Frequently Asked Questions: Magnetic Places Grant

This is a supporting document to the Magnetic Places Grant Guidelines. It will assist with preparing applications and delivery of activities. This fact sheet contains definitions for key terms and frequently asked questions about Council's expectations of applicants and successful recipients.

PENRITH CITY COUNCIL

Penrith City Council |
PO Box 60, Penrith NSW 2751 Australia |
T 4732 7777 | F 4732 7958 penrith.city

Definitions

Accessible spaces

Public spaces that are easily and readily accessible to people of all abilities which ensures inclusivity and participation from diverse community members. These spaces may include local community centres, parks etc.

Co-authorship

A collaborative process where artist/s and local community contribute towards the development, implementation and outcome of an arts initiative. Each participant is recognised as a co-author and the process ensures that their knowledge, experiences and perspectives are valued and integrated into the final outcome.

Key neighbourhoods

In 2006, Penrith City Council dedicated additional funding to support improvements in older established neighborhoods. The Neighbourhood Renewal Program including the Magnetic Places Grant must spend funds in key neighbourhoods, which are: ***Cambridge Park, Colyton, Cranebrook, Kingswood, Kingswood Park, Llandilo, Londonderry, North St Marys, Oxley Park, Penrith (excluding Penrith CBD), St Marys and Werrington.***

Key sites

Defined as local or neighbourhood space where people gather. Council is interested in the activation of sites which bring local people together at a neighbourhood or residential level. Examples include local parks or playgrounds, local shopping strips, or local community centres with public access. Sites listed for the installation of artistic works, activation events or celebrations of creative work generated through a Magnetic Places Grant must be publicly accessible.

Frequently Asked Questions

For further information regarding Penrith City Council's Community Funding Program, please view the 'Frequently Asked Questions: Community Funding Program' on the Grants Webpage under 'Key Documents.'

Am I eligible for this grant?

You are eligible if you are one of the following:

- A professional artist or creative entity with an ABN
- An incorporated group, collective or organisation
- An unincorporated group or collective that has evidence of auspice from an incorporated organisation with an ABN.

Local artists are encouraged to apply.

How much money can I apply for?

You can apply for any amount up to $15,000. The total amount of funds available for allocation under Magnetic Places is $50,000. All amounts are exclusive of GST.

You don't need to apply for the maximum amount – it's best to apply for the amount needed to make your activity happen.

What types of activities are eligible for funding?

- Practice across various art forms including visual arts, performance, digital media, sculptures, installations, and more.
- Activities led by artists with experience, or an interest, in community engaged practice.
- Place-based activities in collaboration with community.
- Activities that creatively integrate art and culture into everyday public spaces.
- Creative arts workshops leading to an activation event or series of events.
- Activities that are free for the community to participate in.

All funded activities must be delivered in key neighbourhoods as outlined above.

Do you have any examples of eligible activities?

Yes. Below are some examples that demonstrate strong placemaking practices/components:

Dear Tree by Rose Turtle Ertler

Residents were invited to get comfy in their gardens or local park and use their phones to record audio letters, starting with 'Dear tree…'. Using these 'letters' to nature, artist Rose Turtle remixed them with ambient park sounds recorded in Kingswood to create a unique sound composition. Art activation visitors were able to immerse themselves in the Dear Tree sound space as they stood or sat beneath the trees in

Coachmans Park and were surrounded by the composed sounds of local voices and spaces.

Postcards From Home by Fusion Western Sydney

Printed postcards were freely available in various locations in St Marys that invited residents to share their reflections on life during lockdown. Community groups especially embraced this project, including it in their program of activities as restrictions eased. Completed postcards were 'posted' back via distinctive white mailboxes in St Marys Library and Fusion café, and artist, Kathleen Travers, transformed received postcards into beautiful installations.

An Instagram account @postcardsfromhomearchive was developed to celebrate the stories captured. Also visitors to the art activation enjoyed the Postcards From Home outdoor gallery of large-scale prints in Coachmans Park.

Pathway to Connection - Diamando Koutsellis and NCNS (Nepean Community and Neighbourhood Services)

Cranebrook residents of all ages and cultures created an arts installation. Pathway to Connection transformed a busy thoroughfare into a vibrant visually appealing space. Residents created ceramic masks and painted silhouettes to represent culture and identity. The project generated strong positive feedback from participants who reported increased sense of belonging, improved social connectedness and new skills.

When do I need to submit my application by?

Please view the grant Community Funding Snapshot and Key Dates here for information regarding grant timelines.

Am I able to submit more than one grant application?

No. Applicants are only able to submit one grant application per grant round unless also acting as an auspice. The Magnetic Places Grant is open once per year. Please note that applicants that possess the same ABN will be regarded as coming from the same organisation.

When will we find out if we are successful? When will we receive the funds?

You can expect to be notified of the outcome of your application approximately 12 weeks from when application submissions close. Successful applicants will be given 2 weeks to sign and return their funding agreement alongside any specified funding conditions. Funds will then be distributed within approximately 2 weeks.

When can we run our activity?

Eligible activities must be held:

- Round 1 – October of the application year to October of the following year
- Round 2 – May of the application year to May of the following year

I'm an artist interested in partnering with local organisations on an activity. What do I do?

In the first instance, search up contact details online for the local organisation you're interested in partnering with. The Neighbourhood Renewal team can also assist in connecting you with various local organisations (see contact details below).

Do I need to recognise Council's contribution?

Yes. Recipients are asked to acknowledge Council's contribution on promotional material. Please request Council's logo when you are preparing your promotional material. Logo use must be signed off by Council. Please allow one week in your planning for approvals.

We have another question – what can we do?

Please contact the Neighbourhood Renewal team by calling 4732 7777 or emailing neighbourhoodrenewal@penrith.city

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