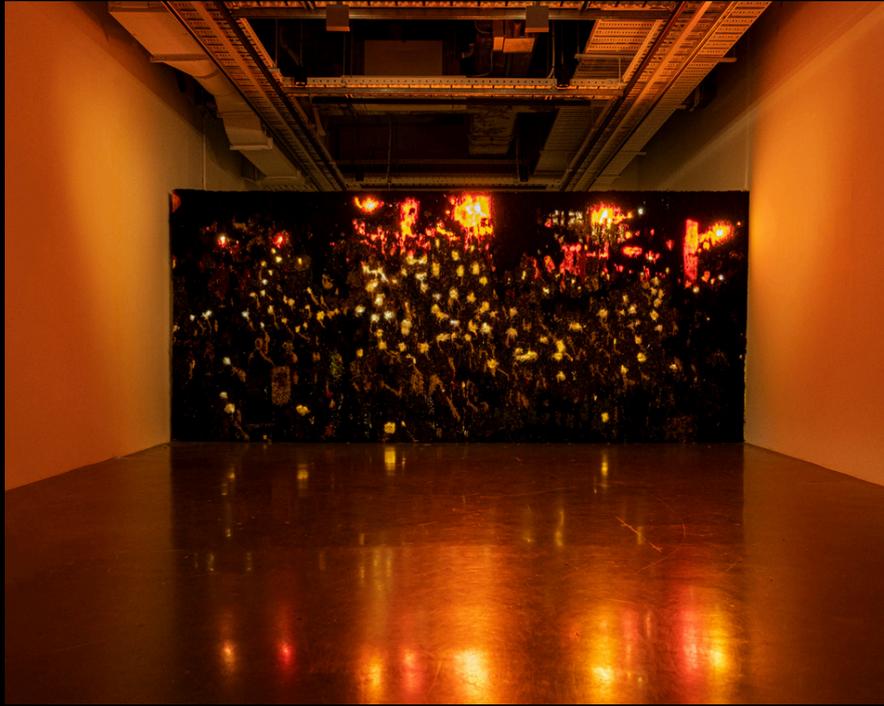
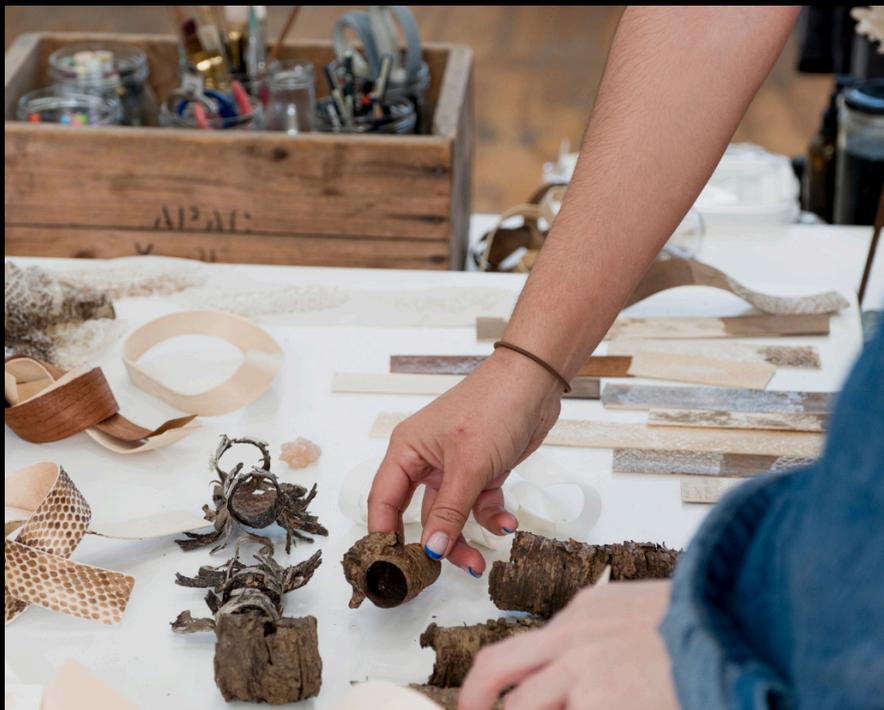


Metro Arts



ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE 2026



APPLICATION PACK

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Metro Arts pays its respect to the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we work and create. We honour the story-telling and art-making at the heart of First Nations' cultures, and the enrichment it gives to the lives of all. Metro Arts recognises the importance of story and expression in the process of truth-telling, and we commit to support First Nations Peoples on this journey.
Always was. Always will be.

