



ARTIST IN RESIDENCE PROGRAM (AiR)

Theatre, Music, Dance, Spoken Word, Interactive, Transdisciplinary Works.

OUR MISSION

create | inspire | deliver

Our mission is to cultivate a vibrant cultural hub where the community thrives through creativity and collaboration.

At the heart of everything we do lies a strong belief in the transformative power of the arts and the boundless potential of community engagement.

We celebrate the richness of artistic expression and the power of human connection by fostering and investing in a community who gather, support, engage and celebrate the arts and live entertainment through experiences and events.

THE PROGRAM

Ipswich City Council (Council) launched an Artist in Residence (AiR) program in 2025 as part of the Hatchery creative incubator initiative. The program is designed to support artists in developing their skills, fostering a vibrant artistic community within our city, and building a strong and sustainable creative economy. The residencies provide opportunities emerging talent or an established artist/group to research, experiment, collaborate and develop new or existing work which promotes arts and cultural engagement.

The successful artist/s will work closely with Council to share their work with local audiences and will be required to provide a local outcome as part of the residency. This could include delivering a performance, a series of workshops, or mentoring of a local Ipswich-based emerging artist/s.

This residency aims to:

- support the development of new or existing work
- build a strong and diverse arts scene for local and visiting artists.
- support the cultural expression and professional development of local artists/creatives
- increase engagement with established artists to support the growth of the Ipswich creative sector
- showcase, build capacity, and celebrate Ipswich venues and foster cross-cultural networks and partnerships
- provide mentorship/skill sharing opportunities for established artists to connect with the local creative community



THE RESIDENCY PROVIDES

- Provide general support and advice wherever possible, including information about relevant arts funding available.
- Up to 6 weeks of development space at no cost, with flexible hours, around existent bookings in the Firestation 101 Main Space, Workshop Room and Office.
- A technical rehearsal, dress rehearsal and performance or workshop outcome at one of the venues.
- Access to available lighting, sound, and vision equipment in each venue and technical support (up to 12 hours).
- Marketing support (up to 8 hours) including website listing, social media promotion, design assistance, and electronic direct mail (eDM) support and space in the venue for posters.
- Management of ticketing services and customer service, for public performance / workshop outcomes.

THE VENUES

The artist in residence will have access to Council based venues including:

- Firestation 101 Office – office space including AV and furniture to suit up to five persons.
- Firestation 101 Workshop Room – workshop space including AV, furniture for rehearsals, public workshops, suits up to twenty persons.
- Firestation 101 Main Space – large rehearsal, performance or workshop space, including furniture, suits up to one hundred persons.
- Firestation 101 Content Room – recording space including mics, mixing desk, green/black/white background screens, some basic lighting, and furniture, suits up to four persons.
- Studio 188 – performance space including audio, visual and lighting tech (see venue tech specs), seats up to 99 persons

OUTCOMES

Artists are expected to produce the following outcomes:

- Performance or community engagement – sharing the work with local audiences and or delivering a series of workshops, masterclass or mentoring of a local Ipswich-based artist.
- A documentation of the process including imagery and written synopsis, for presentation.
- Evidence of community facing skill development, collaboration or another outcome.



WHO CAN APPLY

- All performing artists across all genres, at any level (i.e. emerging / mid-career)
- Locally based performing artists and arts organisations
- Artists from outside the region

SELECTION CRITERIA

The successful applicant will

- Provide a detailed summary of the creative work and the deliverable outcomes, along with a plan for how they will showcase their work, how they will document the process, and fulfill the community engagement component.
- Demonstrate a capable creative team, a defined scenic and technical vision, and a collaborative and creative approach with a strong artistic rationale that shows:
 - Feasibility: The capacity and experience to deliver a public outcome.
 - Value - that your concept/work is of a high quality that speaks to local audiences.
 - Resonance - contributes to the cultural identity of Ipswich as safe, inclusive, and creative city.
- Deliver works that highlight diversity, inclusion, and relevance to a local audience.
- Can provide opportunities for a diverse range of performers and crew.
- Maximise opportunities for set and design in our boutique venue.
- Respect Council's Vision and Values in a collaborative, creative and kind environment.
- We strongly encourage applications from artists that identify as Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander, culturally & linguistically diverse and/or have a demonstrated connection to Ipswich.