**First Night Showcase Program – Bulmba-ja**

**Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

**How much can I apply for?**

Individuals, groups and organisations can apply for up to $30 000 cash funding as well as in-kind venue support of up to $40 000. Applicants who are located more than 100kms from Cairns can apply for up to an additional $7 000 to support travel and accommodation costs.

Expressions of Interest should include a budget that is realistic for the planned activity and provides value for money.

**Who can apply for funding through First Night Showcase Program – Bulmba-ja?**

Expressions of Interest may be submitted by:

* Individual artists, arts workers and producers
* Festivals, events, and arts and cultural organisations
* Local government
* Private sector entities
* Community groups

**What First Night Showcase Program – Bulmba-ja will not support**

*First Night Showcase Program – Bulmba-ja* will not fund:

* activities that do not take place at Bulmba-ja
* activities that do not demonstrate support from communities of interest and practice
* submissions that do not provide appropriate cultural permissions relevant to projects/activities that involve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and communities.
* activity that does not employ or engage Queensland artists, arstworkers or creative businesses

**Can I submit one Expression of Interest to deliver multiple activities?**

Yes. One Expression of Interest may seek funding to deliver more than one of the listed activities.

Please ensure the various activities are clearly indicated in the EOI.

**Is this funding only for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants?**

All eligible applicants are encouraged to apply to this fund. Although Bulmba-ja does have a focus on supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts and cultures, through opportunity, development and presentation, the *First Night Showcase Program – Bulmba-ja* is not exclusive to First Nations applicants.

Arts Queensland does encourage applicants to consider working in collaboration with other artists, groups and organisations where possible to develop new works.

**How will the First Night Showcase Program – Bulmba-ja be assessed?**

All Expressions of Interest will be assessed by a panel of First Nations peer assessors.

Submissions will be assessed on how well they meet the four assessment criteria: Quality, Reach, Impact and Viability, outlined in the Guidelines.

When writing your Expression of Interest, it is recommended that you refer to the guidelines as each criteria lists the types of evidence needed to demonstrate achievement.

**Why do I have to speak with Bulmba-ja Centre Management before I submit my EOI?**

Expressions of Interest to *First Night Showcase Program – Bulmba-ja* require all applicants make contact with Centre Management by no later than 20 July 2020.

Applicants must communicate with Centre Management to confirm venue availability and obtain quotes for in-kind support and hard costs for their project budget. The Bulmba-ja quote must be provided as part of your submission. Any submissions without the Bulmba-ja quote, will be deemed ineligible.

*First Night Showcase Program – Bulmba-ja* is designed to provide support to the development of arts and cultural activations of the centre that are ready to deliver from September 2020.

**Do I need to match funding in my Expression of Interest?**

There is no requirement for matched funding, however Arts Queensland will not support 100 per cent of project costs.

In-kind contributions can be used in your Expressions of Interest, and Arts Queensland encourages all applicants to seek partnerships, sponsorships and collaborators, and other financial contributions will be highly regarded.

Applicants to *First Night Showcase Program – Bulmba-ja* are encouraged to consider also applying for funding from other sources, such as:

* **Philanthropy** – may include income from donations from individuals and foundations, including through crowdsourcing.
* **Partnership** capital – project partners which may also bring funding and financing.
* **National government or independent agencies.**
* **Any other reasonable source of investment.**

The budget provided in your Expression of Interest should provide evidence of any committed funds and when they will be available.

**Why do the artist/s and producer/s need to be based in Queensland?**

The arts and cultural sector has been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. *First Night Showcase Program – Bulmba-ja* funding is part of a $22.5 million two-year Arts and Cultural Recovery Package for Queensland’s arts and cultural sector as part of Queensland’s Economic Recovery Strategy: Stage Two.

**When will funding decisions be made?**

One round of *First Night Showcase Program – Bulmba-ja* funding is available in 2020. Applicants will be notified of the outcome of their Expression of Interest by September 2020.

**Applying as an existing recipient of Arts Queensland funding**

If your organisation is the recipient of core and/or administered funding through Arts Queensland, your Expression of Interest must demonstrate how the activity differs from what the organisation is currently funded to deliver. These applicants should not include administration costs in their *First Night Showcase Program – Bulmba-ja* Expressions of Interest.