03 9322 3720 or send us an [email](#).