ABOUT METRO ARTS

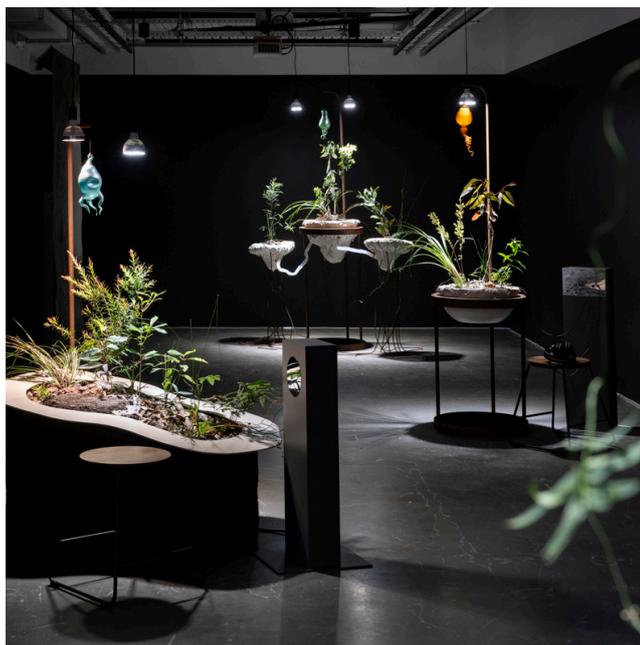
ART STARTS HERE

Metro Arts is Queensland's home for artist development in contemporary and experimental practice. For over forty-five years, we have backed artists to take risks, enabled ideas to take form, and supported practices that continue to shape the cultural life of this country.

We work with future-focused artists to experiment, disrupt and evolve their work, with early investment and rigorous collaboration from process to presentation. Through time, space, resources and critical care, we build skills, test new approaches and steward work towards sustainable pathways - locally, nationally and beyond.



Metro Arts is a place of discovery and exchange, connecting artists, audiences and communities to cultivate an open, resilient arts ecology that responds to the present while imagining possible futures.



In 2026, Metro Arts is embarking on a deliberate “REWIRING” of our operations, programming and partnerships. This transformational process is strengthening internal systems, deepening philanthropic relationships, embedding entrepreneurial and sustainable practices, and refining strategy to better support artists and future-focused practice. These efforts lay the foundation for the organisation's next chapter as we approach our 50th anniversary and Brisbane's Cultural Olympiad for the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE PROGRAM

Our 2026 Artist in Residence Program offers future-focused artists the opportunity to work with the organisation; utilising dedicated space to develop their practice and create new work.

The Program offers time and space to experiment, make and exchange with peers, with curatorial and organisational support. Our ambition is that our residency space is one of mutual exchange and dialogue - with studio visits, open days, crits, arts community gatherings and open experiments to share and celebrate process.

With residencies from 6-12 months in duration, there is no expectation of a finished outcome - but we are open to discussion about future exhibitions in our 2027 program with the new bodies of work in development.

THE AiR PROGRAM HAS FOUR OPPORTUNITIES

Mid-Career Artists x 2

- For artists with a significant body of work, seeking support and space to investigate new approaches in a community-minded residency model;
- 12 month residency, May 2026 - April 2027;
- \$3,500 stipend;
- \$500 event budget;
- 7am-10pm access to shared studio space;
- 4 days total of access to the MAVA Warehouse fabrication facilities;
- Curatorial and professional development support from Metro Arts' Curator & CEO; and
- Option for long-lead planning for 2027 Metro Arts exhibition.

Emerging Artists x 2

- For artists in the early stages of their practice or fresh out of university looking for their first studio;
- 6 month residency, May-November 2026;
- \$250 event budget;
- 7am-10pm access to shared studio space;
- 2 days total of access to the MAVA Warehouse fabrication facilities; and
- Curatorial and professional development support from Metro Arts' Curator & CEO.

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

Metro Arts supports future-focused artists - reframing, reinventing and reinterpreting form. Artists who are ambitious, curious and unafraid. Who lean towards possibility. Who imagine possible futures.

We are looking for high quality, ambitious proposals that demonstrate:

- An engagement with contemporary art practices/contexts;
- A research or studio practice that will be developed during the residency;
- Artists suited to the available space and communal focus;
- Openness to critical discourse and to engagement with the Metro Arts community; and
- Artists who are self-directed and motivated to pursue independent work on their practice.

Applicants should intend to actively and regularly use the space during the term of the residency, and to explore solo and shared approaches to open the space to community through talks, events and experiments.

Please note that the residency does not include accommodation of any sort. The spaces offered are work-spaces only.

Artists in Residence must have Public Liability Insurance to the value of \$20 million. Metro Arts is happy to work with successful applicants to secure PLI.

If you have specific access needs, and require more information about the spaces, please feel welcome to contact Metro Arts before applying so we can discuss your requirements.

Metro Arts is committed to engaging with a diverse range of artists within our programs and encourages applications from members of the creative community across spectrums of ability, age, race, gender identity and sexual orientation.

ABOUT THE SPACE

MAVA Warehouse

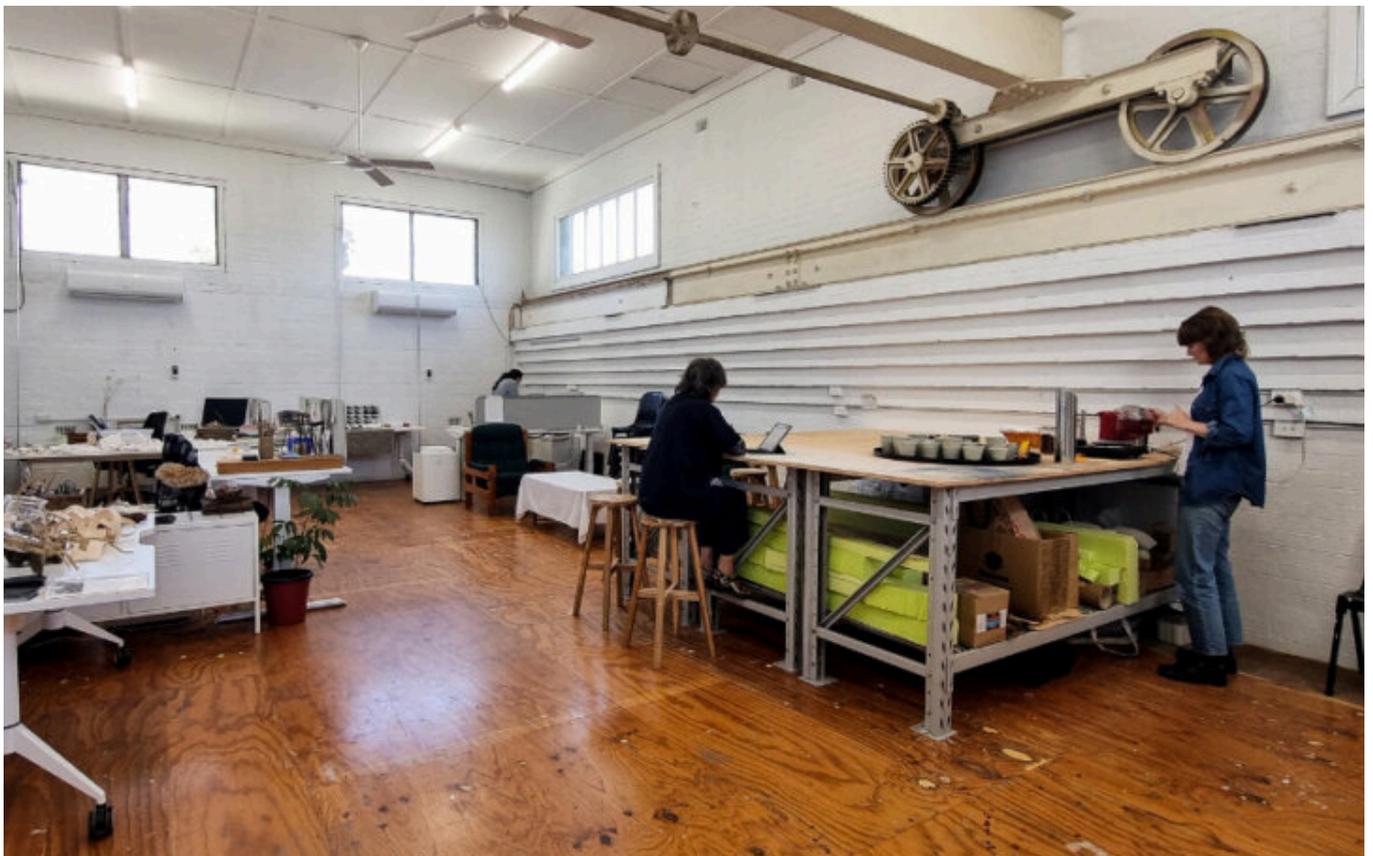
Norman Park Substation

97 Wynnum Road, Norman Park

Formerly known as Substation No. 9, the MAVA Warehouse was used to supply power to Brisbane's long-forgotten tram system. Occupied by Metro Arts since 2007, it now plays home to our artist residency program and our well-equipped workshop for metalwork and woodwork.

While the workshop facilities occupy the lower floor, the upstairs of this heritage-listed building is for exclusive use of our Artists in Residence.

A large, well-ventilated shared space with good light and high ceilings, the space is a new home for our Artist in Residence program - a program with a rich legacy across multiple locations that has previously supported artists such as Robert Andrew, Jean Barth, Anastasia Booth, Dacchi Dang, Caitlin Franzman, Alice Lang, Micah Rusticelli, Bianca Tainsh, Warraba Weatherall and Elizabeth Willing.



HOW TO APPLY

To apply for Metro Arts' 2026 Visual Arts Residency Program, please complete the online application form, available on our website or [this link](#). Please ensure you have read this application guide carefully before commencing. The application can be saved and completed in a later session if you are logged into a google account.

The application form includes:

- Basic questions such as your contract details and short synopsis about your work/proposed residency;
- Upload of attachments (see details below); and
