

Festival of Pacific Arts and Culture (FestPAC) – Expressions of Interest

About the program

The Australia Council for the Arts is calling for expressions of interest from individuals, groups and organisations to be part of the Australian delegation to the 2024 Festival of Pacific Arts and Culture (FestPAC).

The Festival of Pacific Arts and Culture (FestPAC) is the Pacific's largest regional cultural gathering of First Nations People and one of the largest cultural gatherings in the world.

The 13th FestPAC in Hawai'i 2024 will feature live performances, cultural workshops, hands-on demonstrations, film, storytelling and more, exemplifying the diversity of traditional and contemporary arts and culture across Oceania.

The event will also underscore the urgent issues the Pacific face – from rising sea levels, climate change, sustainability and the death of coral reefs to widening social inequality – as a way to illuminate our path toward the future.

The festival theme, Ho'oulu Lāhui: Regenerating Oceania is an intention and commitment for each of us to engage in thoughtful actions, small and big, to inspire and enrich our homelands and peoples.

As a celebration of the First Nations Peoples of the Pacific and their traditions, language and culture FestPAC brings together artists, cultural practitioners, scholars and officials from the 27 member nations of the Pacific Community.

Australia's artistic program will respond to the Festival Theme of Ho'oulu Lāhui: Regenerating Oceania, will be representative of the richness and diversity of Australia's First Nations Arts and Cultural practises and regions, and include both traditional and contemporary presentations.

Eligibility

- Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander individuals, groups and organisations
- Available to travel to Hawaii, USA between 1 – 17 June 2024
- A current passport valid until January 2025
- Are eligible to obtain a USA visa for travelling to Hawaii, (see more information at US Visa requirements)
- Have no current or previous criminal convictions (US entry requirements)
- Be 18 years or over at the time of Festival

You cannot apply for this opportunity if:

- you have an overdue grant report
- you owe money to the Australia Council

Who can apply

Australia's artistic program will respond to the Festival theme of Ho'oulu Lāhui: Regenerating Oceania, be representative of the richness and diversity of Australia's First Nations Arts and Cultural practises and regions, and include both traditional and contemporary presentations.

Expressions of Interest should consider the Festival's foundational values and relate to the following programming categories:

- Performing Arts – music, dance, drama, storytelling and poetry.
- Visual Arts – drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, ceramics, architecture and photography. Artistic proposals from Artists and/or Artistic teams are encouraged.
- Heritage Arts – fibre and other weaving, dye preparation and traditional cloth, adornment (feather and shell work), tatau, pottery, carving (wood/stone/bone). Traditional Elders program.
- Culinary Arts – showcasing entire culinary process from planting and harvesting to preparation, cooking and consumption. Ceremonial and ritual foods, everyday consumption and food sovereignty.
- Film, New Media, Fashion and Design – Film screening series, moving images, full length features, documentaries, short films and animation. Fashion and adornment.
- Conferences and Symposia – sharing of research and scholarly presentations, discussion of cultural practise, networking and collaboration opportunities. Inclusive hub of innovating thought and practise, solutions to challenges discussed. Social and emotional wellbeing discussions, traditional medicinal practice, martial arts, talks, ideas, universities and colleges.
- Expo and Festival Marketplace – Arts & crafts for sale and entrepreneurial exhibits
- Youth Ambassadors Program – a program within the festival for youth (18- 30 years) representatives to connect, share and collaborate with each other on projects undertaken in their home countries in the year leading into the festival.

Additional Australian delegation requirements:

- Australian Delegation Branding – Logo and design for the Australian delegation uniforms and merchandise. EOI's should consider the festival theme and be representative of the diversity in Australian First Nations Arts and Culture. Textile designers are encouraged to apply.
- Photography – an official First Nations photographer will be included in the delegation. EOIs from photographers should include example of work and experience in the Arts and Culture sector and extensive understanding of First Nations Protocols but are not required to respond to the festival theme.

Assessment

The Artistic Director – Australian FestPAC program, Industry Advisor and Australia Council staff will be considering expressions of interest against the assessment criteria.

This opportunity is for existing work, new commissions will not be considered.

Assessment Criteria

Under each criterion are bullet points indicating what the Assessment Panel members may consider when assessing your expressions of interest. You do not need to respond to every bullet point listed.

1. The cultural significance of presentation and/or performance

- adherence to relevant cultural protocols
- clear articulation of creative process
- partnerships and/or long-term sustainability

2. The artistic and/or cultural merit

- vision, ideas and artistic rationale
- level of innovation, ambition, experimentation and risk-taking
- significance of work within area of practice

3. Presentation/performance that compliments and connects to the festival theme Ho'oulu Lāhui: Regenerating Oceania

- relevance and timeliness of work
- evidence of considered consultations and engagement with participants and communities where applicable
- Impact of inclusion in the FestPAC program to community and sector

In the application form

- Name of Artists/Group/Organisation
- Type of performance/presentation
- Details of performance/ presentation
- How does your performance or presentation align with the Festival of Pacific Arts 2024 theme
- How many artists/performers included in your presentation or performance
- Duration of performance
- Details of cultural objects, adornments and other materials that will be required as part of your performance/ presentation including, artefacts, head dress, feathers, ochre, plant, animal and marine based materials etc

- Detailed production budget (note: all successful delegates will receive a fee and allowances to attend)

Required Support Material

- Brief bio or curriculum vitae (CV) for artists or group and/ or additional personnel involved
- Provide a list of all individuals involved in your group
- Upload as an attachment: Technical Requirements and Stage Plan including Lighting, Audio (sound) equipment and stage equipment
- Performance or presentation support material URL's (weblinks), video, audio, images and written material.

How to apply

To apply log in [here](#) to our Application Management System (AMS) if you have an account. You can create an account if you do not already have one.

1. Select 'Apply for a Grant' from the left panel menu.
2. From the list of opportunities select 'Apply for the FestPAC'
3. Complete the fields and select answers with dropdown menus
4. Upload any necessary support material
5. Select 'Save' once complete
6. If you are not ready to submit your application you can return to it through 'Your Draft Applications' in the left panel menu at a later date
7. Otherwise select 'Submit'

Contact

To discuss your application, please contact Michelle Wong, Projects Officer on firstnationsarts@australiacouncil.gov.au or 02 9215 9171.