

HOME GROUND

A professional development program for regional artists to help them produce a solo exhibition at the Western Plains Cultural Centre.

**APPLICATIONS CLOSE 5PM
FRIDAY 10 April 2026.**



WESTERN PLAINS CULTURAL CENTRE



OVERVIEW

Submissions are now being sought from artists wishing to take part in the **HomeGround** program at the **Western Plains Cultural Centre (WPCC)**, Dubbo. This program provides emerging regional artists with the opportunity to work alongside a professional curator to extend their practice resulting in a solo exhibition of their work in a high-profile exhibition space. Artists living within a 200km radius of Dubbo (*refer to Figure 1 below*) are invited to submit a proposal that outlines their exhibition; including concept or body of work and example images of work to support the proposal. Successful applicants will work closely with the **Curatorial team** to realise their exhibition.

HomeGround is limited to emerging artists from **Central West Region of NSW Only**. The **HomeGround Program** classes an emerging artist as someone who is in the early stage of their career, generally the first five years of their professional practice. They have created a small independent body of work and have exhibited in a few solo or group shows in low profile exhibition spaces. The **WPCC** will evaluate the eligibility of applicants, as emerging based on their attached CV and images of previous body/ies of work. The assessment panel will be the final judges of these criteria. The panel is comprised of a member of the **Dubbo Regional Council Cultural Development Team** and a rotating panel of individuals such as an independent arts administrator/curator and a member of the wider arts community.

Submissions should briefly outline the aim of the exhibition and its proposed scope. It is requested that the exhibition contain at least 50% new work i.e. proposals featuring **ONLY** completed work or previously exhibited work will be deemed ineligible. The aim of **HomeGround** is to provide the opportunity for artists to collaborate and work alongside a curator to develop their exhibition. Similarly, the exhibition should be unique to the space, as artists will be provided the opportunity to tailor and shape their exhibition under the guidance of the WPCC Curatorial Team. Applications should demonstrate artworks made principally by the artist's own hand, while acknowledging that post-modern reframing and reinterpretation are valid methods of contemporary artistic authorship.



A Journey: Jennifer Moore
Studio Visit, HomeGround
8 November 2025 – 22 February 2026



Sowing and Sewing: Clementine Belle McIntosh
Installation view, HomeGround
7 June – 31 August 2025

It is a requirement of entry into this program that you have discussed your proposal with the **WPCC Curator Officer**. A contact is provided with this application form.

Artist's submissions will be judged based on the following criteria:

Assessment Weighting	Criteria	Explanation
60%	Concept	A clearly articulated and well-considered concept, which outlines the themes and ideas that the artist wishes to explore in their proposed exhibition and the medium in which this will be done.
20%	Body of Work	Images of examples of work that reflect the initial stages of the concept, indicate a connection to the concept or theme, and/or demonstrate exploration of similar material forms.
20%	CV	A CV that clearly outlines the accomplishment and/or previous professional development opportunities that have been undertaken i.e. solo or group shows, mentorships and residencies
Meets Requirement/Doesn't Meet Requirement	Artist Location	It is a requirement of this program that artists must live and/or practice within the geographical parameters of a 200km radius from the center of Dubbo. Artists who do not will not be eligible to apply. Artists are asked to contact the WPCC Curatorial Team if they are unsure whether they qualify.



Ornibiography: Jodi Cramond
Installation view, HomeGround
25 May – 15 September 2025



Bookish:Tina Pech
Installation view, HomeGround
1 March – 25 May 2025

Applications close **5pm, Friday 10 April 2026** (or postmarked), we strongly recommend online submissions via our website, otherwise submissions can also be mailed in writing to:

Curator (Arts and Culture, Dubbo Regional Council)
Western Plains Cultural Centre
PO Box 81
Dubbo NSW 2830

Name.....

Address

Contact Number Email

CHECKLIST

Please ensure that you have provided the following with your application; these are all prerequisites:

- Name and best contact details.
- Submission outline (not longer than 2 pages). This should clearly articulate your exhibition proposal.
- Brief Artist CV (no more than 2 pages).
- A maximum of 10 images clearly labelled with your name, medium, date and dimensions of the work. Images should be provided as separate jpeg images OR as a PowerPoint presentation. Digital images preferred but printed photographs will also be accepted (please contact Curator to discuss if you are unable to provided digital copies).
- \$45 application fee, paid via 123tix link (found on website).
- Consultation DRC Curator

