

Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF)

2025-2026 Information Kit



Sing Sing Sing Redlands. Image: Redland Performing Arts Centre.

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Purpose

- The Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) is delivered as a partnership between the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland and Redland City Council.
- RADF promotes the role and value of arts, culture and heritage as key drivers of diverse and inclusive communities and strong regions.
- RADF invests in local arts and cultural priorities, as determined by local communities, across Queensland.
- RADF is a flexible fund, enabling Redland City Council to tailor the RADF program to suit the community's needs.
- RADF information, case studies and criteria are available from Arts Queensland's website.

Redland City Council Strategic Goals

Redland City Council's RADF program is informed by Redland City Council's Corporate Plan [*Our Future Redlands: A Corporate Plan to 2026 and Beyond*](#) and the [*Creative Arts Service Strategic Plan 2024-2029*](#):

Three locally-determined priorities are supported by Redland City Council's RADF funds:



Strong Communities

Our strong and vibrant community spirit is nurtured through services, programs, organisations, facilities and community partnerships that promote resilience, care and respect for residents of all ages, cultures, abilities and needs.



Quandamooka Country

Our city embraces the rich Aboriginal heritage of Redlands Coast (Quandamooka) and the Traditional Owners' ongoing custodianship of Quandamooka land and waters. We work together for the future of Redlands Coast on Quandamooka Country.



Thriving Economy

Our thriving economy recognises the benefit of our unique geography and is underpinned by enabling infrastructure, supportive policy and successful partnerships which maximise opportunity for growth in industry, job creation, innovation and environment.

RADF Objectives

Redland City Council RADF supports arts and cultural activities that:

- Encourage creative and skills development within the arts and cultural life of Redlands Coast.
- Encourage partnerships and cultural innovations within the arts and cultural life of Redlands Coast.
- Support and nurture arts practices and development of local artists and foster a thriving creative community.
- Build local cultural capacity, sustainability, and community pride.
- Elevate First Nations creators and audiences.
- Encourage all creatives and artists to foster an engaged and creative community across all art forms.
- Support a robust living culture in Redlands Coast.
- Provide public value for Queensland communities.

Funding Categories

RADF funding is provided in the following categories:

- **Community Project Funding:** Funding activities, projects and initiatives with grants of up to \$10,000. Open to community, two rounds per year, providing support for individual artists, groups and organisations.

Key Dates: Community Project Funding

Round 1: Open 1 September 2025 to 6 October 2025
For projects commencing from December 2025

Round 2: Open 16 February 2026 to 23 March 2026
For projects commencing from May 2026

Eligibility

RADF provides opportunities through project-based funding in the following artforms:

- Community Arts and Cultural Development
- Circus
- Dance & Physical Theatre
- Developing Professional Skills
- Digital Arts
- Fashion
- Film
- Gaming

- Multi-arts
- Music
- Theatre
- Visual Arts, Craft and Design
- Writing

Applicants must:

- Be a permanent resident or Australian Citizen, and
- Be based in Redland City or demonstrate how the project will directly benefit Redland City's arts and culture, and
- Be over 18 years of age or have the application co-signed by a legal guardian confirming responsibility of financial management, or
- Hold an Australian Business Number (ABN) or be auspiced by an incorporated organization, and
- Be individual professional artists, emerging professional artists, arts workers, cultural workers, producers, or project coordinator, or
- Be an arts and cultural organisation based in Redland City OR be an arts and cultural organisation based outside the region clearly demonstrating how the project will directly benefit arts and culture on Redlands Coast, and
- Have met all acquittal conditions of previous Council grants and sponsorship, and
- Have no outstanding grant acquittals or debts to Council.

Ineligible applications:

- Requests for 100% funding of the project. Applicants are encouraged to seek other sources of funding for their projects. Applicants are required to make a significant contribution, which may be in-kind. This contribution must be shown in the application budget.
- Applications submitted after the closing date or are unsigned.
- Entertainment for events without a specific developmental outcome for artists.
- Funding competitions, prizes, or eisteddfods.
- Funding the purchase of capital items e.g., equipment, buildings or vehicles.
- Funding accredited study, training or university courses.
- Seeking ongoing operational expenses.
- Activities that commence before Council approval is given, RADF should not be used as a 'top-up' fund.

Application Process

Steps to apply for Project Funding (up to \$10,000):

- **Step 1:** Read and understand Redland City Council's RADF Information Kit including the strategic priorities and selection criteria.
- **Step 2:** If required, set up a time to discuss your project with the Council's Community Grants Officer by submitting a Meeting Request via Calendly on the [RADF webpage](#) under the link to Grants Workshops and Assistance. Please allow 5 business days prior to your meeting request date to allow for confirmation.
- **Step 3:** Submit a full application via SmartyGrants between the opening and closing dates, including all relevant support material.
- **Step 4:** Applications will be assessed by the RADF Assessment Panel against the Criteria. Applicants will be notified in writing of the outcome within 8 weeks of the closing date.