- Data and Demographic questions (for our reporting requirements only).

ATTACHMENTS YOU WILL NEED TO PREPARE FOR YOUR APPLICATION:

1. Residency Proposal

Your proposal should be 1 - 2 pages long and must address the following:

- An Artist Statement, including brief outline of the idea/s central to your; proposed residency;
- How this opportunity will contribute to your development as an Artist; and
- What you are intending to explore during the residency.

2. Artist CV

Your artist CV should be 1 page.

3. Support Material

Please submit material that best supports your application and proposed residency.

- Support Material can be up to 15 pages long. Any included video or audio files should be total 10 minutes.
- All attachments should be provided as a PDF. Images should be included in the PDF, along with any links to footage or other online content.
- Please ensure the link to any Google Drive/Dropbox folders have correct permissions to allow **anyone with the link** to access the folder/file.

File Naming:

Please use the following file naming convention when uploading your attachments to ensure ease of assessment:

- 'Applicant surname, Applicant First Name_Attachment Name'.
For example: *Smith, Lesley_Program Proposal*

HOW TO APPLY CONT.

SELECTION PROCESS:

Applications are assessed considering:

- **QUALITY:** How compelling is the concept? How rigorous is the artists' process?
- **SUITABILITY:** Is the project contemporary practice? Does it embrace experimentation? Is the focus on process, exchange and development?
- **IMPACT:** Is the process timely for the artists' development? Does it have the potential to benefit other artists and communities?
- **CAPABILITY:** Has the proposal evidenced the skillset, experience, or ability to develop necessary for their project? Where working with relevant content matter, do they articulate and display understanding of First Nations protocols, with appropriate permission and consultancy?

APPLICATIONS CLOSE: 13 APRIL 10AM (AEST).

If you have any questions about the Artist-in-Residence Program, please contact Metro Arts' CEO Kieran Swann via business@metroarts.com.au or (07) 3002 7100.

Applicants will be notified of outcomes by **27 April**. We may contact some applicants for a brief phone conversation to finalise decisions.

OUR PARTNERS

Government Partners



Dedicated to a better Brisbane

Metro Arts is supported by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland; and Brisbane City Council. Metro Arts Visual Arts (MAVA) Substation is assisted by Brisbane City Council.

Programming Partners



Print Partner



Media Partner



Strategic Partner



Corporate Partner



Partners



Metro Arts gratefully acknowledges the generosity of all our donors.
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Metro Arts