

Queensland Government Arts Queensland

Department of the Premier and Cabinet

Multicultural Communities Arts Program

Arts Queensland

The Queensland Government department for arts and cultural development

About the Multicultural Communities Arts Program

Community groups or organisations of culturally diverse background may be eligible for an arts and cultural grant from Arts Queensland. The Multicultural Communities Arts Program (MCAP) assists culturally diverse communities to maintain, develop and express their cultural identity in traditional and/or contemporary artforms. MCAP is a joint initiative between Arts Queensland and Multicultural Affairs Queensland, Community Engagement Division, Department of the Premier and Cabinet.

You can apply for a MCAP grant if your community group or organisation is:

- culturally diverse
- non-profit
- registered or incorporated; or not incorporated and auspiced by a registered or incorporated organisation.

MCAP provides culturally diverse groups with financial assistance in the following ways:

- to carry out one-off projects with clear artistic outcomes
- to develop artistic skills and expertise
- to assist with the purchase of certain materials

Arts and/or cultural projects (for funding up to \$5,000)

Your project includes activities that foster cultural development through the arts. For example, your group may develop productions, exhibitions, performances or audio-visual displays such as video, film, photography and digital art.

Artistic skills development (funding up to \$3,000)

Your project includes activities that develop artistic skills and expertise in performing arts, writing, visual arts, crafts and design and multi-arts. For example, you may hold workshops or training seminars to teach other members of your community or to share your culture with others.

Purchase of materials (funding up to \$800)

Funding is offered towards the cost of materials essential to the group's artistic activities. For example, purchasing costumes, instruments and production materials.

You can call Arts Queensland for an application form on 07 3224 4896, tollfree on 1800 175 531 or e-mail cultural.diversity@arts.qld.go.au. You can also download the application forms from the Arts Queensland website at www.arts.qld.gov.au. The closing date for applications is September for projects in the following calendar year (see application form or Grants Handbook for details).

Who is involved?

- Grants are provided to both small and large culturally diverse organisations throughout Queensland.
- Approximately two-thirds of successful MCAP applications are from regional Queensland, and one third from metropolitan Queensland (Arts Queensland Statistics 2002).
- In the past five years between 30 and 50 per cent of applicants received funding.

Your grant application

It is important that your application includes:

- A description of the outcomes for your project (eg how it will benefit the community etc.) and how you will measure the success of these outcomes (eg number of people who attended, feedback from participants etc).
- A detailed project description (including what the project is about, why you wish to undertake the project, how you will manage and organise the project and what community support you have for the project).
- A clear and concise budget that adds up and a summary describing how you will use the MCAP grant money.
- Support material about your organisation and project (eg letters of support from community representatives, letters of confirmation from all people involved in the project, information about previous projects, quotes etc).

Snapshots of some successful MCAP applicants

Exploring Tibetan culture

An MCAP grant helped make the Losar 2000 Art and Culture of Tibet exhibition, held at the Cairns Regional Gallery, a success.

The exhibition enabled adults, students and children to interact with Tibetan monks through artistic workshops, meditation classes and the creation of a Tara sand mandala (traditional coloured sand artwork). A MCAP grant of \$1,000 assisted with the cost of materials for the workshops.

Recognising Latvian heritage in Brisbane

In 2002, MCAP supported the Latvian 3x3 Seminar with a \$1,000 grant. The funding assisted a specialist teacher of Latvian folklore to address the seminar, and to buy materials for a children's arts and crafts workshop and costumes for a theatre performance.

Appreciating traditional Vietnamese opera

The Vietnamese Artists Union in Australia - Queensland chapter received a grant of \$720 to provide material for costumes for the performance of a Southern Vietnamese classical opera - *The Heroine of the Viet Nation*.

The costumes were specially designed and tailored by Vietnamese dressmakers to create four traditional costumes.

Experiencing Greek dance

The Townsville Greek Orthodox Community of Saints Theodore used its \$4,195 MCAP grant to pay instructors to come from Brisbane to hold two traditional Greek dance workshops for young people.

The workshops culminated in a concert at the 2000 Greek Fest Townsville, which attracted 15,000 people over two days. The group has subsequently performed at many other festivals and functions.



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If you require assistance understanding this information, or you would feel more comfortable discussing this information in your first language, please call the Translating and Interpreting Service on 13 14 50 for the cost of a local call. The 2003-04 grants under the Multicultural Communities Arts Program have been awarded to:

Filipino-Australian Family Group of Sunshine Coast, Yandina – \$3,000 to develop and implement a series of workshops to train the group as performers of Filipino dance and to facilitate workshops.

Gold Coast Multicultural Arts Group in Collaboration, Southport – \$4,700 for the *Festival of Diversity*, a one-day showcase consisting of seven artistic workshops.

Hmong Queensland Association Inc, Innisfail – \$3,000 to present a series of workshops on playing a reed pipe instrument (Khan/queej) and associated songs and dances.

LatinOzi Accion Cultural Latina, Nerang – \$3,000 to build cultural community development through the investigation of Latin America Carnivals to enhance the region through costumes and mask designs which may be used for future multicultural events at the Gold Coast.

NESB Parents' Support Group, Nambour – \$5,000 to promote a positive awareness of the cultural diversity of the Sunshine Coast population by the professional presentation of multicultural entertainment as part of *Festuri* – a multicultural extravaganza.

Samoan Independent Seventh Day Adventist Church Women's Group, Cairns – \$5,000 to run workshops to teach and promote Pacific Island arts and craft skills to women from culturally diverse backgrounds in west Cairns.

Sunshine Coast Multicultural Women's Group, Maroochy – \$4,988 to promote cultural diversity through a communal visual art installation *Through Rose Coloured Glasses* by a group of women from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

The Italian Choir, Mareeba – \$2,600 to present a series of singing skills developments workshops for the Italian Choir.

Townsville Multicultural Support Group: Aitkenvale – \$3,000 to employ three artists to deliver workshops in watercolour and calligraphy techniques over a 12-week period.