



Expressions of Interest February 2023

Kensington Neighbourhood House is launching an open Expression of Interest (EOI) process to find an artist or group of artists to facilitate an intergenerational community art project in Kensington, Victoria.

Key dates

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| 17th February 2023 | EOI opens |
| 17th March 2023 | EOI closes (submissions to be emailed to Rebecca.s@kenhouse.org.au by 9pm) |
| 31st March 2023 | Artist/s selected |
| April to Nov 2023 | Project takes place |

A bit about Kensington Neighbourhood House (KNH)

Established 1975, Kensington Neighbourhood House is a place for community members to connect, learn, and support one another. Our house is a community owned and managed organisation with a long track record of responding to the needs of Kensington residents, particularly those who experience barriers to participation. In 2022, we received a Melbourne Award for our outstanding contribution to supporting, connecting, educating and encouraging people to live their best lives.

You can read more about us on our website: www.kensingtonneighbourhoodhouse.com

Project overview

KNH has received funding from the City of Melbourne Council for a project called “From The HeART”

From The HeART will be a place-based, intergenerational, community art project focused on rebuilding social connections following pandemic restrictions. It will provide a creative focus for the Kensington community and allow participants to explore and reflect on their sense of belonging post covid - developing confidence, pride and a sense of resilience. Improving health and wellbeing for young and old.

This project will be run in partnership with the Kensington Community Children’s Co-operative (KCCC).

The final output will be a large scale 2D artwork across a section of hoarding in a local park.

The site

The Kensington Recreation Centre (corner of Altona Street and Kensington Road) is currently being redeveloped. The site is surrounded by construction hoarding – a blank canvas!

The Council is happy to provide a section of the hoarding for us to erect our artwork as long as the artwork is ephemeral or easily removable. City of Melbourne cannot protect against or rectify any graffiti to the artwork.

Dimensions: Approximately 210cm high. Length can be decided based on final design.



Project process

It's pretty straightforward:

1. Appoint a community artist following this EOI process. The artist will work with participants throughout the project.
2. Run 8 x 2-3 hour workshops pairing older generation community members with younger residents to create individual sections of the final artwork. (Various days and times – to be determined in consultation with community and artist)
3. Install final art work and hold a launch event for the whole community.

Participants will be engaged via ongoing KNH programs. We hope that the workshops will be mini-celebrations of Kensington life. Participants will reflect on what community means to them and share their stories.

Kensington Neighbourhood House will be responsible for identifying and enrolling participants. We will also organise suitable workshop spaces.

What we hope to achieve

Art enables people to share their experiences, thoughts, feelings and imaginations. It is a means by which people can express their sense of identity. It enriches lives by providing a way to see and experience the world through the eyes of others.

We hope that From The HeART will:

- provide a creative focus for participants to process the impacts of the pandemic and explore feelings of belonging;
- provide new, enriching creative experiences for participants;
- develop confidence, pride and a sense of resilience;
- provide an opportunity for inter-generational and cross-cultural communication;
- reduce social isolation and loneliness (The adverse effects of social isolation cannot be overstated and they apply across all age groups. Loneliness has been linked directly to multiple mental and physical health challenges and shorter life expectancy);
- improve mental health and wellbeing;
- increase participant's sense of belonging.

Eligibility

We encourage all artists/art organisations/collectives eligible to work in Australia and with a current ABN to apply. Kensington Neighbourhood House values access, equity and inclusion. We encourage artists from all backgrounds to submit proposals.

The artist selected for this project will require a current Working With Children Check.

Scope of work

The successful artist/s will be required to:

- Create an overall design for the artwork. We are open to creative ideas and have no set vision in mind, however the nature of the site will suit large scale, 2D artwork – mural, paste up etc. We are committed to sustainability so would prefer minimal waste. Use of recycled materials would be great but not essential. (See Attachment for some examples of work we like).
- Manage a series of 8 collaborative workshops with participants of varied ages. Potentially 10 to 12 participants per workshop. Children will be aged 4 to 15. Many participants will be from culturally diverse backgrounds and some participants may have physical or mental health challenges.
- Install the final work.

Note: staff from KNH will be responsible for documenting the project, including taking photographs and videos

Budget

\$9,000 excluding GST

Including all project costs – artist/s fee, design of artwork, running the workshops, materials and equipment, final installation of the work.

Submission

Essentially we would like to get an idea of what you plan to do and how you propose to do it. How would you go about running community workshops culminating in a public artwork?

Please include the following in your submission:

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| A short bio. Who are you? What experience have you had with community art projects? | 200 words maximum |
| Artists CV | Please include 2 referees |
| A proposal for how you would manage this project, from collaborative workshops to installation of the work. Include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Ways you would encourage conversation and connection between workshop participants.✓ A description of the type of artwork you would pursue (medium, materials and equipment needed).✓ Specifics of how the work would be installed (and how it could be removed/re-homed when necessary). | 800 words maximum |
| Your availability | Are there days/times/months when you will be unavailable? Can you work on evenings or weekends if needed? |
| Examples of your previous work | 1 PDF page of images max (you may also provide links to a website or social media) |
| An itemised budget | Artist fees (planning, workshop facilitation, installation etc), materials, equipment. |
| Copy of your current public liability insurance | Submissions will be accepted without current insurance but insurance will be required prior to any contract being signed. |

Submissions should be emailed to Rebecca.s@kenhouse.org.au by 9pm on Friday 17th March, 2023

Selection criteria

When assessing submissions, we will be looking for:

- The proposal's merit in meeting our project goals (refer "What we hope to achieve" on page 2); including how well the proposal will engage and connect participants.
- Feasibility of the proposal (is it practical to achieve?)
- Experience in previous collaborative community art projects

Fee schedule

Payment will be made in two stages:

- 50% paid on acceptance of final design, commission of artist and signing of contract.
- 50% paid on completion and installation of the artwork.

Artist responsibilities

We will require the commissioned artist to:

- Manage and deliver the project within the required timeframe (end Nov 2023)
- Work in accordance with community development principles
- Consult and liaise with KNH staff as required
- Undertake site visits
- Hold all licences for elevated work platform use if necessary
- Follow Safe Work practices throughout the project

Contact

If you have questions about this EOI or the project in general, please contact:

Rebecca Smith
Manager
Kensington Neighbourhood House
03 9376 6366
Rebecca.s@kenhouse.org.au

In the spirit of reconciliation, Kensington Neighbourhood House acknowledges the traditional Owners, the Wurundjeri and Boon Wurrung people of the Kulin Nation, on whose land we meet, share and work. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and acknowledge that we benefit from the rich teaching and learning that has been taking place on this land for thousands of years.

The Kensington Neighbourhood House is committed to the safety and wellbeing of children and young people accessing our service. We support the rights of the child and will act without hesitation to ensure a child-safe environment is maintained at all times. We also support the rights and wellbeing of our staff and volunteers and encourage their active participation in building and maintaining a secure environment for all participants.

ATTACHMENT A. SOME EXAMPLES OF COMMUNITY ART WE LIKE (but this is in no way prescriptive!)

