

Connecting Places

Small Halls Commission



REGIONAL
ARTS
VICTORIA

About Connecting Places

Regional Arts Victoria's Connecting Places programs support **creative** communities.

These programs are designed for arts committees, small community halls, neighbourhood houses and other regional community organisations, both emerging and established, to collaborate with regional artists. Together, they build skills, confidence and strong community connections.

RAV knows that small halls are the beating heart of regional communities.

KEY INFORMATION

OPPORTUNITY FOR EXPERIENCED COMMUNITY PRESENTERS

RAV is offering one opportunity for an **experienced** Community Presenter to partner with a locally based artist or company in their region.

The Small Halls Commission is a funded opportunity for a flexible residency style development process, where a small hall can work with a local artist or creative organisation to develop a new work.

This program is designed to:

- Grow relationships between presenters and artists in regional communities.
- Support regional artists or companies to create new work in their home town.
- Enable creative practice to flourish in regional locations.
- Provide Community Presenters with the opportunity to act as co-producers of a new Australian work.
- Provide opportunities for a regionally based premiere of new Australian performance work.

This opportunity is a joint application from both the Community Presenter, and a locally based artist or creative organisation. Together they will create a work that delivers a public outcome in two or more communities in their region.

The public outcomes do not need to be a fully finished production. They could be a:

- Work-in-progress showing.
- A staged reading.
- Presentation that shares the creative development.
- A staged performance.

This program is a pilot that aims to foster partnerships between regional artists and local Community Presenters so that creative works are developed "at home" with the support of local audiences. We know the value of Community Presenters and their contribution to small regional towns. This program recognises the potential for partnerships which will develop opportunities for new, regionally created works.

Successful applicants will receive a grant of \$15,000 and mentorship from RAV staff as appropriate.

KEY DATES

Monday 9 March: Guidelines Released

Monday 23 March: Expressions of Interest (EOIs) Open at 9am

Wednesday 1 April: Online Information Session held via Zoom at 5.30pm.

Registrations required: [Click here](#)

Sunday 26 April: Expressions of Interest (EOIs) Close at Midnight

Thursday 21 May: Applicants notified of outcomes via email

Week of 25-29 May: Program Commencement / First Meeting

Monday 1 June: Program Participants Announced


June 2026 - June 2027: Creative Period and mentor support from RAV

May 2027: Presentation of public outcomes (This must occur before May 31 2027)

June 2027: Grant acquittal due

How to Apply

Applying for the Small Halls Commission

1. Applications must be submitted through application form: **[CLICK HERE](#)** 
2. You can **[download an application drafting tool here](#)**. This helps you prepare your answers before submitting. You will still need to copy and paste your answers into the application form when you apply.
3. We accept answers in different formats to support accessibility and different communication styles. For each written question, you can upload an audio or video recording of up to three (3) minutes instead of writing your answer.
4. If you have trouble uploading a file, you can share a Google Drive or Dropbox link to your response. Please make sure **touring@rav.net.au** can access the file.
5. You must answer every question. You can answer in writing, audio, video, or a mix of formats.
6. You must not go over the word count limit, but you can write less if you wish. If you are submitting an audio or video response, please make sure it stays within the time limit.
7. If you have questions about the program or how to apply, an **information session** will be held online on **Wednesday 1 April at 5.30pm** and available to access on RAV's website after that dates. **Registrations required: [Click here](#)**
8. If you have any questions, please **book a phone appointment** to discuss your application **email touring@rav.net.au** with your query. Bindi or Stephanie will be happy to help.
9. Applications close at midnight on **Sunday 26 April**. Late applications will not be accepted.

ELIGIBILITY

WHO CAN APPLY

This opportunity is open to experienced Community Presenters with a track record of presenting performances or other cultural experiences in their community. Performances or cultural events could be live performances, exhibitions, film screenings or other cultural activities.

Community Presenters eligible for this program must meet ALL of the following:

Location and Classification

- Located in regional Victoria, Australia and classified MMM2 or above (to check your classification, [please click here](#))

Organisation Type

- An incorporated association OR be auspiced OR operating a for-profit entity with annual turnover of less than \$1m

Programming & Activity

- Able to demonstrate experience in presenting an annual program of professional performing arts activities, such as live performances, exhibitions, film screenings or cultural activities.
- Has the capacity to deliver an outcome in May 2027

Venue and Community

- Operates in a small venue (e.g. community hall, neighbourhood house, mechanics institute, town hall or multipurpose space).
- Can demonstrate strong local community connection and audience engagement.

Funding

- Does not receive organisational or multi-year funding.

PARTNERSHIP REQUIREMENT

- Applications must be submitted in partnership with a local artist or creative organisation (e.g. theatre company, visual arts group, dance company, choir, etc) which should complete the attached Artist Confirmation Form to support the application. Find the **Artist Confirmation Form here**.
- The organisation and artist or company must be based within 50km of the presenting organisation. This opportunity is designed to enable artists to develop new work within their local area.
- Applications submitted by only one party will not be considered.