

## Relevant Information for Council

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**FILE:** S117676 **DATE:** 21 June 2018

**TO:** Lord Mayor and Councillors

**FROM:** Ann Hoban, Director City Life

**THROUGH:** Monica Barone, Chief Executive Officer

**SUBJECT:** Information Relevant To Item 8.3 - Grants and Sponsorship – Round One 2018/19 – Cultural Grants – Cultural and Creative Grants and Sponsorships and Sponsorships and Festivals and Events Sponsorships (Artform)

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### Alternative Recommendation

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council adopt the recommendation as detailed in the subject report to the Cultural and Community Committee on 18 June 2018 except for the Festival and Sponsorship (Artform) Sponsorship to the Sherman Centre for Culture & Ideas Limited; and
- (B) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to determine the Festival and Sponsorship (Artform) Sponsorship to the Sherman Centre for Culture & Ideas Limited, in accordance with Clause 4.19 of the City of Sydney Code of Conduct.

### Purpose

To provide further information to Councillors about recommendations for Round One 2018/19 of the Cultural and Creative Grants and Sponsorship program and the Festivals and Events Grants and Sponsorship program.

## Background

At the meeting of the Cultural and Community Committee held on 18 June 2018, four Councillors declared a significant, non-pecuniary interest in the Festival and Sponsorship (Artform) Sponsorship recommended for the Sherman Centre for Culture & Ideas Ltd. It is understood the Lord Mayor has the same interest. Given this would result in the loss of a quorum, staff are proposing a revised recommendation to enable Council to determine the grants for Round One 2018/19 of the Cultural and Creative Grants and Sponsorship and Festivals and Events Sponsorships (Artform) with the exception of the Festival and Sponsorship (Artform) Sponsorship to the Sherman Centre for Culture & Ideas Ltd, which is recommended to be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer for determination, in accordance with Clause 4.19 of the Code of Conduct.

### Information relating to the recommendation for Head On Photographic Festival

Head On Festival is an annual, collaborative, cultural festival consisting of various photo-media art exhibitions, events and workshops for artists, residents and visitors across the City.

Head On has applied to the City through the Festivals and Events Sponsorship (Artform) cash and value-in-kind for the 2019 – 2021 iterations of the festival.

The application is recommended for support with reduced amounts as follows:

Cash Requested	VIK Requested	Cash Recommended	VIK Recommended
Year 1 - \$50,000	Venue Hire fee waiver to the value of \$66,000	Year 1 - \$25,000	Venue Hire fee waiver to the value of \$54,500,
Year 2 - \$50,280	Street Banner hire fee waiver	Year 2 - \$20,000	Street Banner hire fee waiver to
Year 3 – \$51,600	to the value of \$13,200 for three years	Year 3 - \$15,000	the value of \$7,500, for three years

The City has had an ongoing relationship with Head On Photo Festival since 2010.

In 2017, the festival consolidated the spread of events and delivered a more focused event with stronger outcomes. The proposal presented suggests the event will seek to expand in the next few years.

In recent years, Head On has diversified its funding through securing support from Woollahra Municipal Council since 2016. This is believed to be a key avenue of funding in order to expand the event further. The organisation has also been successful in the past in gaining State Government support.

The level of funding recommended takes into account:

- the limited funding available in the program's budget, as awarding the full amount requested would reduce the City's ability to support future projects. For example, awarding the full amount for 2018/19 would result in \$8,000 being available for Round Two for the same year; and
- other listed sources of income for the festival, including:
  - Australia Council for the Arts - \$25,200 – unconfirmed - to be advised beginning August 2018
  - Woollahra Municipal Council - \$40,000 – unconfirmed - to be advised end June 2018
  - Proposed income earned from the festival - \$55,000.

The City's recommended funding for the first year is similar to the amount requested from the Australia Council.

The City also provides significant fee waivers in the form of street banners and venue hire at a premium time of year for this venue. The combined cash and value-in-kind support recommended is valued at \$87,000 in year 1, \$82,000 in year 2 and \$77,000 in year 3.

### Information on the available funding for the advertised Round Two grants program

The draft budget for the Festivals and Events (Artform) category is \$3,292,500, however, \$3,124,050 of this is allocated to previously approved grants as follows:

Organisation	Project	2018/19 Cash Funding	2018/19 Value-in-kind support
The Sydney Festival Limited	Sydney Festival 2018-2020	\$1,400,000	\$450,000
Biennale of Sydney	Biennale of Sydney 2015 - 2021	\$654,050	\$50,000
The Sydney Writers' Festival Limited	Sydney Writers' Festival	\$370,000	\$160,000
The Sydney Film Festival	Sydney Film Festival	\$260,000	\$350,000
Newtown Entertainment Precinct Association	The Sydney Fringe Festival 2017-2019	\$220,000	\$50,000
Kaldor Public Art Projects	Kaldor Public Art Project 2016, 2017, 2018	\$150,000	\$0
Australian Art Events Foundation	Art Month Sydney 2017 - 2019	\$50,000	\$0
Sydney Improvised Music Association Incorporated	Sydney International Women's Jazz Festival	\$20,000	\$0
	Totals	\$3,124,050	\$1,060,000

The unallocated budget for Round One totals \$168,450.

