

YIRRAMBOI 2027/CRACKED

Form Preview

Applicant Information

* indicates a required field

Privacy Notice

We pledge to respect and uphold your rights to privacy protection under the [Australian Privacy Principles](#) (APPs) as established under the *Privacy Act 1988* and amended by the *Privacy Amendment (Enhancing Privacy Protection) Act 2012*.

Guidelines

CRACKED: A platform for new experimental works at YIRRAMBOI 2027

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

The Expression of Interest for YIRRAMBOI 2027 program **CRACKED: A platform for new experimental works** is now open.

Before completing this EOI, please ensure you have read the guidelines below.

Since 2017, YIRRAMBOI has commissioned and supported First Nations artists to create and present new work, and in doing so, has witnessed the ongoing constraints placed on practices that sit outside narrow, outdated expectations of what First Nations art should be. There is a clear and urgent need for platforms that hold space for experimentation, risk, and works in progress.

This program responds directly to that need, centring self-determination by resourcing artists to test ideas, challenge form, and expand their practice on their own terms. With CRACKED, YIRRAMBOI offers a culturally grounded and trusted context for this work, where artists can explore freely and audiences are invited to engage with the breadth and complexity of First Nations expression.

CRACKED: A platform for new experimental works is a self-determined platform that seeds new experimental works by First Nations artists, centring the time, care, and resourcing required to explore creative practice and build ambitious work from inception.

Six Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander artists from Victoria will be supported to create and present a 20-minute excerpt of new experimental work. These excerpts will be presented as two distinct **triple-bill showings under the two specific genres of experimental theatre and experimental dance at YIRRAMBOI Festival 2027.**

Selected artists will receive a **\$10,000 fee**, alongside mentorship from leading First Nations practitioners, rehearsal space, accessibility provisions, technical support, and industry connections.

YIRRAMBOI have a strong commitment to d/Deaf, Disabled, neurodivergent, and regional artists.

Expressions of Interest close Midnight 12 July 2026 AEST.

Who can apply?

- Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander artists based in Victoria
- Independent artists, collectives, community groups or arts organisations
- Artists working with a producer or with experience in producing their own projects

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Artists who have previously been awarded a YIRRAMBOI Commission are eligible to apply.

How do I apply? You can submit an Expression of Interest in the format that is easiest for you. You can submit the following formats through the Smarty Grants EOI system:

- Written
- Video
- Auslan
- Audio

Other methods of submitting include a phone call or online meeting that is transcribed by us. If you prefer to submit this way, please contact Sherene Stewart, Artistic Lead on sherene.stewart@melbourne.vic.gov.au.

If your project is shortlisted, you will be invited to pitch your project to the selection panel in person or online.

What do I need to apply? The types of questions asked in the Expression of Interest include:

- A brief bio of the artist or group applying
- What makes your work different - what's new, risky, or hard to categorise about your idea
- How you'll use your development time - your creative process and how the work evolves week to week
- A budget showing how you will use the \$10,000 fee including artist fees and production costs
- Examples of your previous work

[Frequently Asked Questions are available on the YIRRAMBOI website.](#)

Tips for using SmartyGrants:

- If you are a first time user of the City of Melbourne's SmartyGrants portal, you will need to register as a new user.
- Continually use the 'Save Progress' button at the bottom of each page so you don't accidentally lose all your work.
- Before logging out, use the 'Save and Close' button to save your progress and return to it later. Next time you log in, click on "My Submissions" at the top of the page to find your saved EOI.
- If you wish to download a PDF of your partially completed EOI, head to the Form Navigation panel on the right-hand side then click "Review and Submit". You may use either of the 'Download PDF' buttons at the top or bottom of the page. (Make sure you don't accidentally press 'Submit'!)
- Submissions are final. No further editing or uploading of support material will be possible after submission.
- You will know your EOI has been successfully submitted when you receive a confirmation email with a copy of your completed EOI.
- If you do not receive a confirmation email, this means we have not received your EOI. Go back to the form and make sure to press 'Submit' at the bottom of the 'Review and Submit' section.

