



## Expressions of Interest Information

### ABOUT THE LIVING ARTS SPACE

*The **Living Arts Space** is operated by the Bendigo Visitor Centre and is located at the front of the majestic historic Post Office building, in Bendigo's Pall Mall. The Space offers professional Central Victorian creatives somewhere to showcase their work through carefully curated exhibitions. These exhibitions are greatly enjoyed by visitors and locals alike. As an active exhibition space, it also seeks to provide the region's artists and makers with the opportunity to present demonstrations, performative works, workshops and artist talks.*

The Bendigo Visitor Centre is recognised nationally for its excellence as a leader in visitor services and is a central hub for tourist information, accommodation services and unique local regional arts displays. The centre welcomes over 100,000 people through the doors every year.

Exhibitions are thematically designed by the curator of the Living Arts Space or result from a successful application through the Expression of Interest process. We welcome expressions of interest from artists and makers across the Central Victorian. Participating in an exhibition is free of charge with exhibitions running for 6 -10 week periods. These time frames allow for artists to gain exposure and generate interest in saleable works.

### WHAT DO WE EXPECT FROM EXHIBITING ARTISTS?

#### **Fees and Charges:**

The Living Arts Space has been established to create a conversation between local Bendigo residents, visitors to the region and local creatives. The decision to welcome artists to exhibit free of charge is done so that both early career and established artists and makers have an equal opportunity to utilise the space. The space does however need to generate a revenue to be able to continue to operate and so a 35% commission is taken from works that are sold during an exhibition and from any ticketing sales that are generated in relation to an exhibition. For example; workshop participation fees, artists talk tickets etc. Exhibitors are required to price items for sale inclusive of the Living Arts Space's 35% commission and are asked to consider this 35% commission when establishing workshop fees etc. The Living Art Space is also happy to offer guidance to artists concerning these matters. This 35% commission is deducted from the total of sales made at the end of the exhibition period.

### **Promotion of the Exhibition:**

The Bendigo Visitor Centre conduct publicity and advertising campaigns for each exhibition. The cost of these marketing initiatives is covered by the Living Arts Space with no cost to the artist. This includes the development and distribution of all graphics for communications such as postcard flyers, posters, signage and social media. Press releases are sent out to through the council media networks and the Living Art Space mailing lists receive regular exhibition and event updates. In return artists are expected to support this effort with their own marketing campaigns through their own connections and social media platforms.

Most exhibitions will also include an opening event that is managed by the Living Arts Space Curator and Bendigo Visitor Centre Manager. Artist are required to promote and attend these openings.

### **Artwork delivery, collection and communications.**

Artist are responsible for the delivery and pick up of their work to the gallery. It is expected that artwork will be provided on time to the gallery for the installation of an exhibition and collected in a timely manner at the exhibition's conclusion. Clear communication is imperative to the success of an exhibition and the Living Arts Space expects professional conduct and communication throughout the planning, installation and conclusion of the exhibition process.

## **EXHIBITION SCHEDULE**

Throughout the year the Living Arts Space holds 5 exhibitions. These are group and individual exhibitions and artists are invited to apply to the gallery for both. All group exhibitions are designed with a thematic approach however, artists are encouraged to apply with their own concepts and or themes that they wish to explore and present in the space. All curatorial decisions are made by the Living Arts Space curator working closely with the artists. Please note that the following thematic themes for the exhibitions are working titles and not the final title of each exhibition.

*The following is a calendar of the 2021/22 exhibition schedule:*

*19<sup>th</sup> April - 20<sup>th</sup> June 2021 8 week Group Exhibition – **Pattern/Colour/Shape**  
Applications for this exhibition are due by the Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2021*

This exhibition calls for applications from artists who work with pattern, colour and shape. Repeat pattern, random pattern, pattern of any scale. Colour ways, colour exploration, muted, bright, bold or subdued. Random shape, symmetric geometrics, asymmetric abstracts. Works are welcome in any medium from works on paper to textiles and sculptural work.

*28<sup>th</sup> June - 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2021 7 week Exhibition - **Annual First Nation's Exhibition**  
Applications for this exhibition are due by the Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2021*

This exhibition is only open to artists with a first nations background who reside in the Greater Bendigo Region. The Living Arts Space extends this invitation to artists who wish to have a solo exhibition or from two artists wishing to exhibit together. Artists who reside in the Greater Bendigo region who's first nations background is not indigenous to this area are also encouraged to apply for

this exhibition. Please also note that first Nations artists are also encouraged to apply for any of the other exhibition opportunities throughout the year.

*September – November 2021 10 week Group Exhibition – **Bendigo Botanica***

*Applications for this exhibition are due by the 30<sup>th</sup> April 2021*

This exhibition is a call out to artists who are inspired by the flora and of the Greater Bendigo Region. These works can be influenced both by native and introduced flora. Works are welcome from any medium and at any scale.

*November – January 2022 10 week Group Exhibition – **Small Scale – The Details***

*Applications for this exhibition are due by the 30<sup>th</sup> April 2021*

Are you an artists who likes to work small scale? This exhibition is an exploration of works that highlight the intricate details. Works are welcome from any medium working at a small scale.

*February - March 2022 7 week Exhibition – **Individual Artist***

*Applications for this exhibition are due by the 30<sup>th</sup> April 2021*

This exhibition will showcase the work of an individual artists wishing to have a solo exhibition in the space.

## **APPLICATION PROCESS**

Artists are requested to apply to exhibit in the Living Arts Space via an online application. The link to this application can be found here on the Living Arts Space webpage.

Applications must include the following:

**Artist Bio** - An artist bio of no more than 300 words.

**Artist CV** – A CV that outlines your experiences as an artist or maker. Please note that it is not a requirement that you have had an extensive exhibition practice to be able to exhibit in the Living Arts Space. This CV may detail exhibitions, performances, commercial work, product stockists etc. No longer than 1 A4 page.

**A link to your website, online folio and/or Instagram OR 3 high quality images** of your work that you think clearly represent your practice.

**Expression of Interest Statement** – This statement will outline in no more that 300 words, the exhibition that you wish to express interest for. It is fine to express an interest in different types of exhibiting opportunities. The following is a list of examples of ways in which you can exhibit work in the Living Arts Space.

- An individual exhibition – exhibiting as a solo artist in the space.
- An artist with a first Nations background wishing to apply to have an individual Exhibition.

- A group exhibition where the curator has set the theme and organised the collaborating artists – Please indicate which of the above thematic exhibitions that you are interested in being a part of.

You may apply to exhibit artwork, design work or craft, hold a performance, create an installation or perhaps a combination of these elements. Please also inform us if you would be interested in also running workshops, giving demonstrations or holding artists talks.

### **SENDING THE APPLICATION**

The application is to be compiled online. You will receive a confirmation email to inform you that the process has been successfully completed.

### **APPLICATION OUTCOME**

You will be notified via email as to the outcome of your application. A successful applicant may receive an invitation to be a part of an exhibition in the next 12-month calendar. If you are successful but your work is not suited to the specific Exhibitions that are planned in the next 12 months, then you will receive an invitation to become an Artist Member of the Living Arts Space which means that the curator will keep your application on file until a suitable exhibiting opportunity arises in the future. Unsuccessful applicants will also be notified.

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### **Amy Carr-Bottomley**

*Visitor Experience Office – Curator of the Living Art Space*



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*The City of Greater Bendigo is on Dja Dja Wurrung and Taungurung Country.*