Assessment Process

The RADF Assessment Panel (the Panel) is an external group of industry and Council representatives that reflect the diverse arts and creative communities of Redlands Coast. Panel members are selected for their expertise in the arts and their understanding of developing the creative industries in the region.

- **Step 1:** Following the closing date, the Panel assess each application against the RADF Assessment Criteria and rank applications accordingly.
- **Step 2:** The Panel meet in person to deliberate on all applications and make final selections.
- **Step 3:** The Council Officer(s) submits the Panel's final recommendations to the Creative Arts Service Manager, who then forwards them to the Council's Group Manager of Customer and Cultural Services for final approval.
- **Step 4:** Once approved, successful applicants will be notified in writing, receiving a Letter of Offer and Funding Agreement detailing specific funding conditions.
- **Step 5:** Unsuccessful applicants are notified in writing and encouraged to request feedback.

Assessment criteria:

All applications are assessed by the RADF Assessment Panel against the following criteria. The indicators listed are samples of the types of support material or evidence required to articulate each criterion:

High quality

- Produces or contributes to high-quality arts and cultural initiatives for local communities.
- Proven capacity to effectively support and deliver arts and cultural services.
- Evidence of delivery against local arts and cultural priorities.

Strong impact

- Creates new employment opportunities and skills development for artists and arts workers in Redland.
- Builds new audiences or markets and reputation for Redland arts and culture.
- Demonstrates community and stakeholder involvement in project priority setting, decision making and evaluation.
- Responds to community needs and helps deliver government priorities including alignment to the by Redland City Council's Corporate Plan [*Our Future Redlands: A Corporate Plan to 2026 and Beyond*](#) and the [*Creative Arts Service Strategic Plan 2024-2029*](#), [*Queensland's Time to Shine: a 10-year strategy for arts and culture 2025-2035*](#) and the principles of the [*Cultural Engagement Framework*](#).
- Articulates how the project will align with one or more of the RADF Objectives

Sustainable value

- Demonstrates value for money.
- Demonstrates sound governance, and ethical business practices, including paying amounts not less than industry award rates, recommended or agreed minimum rates, and adhering to cultural protocols.
- Evidence of local demand for proposed program(s).
- Proposed activity has a strong delivery plan, including understanding potential risks and their management.

Contact Information

Community Grants Coordinator

Community Grants, Redland City Council

Phone: (07) 3829 8999

Email: grants@redland.qld.gov.au

Website: www.redland.qld.gov.au/grants

For subject matter expertise the Community Grants Coordinator may refer you to:

RADF Liaison Officer (RLO)

Creative Arts Unit, Redland City Council

Additional Information

Council Officers assistance:

- Council's Community Grants team can support you in the preparation and submission of your application and the subsequent administrative processes of the Grants process.
- Council's RADF Liaison Officer (RLO) is the subject matter expert for the RADF Program.
- Officers assist you with understanding the broader context of RADF, project development, the application process and identifying opportunities to boost your application including other funding opportunities.
- Council's RLO liaises with Arts Queensland to ensure appropriate management of the RADF Program and Assessment Panel.

Eligibility checklist

- Each professional or emerging artist receiving financial benefit from a RADF grant must complete the Eligibility Checklist in the application form in Smarty Grants.
- This checklist has been developed to determine the professional or emerging professional status of all artists receiving RADF grant money.

Australian Business Number (ABN)

- It is not mandatory for RADF applicants to hold an ABN. However, if they do not hold an ABN the application must be auspiced by an incorporated organisation with an ABN (known as the auspice body) who manages the grant on behalf of the applicant. The auspice body is responsible for providing a financial report on completion of the project, but is not responsible for the artistic direction, delivery or quality of the project.

Support material

Brief and clear support material strengthens your application. Include only relevant support material, such as:

- CV or resume of professional arts and cultural workers employed in the activity, including examples of previous artworks or projects.
- Letters of Support from project partners, a community Elder, workshop leader or leaders of groups that benefit from the project. Avoid support letters from community or audience members within the project.

A comprehensive budget:

- Use the application budget to detail the full budget for your project and including in-kind and other support. Provide as much detail as possible.
- For items above \$5,000 (excluding Artist Fees) attach three (3) quotes evidencing effective research of best value for money.
- For items above \$1,000 (excluding Artist Fees) attach one (1) quote confirming cost of item.

Information for Successful Applicants

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

If you or your entity has an Australian Business Number (ABN) and is registered for GST, your funding will be increased by 10% to cover the GST liability. If you or your entity has an ABN but is not registered for GST, any funding paid will not include a GST component. For goods and services that attract GST, include the whole amount in your budget.

Invoices and Payment

Council prefers electronic funds transfer as its payment option. If you have not received a grant before, a Supplier/Creditor Information form needs to be completed prior to the payment. This will be sent with your Letter of Offer. If your grant is being auspiced on your behalf, please arrange for the auspicing organisation to issue an invoice.

Variations

Funding must be used in accordance with the Funding Agreement and Letter of Offer. Any changes to the project activities, funding allocations or the project duration must be approved by Redland City Council. Requests for variations must be submitted via SmartyGrants and before the project end date. Funds expended on unapproved variations will be recalled by Council after the initial acquittal is received.

If there are significant changes to your project, please submit a Variation Request Form via SmartyGrants and await written confirmation from the RADF Liaison Officer. Significant variations in value or outcome will need to be approved by the Creative Arts Service Manager.

Reporting

Reporting is essential for reflecting on the success of your funded activity. It involves identifying key outcomes to determine the significant achievements of your project and examining the artistic, cultural, social, and economic impacts. Evaluating your practice allows you to review the benefits and challenges, learn from difficulties, and recognise areas for improvement and growth. Financial assessment ensures that your financial estimates align with actual spending.

Compiling documentation such as photographs, videos, press articles, attendee/participant numbers or brochures supports the report and provides tangible evidence of your project's impact. Failure to submit the required reports will result in ineligibility for future funding through Redland City Council, and you may be asked to repay the funds if you do not properly acquit your grant.

Stage 1: Progress Report & Meeting

1. Timing: Meet with the RADF Liaison Officer halfway through your funded activity and submit a progress report.
2. Purpose: Provide an update on the progress of your project and identify future opportunities.
3. Contents:
 - Status of the project.
 - Challenges encountered and how they are being addressed.
 - Preliminary outcomes.
 - Photographs and personal stories.
 - Budget Review.

Stage 2: Outcome Report & Acquittal

When to Submit

Please submit your Outcome Report within four (4) weeks of completing your funded activity.

Why It's Important

This report is used to acquit your grant—that is, to confirm how the funds were used and what outcomes were achieved. It helps us understand the impact of your project and ensures accountability for public funding.

What to Include in Your Report

Your report should provide a clear and comprehensive overview of your project, including:

- Key outcomes: What did your project achieve?
- Impact: Artistic, cultural, social, and economic benefits.
- Project evaluation: What worked well? What challenges did you face?
- Lessons learned: Insights gained and ideas for future development.
- Financial reconciliation: A comparison of your original budget with actual spending, including receipts, \$0 balance invoices or bank statement showing transfer between supplier.
- Supporting documentation: Photos, videos, media coverage, brochures, etc.

You'll also be asked to provide feedback on how your project aligned with:

- RADF objectives.
- Project details.
- Funding recipient Information.
- Previous RADF funding from this Redland City Council.
- Was your project aimed at any specific community groups.
- How your project contributed to one or more of the following Queensland Government priorities:
 - Transformational arts and culture for Brisbane 2032 and beyond.
 - Uniquely Queensland arts experiences.
 - Opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander creatives.
 - Building a future creative workforce.
 - Arts for all Queenslanders.
 - Sharing our stories and celebrating storytellers.
- Quantitative data such as:
 - Number of attendees.

- Number of participants.
- Number of artists/cultural workers employed.
- Number of other paid positions.
- Number of volunteers.
- Project partners (tick if relevant).
- % of attendees/participants who rated the activity as good or excellent.
- Number of survey responses collected.

Acknowledgements

Successful RADF projects must acknowledge the Queensland Government and Redland City Council in all marketing and promotional materials, publications and products. This includes using the RADF acknowledgment text and the logos provided to you by Redland City Council with your funding agreement.

Acknowledgement Text:

This project is supported by The Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) which is a partnership between the Queensland Government and Redland City Council to support local arts and culture in regional Queensland.

RADF Logo Style Guide:

Logo Size and Placement:

1. Minimum Height: The RADF lockup must be at least 15mm high on all collateral.
2. Proportion: The RADF logo must be 50% larger than any other logos present on the same material.
3. Placement: The logo should be placed in the front bottom righthand corner on all marketing and promotional materials, publications, and products.
4. Clear Space: Ensure there is sufficient clear space around the logo to maintain its visual integrity. No other elements should encroach within this space. The clear space should be equal to the height of the "R" in the logo.
5. Quality: Do not stretch, compress, or otherwise distort the logo. Always maintain the logo's aspect ratio.



Approval Process:

Once the logo and acknowledgment are 'in-situ' on your collateral, a formal approval process is required. Applicants must submit their materials for review to Council Officers to ensure compliance with the funding agreement. Only after receiving written approval can the materials be publicly released.

Resources

RADF:

- [Redland City Council Corporate Plan, *Our Future Redlands: A Corporate Plan to 2026 and Beyond*](#)
- [SmartyGrants Help Guide for Applicants](#)
- [General Information about Redland City Council Grants](#)
- [Arts Queensland: RADF case studies and criteria explained](#)

Other resources:

- [Apply for an ABN \(abr.gov.au\)](#)
- [Arts Queensland Data Dictionary \(glossary of terms\)](#)