For more tips and tricks on navigating SmartyGrants, use the [SmartyGrants Help Guide](#).

If you experience technical issues using this form, contact the SmartyGrants Help Desk on (03) 9320 6888 during business hours or email service@smartygrants.com.au and quote your application reference number.

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If you have questions about your application or would like to discuss your submission, contact Sherene Stewart, Artistic Lead on sherene.stewart@melbourne.vic.gov.au or 0455 659 959.

All the best you mob!

Applicant Details

Name *

| Title | First Name | Last Name |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |

Language Group/s *

Who's your mob?

Pronoun/s

- They/Them
- She/Her
- He/Him
- Other:

Do you identify as Deaf, Disabled and/or Neurodivergent?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

Do you have any access requirements you would like us to be aware of?

Contact email address *

Must be an email address.

Postal address

Address

You must be based in Victoria to eligible for this EOI.

Contact number *

Website or social media

About your project

* indicates a required field

Project Details

Use the sections below to submit written responses.

If you prefer to submit through audio or video, please include a link to the file in each section or upload as Support Material.

Project title *

Describe your project (max 300 words or 3 minutes). What is it about? What stories, themes or questions does it explore? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 300 words.

Reminder CRACKED Is for new ideas, you don't need to have it all figured out.

What art form/s does your project involve? *

- Experimental Dance
- Experimental Theatre
- Other:

Tell us about the art form/s you're working in or across e.g. dance, theatre, installation, sound, live art or something harder to name. What makes this experimental for you and your practice? *

Is there something about this idea that pushes against how you've worked before — or beyond what's expected of work like yours? Tell us what you're trying to do that feels new, risky, or hard to categorise.

Creative Process

CRACKED provides 3-4 weeks of rehearsal space and studio access between August 2026 and April 2027. Describe how you'd use that time - what you want to test, explore, or build toward. Walk us through your creative process: what's happening in the room week to week, and how does the work evolve from there?

*

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Word count:

Must be no more than 300 words.

Who are your key collaborators? List anyone you're planning to work with on this project - their name, mob, role, and a brief bio or description of their practice.

Note: A Lighting Designer will be provided for the presentation at YIRRAMBOI to ensure a smooth transition between the 20-minute excerpts.

If you haven't confirmed all your collaborators yet, that's okay - tell us who you're in conversation with or the kinds of people you're looking to bring in.

Accessibility

YIRRAMBOI are committed to disability justice and making the festival an accessible space for all mob.

We want to make sure both artists and audiences are fully supported. Tell us about any access requirements you or your collaborators have as artists, and any accessibility elements you plan to embed in the work itself — for example Auslan interpretation, audio description, captioning, or other provisions. YIRRAMBOI will cover the cost of access for both artists and audiences. *

Budget

Please submit a project budget using this [Budget Template](#).

Your project budget should include artist fees, development and production costs that are critical to your work, such as a Sound Designer or basic Set Design.

Note: YIRRAMBOI will provide 3-4 weeks of studio space, accessibility costs for artists and audiences, and a Lighting Designer to ensure a smooth transition between all three (3) excerpts in the triple bill showings.

A reminder your project **must** be ready to present a 20-minute excerpt by May 2027.

Attach a file:

Support Material

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Please include 1 - 3 examples of previous work i.e. video or photos, script excerpts, reviews of your work.

You can also provide stimulus material for this project such as storyboard, imagery, early-stage explorations.

Attach a file:

Attach a file:

Attach a file:

Must be a URL.

Must be a URL.

Must be a URL.

Certification

* indicates a required field

Confirmation

I confirm that:

- I am an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander artist based in Victoria
- I understand I must be ready to present a 20-minute excerpt at YIRRAMBOI 2027
- Another organisation does not have rights to the first premiere presentation of the project I am submitting and
- if selected, I have or will take out required insurances for the development and presentation of my project.

I agree *

Yes

No

Name of applicant *

Title

First Name

Last Name

Contact number *

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Contact Email *

Must be an email address.

Date *

Must be a date

How did you hear about this opportunity? *

Other: