



CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Supporting the development of new creative ideas and projects

The Theatre Royal is seeking proposals from Tasmanian artists for RAWspace.

RAWspace will seek and develop new performance and public engagement projects that have the potential to be presented in our venues, public spaces, or on digital platforms.

RAWspace is delivered by the Theatre Royal in partnership with Performing Lines TAS and supported by City of Hobart.

WHAT IT IS:

RAWspace is a program aimed at supporting Tasmanian artists to develop new work. It will diversify the type of work the Theatre Royal presents and the audiences we reach.

We are seeking to support projects that will engage audiences or the general public through live performance or performance installation, working in any art form. Proposed projects may have an intended outcome in a venue, site, or digital platform.

Works can be at any stage of development and, while an outcome is expected at the end of the program, this could take the form of a research sharing, work in progress showing, or public performance.

We expect to support four artists, or groups of artists, in 2022.

WHAT WE OFFER:

- **Funding of up to \$5,000 per project**
 - Funds will contribute to creative fees, materials and/or production costs (you will need to provide a project budget - see below).
 - No funding from other sources is required.
 - Theatre Royal will provide the Studio Theatre as a development space, with limited access to technical equipment and some technical support – to be negotiated, depending on project requirements.

- **Development & presentation space**
 - The Theatre Royal's Studio Theatre will be available to each project for up to two weeks, pending availability (see below).
 - Office space may be available, depending on requirements and capacity.
 - Other Theatre Royal spaces can be made available, depending on project needs, and the theatre's operational requirements.

- **Access to mentors and industry professionals**
 - Advice and support will be available on aspects of performance, marketing, technical production and project management. Note, this assistance will need to be scheduled with TR staff in advance and is contingent on their availability – successful applicants will be responsible for managing their own projects.

- **An opportunity to present a work-in-progress showing, or a public performance**
 - All projects will share the outcome of their development in a suitable format, which could include:
 - a talk/presentation of research or concept development;
 - a short showing, or excerpts of work-in-progress; or
 - a full performance.

The main purpose of the presentation will be to facilitate critical feedback from professional practitioners, producers and technicians. Artists may also like to present work to the general public, seek feedback from audiences, or test audience engagement strategies.

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

The RAWspace Program is open to:

- Individual artists and groups of artists at any stage of their career, and project-funded companies.
- Lead artists must be residents of Tasmania.
- It is understood that artists may be working with or receiving support from a company in receipt of annual funding, however, proposals will only be accepted from the individual artist and not the funded company.

WHAT TYPE OF WORK WILL BE CONSIDERED?

We want to support the development of new work or provide the space and resources to realise an existing work in development.

We are interested in performance works that, at some point, intend to have a public outcome. Projects may be at any stage of development and we encourage diverse form and content.

WHAT TYPE OF WORK WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED?

We are not looking for:

- Work that has had a previous public outcome.
- Work that has a scheduled public outcome.

SPACE AVAILABILITY

Several periods throughout 2022 have been made available in the Studio Theatre for artists participating in RAWspace. These include:

2 – 8 May (1 week)

16 – 29 May (2 weeks)

18 – 30 July (2 weeks)

31 Oct – 27 Nov (4 weeks)

In discussion with successful applicants, we anticipate two opportunities for sharing/presenting work – at the end of July and at the end of November.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

We encourage proposals from artists from diverse cultural backgrounds, people with disability, and LGBTQIA+ artists.

HOW DO I APPLY?

Proposals should include the following information:

- **Project description** (500 words max.)
 - What is the idea?
 - What is the form of the work?
 - What development has already taken place?
 - What creative outcomes are you seeking to achieve through RAWspace?
- **Audience engagement** (250 words max.)
 - Who is your intended audience (if you have one yet)?
 - What will be the audience experience?
- **Project management**
 - Provide a timeline outlining the proposed development process – please refer to space availability above and identify a range of preferred periods if you intend to use the Studio Theatre.
 - Give a brief overview of any technical requirements you might have, noting Theatre Royal will provide basic needs (the space and work lights), while additional resources will need discussion with our Operations team and possibly a budget allocation.
 - Provide a budget outlining project expenditure, any income sources received or expected, and the amount requested through RAWspace (max. \$5,000) – a template is available to download if you need one.
- **Support material**
 - Please provide artist bios and some examples of key collaborators' previous work, as well as any existing material for your proposed project.

Email your proposal as a pdf document to rawspace@theatreroyal.com.au by 5pm Monday 28 March 2022.

