

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST



NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

Metro Arts



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 45 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.

Metro Arts has a long history of contributions to the national arts ecology including:

- Established as a grassroots home for contemporary, experimental and community art in 1980
- Partner presenter on the inaugural Brisbane Festival (1996)
- Brisbane’s first framework to support independent theatre, The Independents (2002-13)
- Australia’s first arts business incubator, BizArts Makers (2003)
- Long-term Artist-Run-Initiative incubator, supporting Boxcopy, No Frills*, inbetweenspaces, Cut Thumb (2008-2017)
- A reputation as an early “incubator for emerging black creatives” (Roxanne McDonald)
- Partnerships with national organisations including ACE Gallery, Performance Space, The Mill, Vitalstatistix, firstdraft, Ten Days on the Island; and local partners BlakDance, the churchie, BEMAC, QPAC, Brisbane Festival and Brisbane Portrait Prize
- A home and incubator for small arts organisations including Kooemba Jdarra, Aboriginal Centre for Performing Arts, Backbone Youth Arts, debase, Brisbane Writers Centre, and many more

...and an alumni list including significant artists and performance makers Wesley Enoch AM (Chair, Creative Australia), Jamie Lewis (Co-Chair, NAVA), Archie Moore (Gold Lion, Venice Biennale 2024), Roxanne McDonald (AD, Kooemba Jdarra), Daniel Evans (AD, Queensland Theatre Company), José Da Silva (Director, UNSW Galleries), Gemma Smith, Vernon Ah Kee, Leah Shelton, Liesel Zink, Dead Puppet Society, Counterpilot, and CEO Kieran Swann.

In 2026-27, 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.



Image1: Metro Arts, 2025. Photo by Georgia Haupt.
Image2: *Unveiling Shadows*, 2025, Joshua Taliani. Photo by Georgia Haupt.

ROLE OVERVIEW

Metro Arts is seeking four (4) visionary, dedicated individuals to join its board at this pivotal moment. This is a unique opportunity to help guide the organisation's growth, resilience and leadership, and to make a lasting impact on the future of contemporary and experimental arts in Queensland and beyond.

We are looking for individuals who embody our values and can bring strategic insight in one or more of the following areas:

- Knowledge and understanding of local, state and national arts policy directions, impacts and opportunities for Metro Arts
- High-level experience in the strategic positioning and growth of cultural organisations in a complex operational context
- Knowledge of First Nations cultures, histories, and contemporary perspectives, experience working respectfully with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, understanding cultural protocols, and supporting initiatives that embed First Nations voices and leadership in organisational practice
- Experience and financial acumen to evaluate and oversee financial statements and understand key financial drivers of the business and experience to evaluate the adequacy of financial risk and controls
- Experience in philanthropy, sponsorship and fundraising and developing high level strategic partnerships
- Experience in PR/marketing including engagement with, identifying and developing established and new audiences, relationships and opportunities
- Experience in people management, HR strategy or organisation culture, particularly fostering inclusive, supporting and high performing workplaces

Prior board experience is welcomed but not required. What is essential is a strong alignment with our values of innovation, inclusion, and artistic courage.

JOIN US

As a Metro Arts board member, you will:

- Guide organisational strategy and safeguarding of Metro Arts' creative future
- Strengthen governance practices and ensure ethical, sustainable operations
- Amplify our mission through advocacy and community engagement
- Contribute to building our financial resilience through fundraising, partnerships, and donor networks
- Promote inclusive and representative leadership that reflects Brisbane's vibrant cultural landscape

Time commitment

- Attend approximately six board meetings per year
- Participate in key Metro Arts events (including opening nights) and foster meaningful connections with artists, collaborators, and audiences

How to apply

To express your interest, please provide:

- A letter (1-2 pages maximum) addressing your background, motivation for joining, experience in the relevant skill areas identified above and what you would bring to the board
- A short CV or resume that outlines relevant experience

APPLICATIONS CLOSE MONDAY 22 JUNE 10:00AM (AEST)

Please send your Applications to Metro Arts Chair, Tara Hastings at tara@metroarts.com.au, and cc business@metroarts.com.au

True to our mission, Metro Arts is committed to fostering a board that is inclusive of different abilities, cultural backgrounds, gender identities and lived experiences. Early career professionals, First Nations voices and people from underrepresented communities are strongly encouraged to apply.

Metro Arts is grateful for your interest in contributing to our creative future. We look forward to reviewing your application.

If you have any questions about the role that are not answered by this document please contact Metro Arts Chair Tara Hastings via tara@metroarts.com.au



Everything you imagine is real. (2022). Anna Carey. Giclee Print, 100 x 88cm. Edition 6 (detail).

Metro Arts is committed to equality and diversity, through our program of activities and as an employer. Our practices and procedures aim to reflect the varied needs, expectations and culture of all members of our community. We make every effort to ensure that no member of the community receives less favourable treatment in our recruitment or when accessing our services on the grounds of gender, gender identity, disability, race, religion or belief, age or sexual orientation.



Dedicated to a better Brisbane

Metro Arts program is supported by the Australian Government through Creative Australia, its funding and advisory body.

Metro Arts is supported by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland and the Visual Art, Craft and Design Framework, an initiative of the Australian, state and territory governments. The Metro Arts Creative Development Program and Artist in Residence Program is proudly supported by Brisbane City Council. Metro Arts Visual Arts (MAVA) Substation is assisted by Brisbane City Council.