Signed:_____

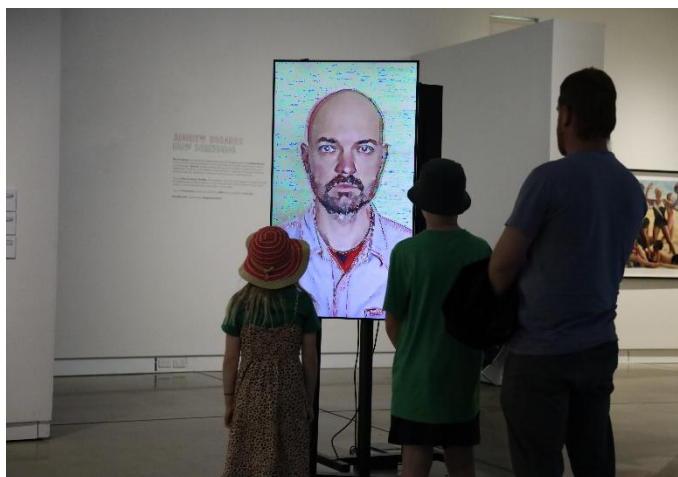
Date:_____

The personal information that Western Plains Cultural Centre (WPCC) collects through this form is protected by the Privacy Information Protection Act 1998. Your contact details will not be used for any purpose other than to communicate with you regarding services the WPCC, or services determined by the WPCC & partners (Orana Arts Inc) from time to time, as being relevant.

Concept – Provide a clear summary of the overall concept, explaining the purpose and intention of the idea and how you hope to achieve and/or communicate this through your work. In doing this you should identify the central themes and explain why these are relevant and/or significant to your artistic practice, as well as how you aim to develop these through your work. Also mention any cultural, historical or theoretical contexts that are informing and influencing your practice within this concept.

Body of Work – Provide a selection of images of examples of work that clearly represent the concept's early development and how you are working towards it. Choose work that demonstrates your style and technique, exploring how you want to convey this concept through your work.

Artist CV – An artist CV or resume that highlights the artistic and professional opportunities you have previously undertaken. This should outline any solo or group exhibitions you have participated in; as well as any mentorship programs, residencies or other professional development opportunities you have undertaken. The goal of the CV is to provide a clear picture of your current artistic practice, allowing the assessors to judge if you are considered an emerging artist at this stage of your career.



Now Screening: Andrew Robards
Installation view, HomeGround
30 November 2024 – 23 February 2025



Can You Hear What I See?: Kate Kenworthy
Installation view, HomeGround
27 May - 30 July 2023

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Are there limitations to the types of Artworks?

We welcome a wide range of mediums, including but not limited to painting, sculpture, photography, installation, digital art and mixed media. However, artworks must be feasible to install within the gallery space and not require any materials or processes that cannot be managed safely.

Who is on the assessment panel?

The assessment panel is comprised of the DRC Curator and at least two external members of the New South Wales Art Sector.

What is the definition of an emerging artist?

The term “*emerging artist*” typically defines anyone who is in the first five years of Professional Practice as an artist. This may include someone in the first five years after graduating from their tertiary study of Visual Arts/Design, or within the first few years of working professionally as an artist. They usually have created a small independent body of work and have exhibited in a few solo or group shows in low profile exhibition spaces. The WPCC will evaluate the eligibility of applicants based on their attached CV and images of previous body/ies of work. It has no relation to the age of the artist.

I have exhibited in the Western Plains Cultural Centre before, am I eligible for HomeGround?

HomeGround is intended as a Professional Development Program for regionally based emerging artists living within a 200km radius of Dubbo LGA. The main aim of HomeGround is for artists to be mentored and guided by the curatorial team when developing their concept, producing their body of work and then exhibiting their work in a public gallery space. Due to the limited places available, priority will be given to artists who have not had the opportunity to exhibit within the Western Plains Cultural Centre.

Is there a fee to apply?

Yes, there is a fee of \$45 per applicant, which can be paid via the following link [HomeGround Application 2026 Tickets - 123 Tix](#)

Will feedback be provided to unsuccessful applicants?

Feedback will be provided to all unsuccessful applicants at the end of the assessment period.

If I was unsuccessful in a previous HomeGround application, can I apply again?

If you were unsuccessful in a previous HomeGround application round, you are welcome to apply again. We encourage artists to take on-board the feedback they received on their previous application and to take the opportunity to refine your concept, strengthen your proposal and showcase any new developments within your practice since your last submission.

What if I have trouble filling out this application, or have further questions?

Please contact the Curatorial Team from the WPCC who will be happy to assist.

CONTACTS

Please contact any of the people below if you would like to discuss your application and/or if you need assistance.

WESTERN PLAINS CULTURAL CENTRE

Contact: Curator (Arts and Culture Team, Dubbo Regional Council)

76 Wingewarra Street

PO Box 81

Dubbo NSW 2830

Ph. 02 6801 4434

natasha.lunniss@dubbo.nsw.gov.au

westernplainsculturalcentre.org