Eight of the 12 projects recommended for support in Round One include cash recommendations totalling \$135,000. If approved, this will leave \$33,450 for Round 2, currently open to applications and closing on 23 July 2018. For comparison, in Round Two for this program in 2017/18, Council received cash requests totalling \$315,500 and approved \$105,502.

### **Information relating to the recommendation for the Hoop Project in Woolloomooloo**

Artspace/visual Arts Centre Ltd plan to engage artists Alfredo and Isabel Aquilizan to create a month-long embedded community project in Woolloomooloo, Sydney, Australia and Bataan, Philippines. The contemporary artists will develop a community-led design initiative to create a site-specific installation and socially engaged programming around basketball courts in the two locations.

This project plans to work simultaneously across two basketball courts in Bataan, Philippines and Woolloomooloo, Australia by creating site-specific installations and using integrated programming accessible to the local communities. The sculptural form of the work will be adapted to each site, led by consultation and collaboration with each local community. The architectural installation will operate as a place-making platform in order to activate the basketball court and surrounding environment and offer a gathering point for community and visitors.

The project aims to celebrate the local and the global 'neighbourhood' around the shared and social experience of basketball. The project will provide a unique opportunity to connect Bataan and Woolloomooloo basketball and youth communities by facilitating the sharing of experiences through livestream diaries and via social media platforms.

This is an opportunity for local groups at both sites to celebrate the cultural diversity of their region. This work will develop upon a rich connection and foster meaningful exchange with communities in the Philippines and provides an exciting opportunity to promote the rich connections through strong contemporary art practice.

Artspace aims to use their existing relationships with local Woolloomooloo services, including not-for-profit Charity Bounce for the project. Charity Bounce is an organisation that seeks to inspire positive change to overcome disadvantage for individuals and communities through basketball outreach.

The request for funding from the City is in support of the local Woolloomooloo elements only. Bellas Artes Projects will support the cost and logistics of the project in the Philippines. The assessment panel advises that Artspace has developed a strong connection with disadvantaged communities in Woolloomooloo and that the project clearly aligns with the City's grant priorities to increase creativity in public, open avenues for creative participation and amplify the character of city villages.

### **Information relating to the recommendation for Onto It Media Pty Ltd**

Onto It Media Pty Ltd has applied to the City through the Cultural and Creative Grants and Sponsorship Program for their project "Sydney Venue Toolkit". The project is recommended for \$26,000.

Since 2008, Onto It Media provided business and stakeholder consultancy, innovative web based and software services, and practical support to the arts, culture, community and media sectors.

Onto It Media plans to develop a website, which can be used by artists, curators and venues free of charge, to improve and increase live performance venues and spaces across the City. The website (or 'Toolkit') will provide administrative, logistical, compliance, technical, policy and marketing information to assist Live Performance Programmers to improve and increase the quality and diversity of Sydney's live performance, events, activities and culture.

The panel highly recommended this application as:

- It strongly aligns with the City's Live Music and Live Performance Strategic directions. The applicant demonstrates a high level of research and development. The toolkit breaks down complexities and barriers that deter venue operators programming live performance.
- Unlike other Toolkits and applications in the market, this project will focus on the administrative and logistical barriers deterring venues from programming live performance, and not just showcasing artists' profiles.

### **Information relating to the recommendation for Redfern Legal Centre**

Redfern Legal Centre has applied through the Cultural and Creative Grants and Sponsorship Program for their Aboriginal Artwork Commission project. The project is recommended for \$10,000.

Redfern Legal Centre seeks funding to commission an Aboriginal artwork by a local artist to display at the organisation's client-facing front office and to use in brochures and publications. Redfern Legal Centre plans on commissioning a local artist to develop the work through their contacts with the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council, local organisations and their own Aboriginal Specialist worker. Support for this artwork aligns with the City's Reconciliation Action Plan and Community Legal Centres NSW's objectives to ensure the cultural safety of client environments.

Whilst the assessment panel noted the application is a relatively simple project, they recognised the sound cultural impact and both practical and ephemeral outcomes for the service, its clients and the local community. This small amount of funding could make a real difference to this important community service, and provide a local contemporary Aboriginal artist with a commission and an audience for their work.

### **Memo From Ann Hoban, Director City Life**

Prepared by:           Jeremy Kelshaw, Manager Grants

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Approved



**MONICA BARONE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**