WHAT HAPPENS TO MY PROPOSAL?

A selection panel, chaired by the Theatre Royal, will consider all proposals. Applicants will be notified of the outcome by 14 April 2022.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please contact Simon or Don on 03 6146 3313 or rawspace@theatreroyal.com.au

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Will the Theatre Royal produce successful projects?

Theatre Royal does not currently have the capacity to produce new work, however, we will work with artists to identify the most appropriate resources and process required to realise their project.

Will the Theatre Royal present successful projects?

We are interested in presenting new work within our Annual Season and hope that RAWspace projects will contribute to our program. However, projects don't need to be developed to this stage yet. There are a range of factors that we consider when curating our program, which we will discuss with creative teams and consider as your work develops.

If I take up this opportunity must the work be presented by the Theatre Royal?

No, not everything will be relevant or suitable for the Theatre Royal. Part of the program will be helping successful projects realise the most appropriate long-term production ambitions and how to achieve those. Future presentations of the work will require an acknowledgment of support received through the RAWspace program.

What venues would Theatre Royal present work in?

We have two theatres – the 698-seat main stage and 284-seat Studio Theatre. We are also keen to use other spaces in and around our building, particularly in The Hedberg. Off-site works are also a possibility.

Can I use areas like the loading dock and bring the public into it?

Possibly. This will depend on the production schedule across our venue and what you would like to do. Use of the space and some equipment may require an induction or supervision.

What do you mean by “any art form”, or “diverse art forms”?

We're trying not to be too prescriptive. We know that the type of work artists are making, and the ways they are making it, are constantly changing and being redefined. The interests and demands of audiences are also continually changing.

While we would like to support performance projects that engage audiences in some way, they could take a range of different forms, including:

- Devised performance
- Text-based plays
- Dance
- Spoken word
- Performance lecture
- Musical theatre or cabaret
- Performance installation
- Digital outcomes, including VR/AR projects
- Radio plays or podcasts
- Multidisciplinary projects

You don't have to fit into a category, just tell us what your form is and how people will experience or engage with that.

What if I don't know who the audience for my work will be?

Don't panic, you don't need to know everything yet. We have asked applicants to identify potential audiences or audience experience because, ultimately, we are interested in work

that engages with the public in some way, either as audience members or participants. Your idea might not have reached that stage yet but at some point we want you to think about and develop an audience for your work.

I've already received funding, is my project still eligible?

Yes it is. We won't discriminate against projects with or without funding, as long as you can demonstrate that you have adequate resources to undertake the project and that artists are being paid.

We are a company with annual funding, can we apply?

We are prioritising support for artists and small companies who don't currently receive annual funding. If you receive annual funding to develop and present work, we should have a separate discussion about how you might partner with the Theatre Royal.

What technical equipment is available?

Here's a [link](#) to what we have available in the Studio. We will discuss any requirements excess to the space and work lights to ensure availability, and appropriate personnel are available to assist set-up or operation. We will help by providing in-house support where we can, but the extent of this will depend on the project. For example, if you have a work that has a high level of tech needs and requires constant operation, you will probably need to factor in a tech or production manager within your team and budget.

If I have my own technician, can they operate Theatre Royal equipment?

This will depend on the equipment and personnel. As a rule, use of our equipment requires supervision from Theatre Royal technical staff. We have allocated some technical support to each project, however, and will work with you to assess your requirements, available equipment, the capacity of personnel, and any other requirements around training or supervision.

Are there any conditions around the period of development?

No, it really is up to you and what you think the project needs at this stage. We have said a maximum of two weeks so that we can support several projects, but you might only need a couple of days. You could also consider splitting time across periods, having a couple of months between days/weeks.

Will I still own the copyright in my work?

Yes, you will. We will have an agreement with you that explicitly states artists retain all intellectual property rights, and moral rights, in work they create.

Does marketing support include photographer for a hero image?

No, it does not. This would need to be an external contractor who you would have to source and pay for. We can help with some great contacts though.

My collaborators are outside Tasmania? Is there reliable internet inside the venue?

Yes, we have great wifi, which will be made available to your team.

What kind of support can you offer regarding performance, dramaturgy, set design, film and projection advice?

It is best that you factor creative expertise and collaborations into your plan and team. We can certainly help identify potential collaborators or advisors and, where possible. As mentioned above, all projects will share the outcome of their development. We would hope to use a showing to facilitate critical feedback from professional practitioners, producers

and technicians. Artists may also like to present work to the general public to seek feedback from audiences, or test audience engagement strategies.