

Seniors Festival 2027

Instructions

- Please provide a response to all relevant questions on the pages;
- When you have completed all of the questions on a page, click on **Next Page** to view the next page of the application form;
- Click **Save Progress** periodically to ensure you do not lose any information you have entered;
- You can jump to any page in application form by using **Application Form Navigation** table on the right side of the form;
- Once you have completed all of the pages of the form, the last page of the form will provide you with the opportunity to **Review** your application. If you are happy with your application you can then click **Submit**, if you have answered all of the required questions a **Confirmation Message** will be displayed to acknowledge receipt of your application.
- Please be aware that submissions are due by **midnight Sunday 1 November 2026 (AEDT)**.

If you have any queries, please phone and leave a message for the Community Wellbeing Team at (02) 9392 5863 or email seniors@innerwest.nsw.gov.au

- If you have access requirements that cause difficulty submitting material online and you need assistance, please call 9392 5000. To talk with a free interpreter call 131 450.
- 9392 5000.

- 1. للتحدث مع مترجم مجاني اتصل بالرقم 131 450 اطلب منهم الاتصال بمجلس الغرب الداخلي على الرقم 9392 5000.
- Μιλάμε τη γλώσσα σας. Για να μιλήσετε δωρεάν σε διερμηνέα καλέστε το 131 450. Ζητήστε τους να καλέσουν το Δήμο Inner West Council στο 9392 5000.
- Parliamo la vostra lingua. Per parlare gratuitamente con un interprete chiamate il numero 131 450. Chiedetegli di chiamare il Comune di Inner West al numero 9392 5000.
- Falamos a sua língua. Para falar com um intérprete gratuitamente ligue para 131 450. Peça-lhes para ligar para o Inner West Council no número 9392 5000.
- ##### 131 450# #####9392 5000## Inner West# ###
- ##### 131 450 ##### Inner West Council ##### 9392 5000.
- Chúng tôi nói ngôn ngữ của quý vị. Muốn nói chuyện có thông dịch viên miễn phí, hãy gọi số 131 450. Yêu cầu họ gọi cho Hội đồng Thành phố Inner West qua số 9392 5000.

Seniors Festival 2027

Seniors Festival 2027 – Expression of Interest (EOI)

“Discover. Connect. Celebrate!”

Inner West Council invites Expressions of Interest (EOI) from First Nations community organisations, community groups, and sole traders to deliver creative, inclusive, and innovative programs for Seniors Festival 2027.

The NSW Seniors Festival will run statewide from 1-14 March 2027. While Council encourages alignment with these official dates, the EOI is not restricted to them — proposed

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programs may be scheduled within this period or around it, provided they contribute meaningfully to the overall festival experience.

At its core, the festival is a celebration of wellness, connection, and the strength of our older community members. This year's Seniors Festival, Council is committed to supporting programs exclusively for and with First Nations communities.

Funding is exclusive to First Nations organisations, businesses and groups, or for an organisation with a dedicated First Nations identified role who will be undertaking or leading the project.

All programs must actively prioritise and represent:

- First Nations peoples
- Older First Nations peoples who are socially isolated or vulnerable
- Older First Nations peoples with limited mobility or who are home-based
- Programs supporting educational and experiences for wider audiences, including intergenerational activities and initiatives

Placing First Nations people at the core of this year's Seniors Festival will reduce barriers to participation, create meaningful opportunities for connection, and amplify the voices of older people whose experiences are too often overlooked.

There is \$10,000 in total funding available, and successful applicants can receive a **maximum of \$5,000 inclusive of GST.**

If you have any queries, please phone and leave a message for the Community Wellbeing Team at (02) 9392 5863 or email seniors@innerwest.nsw.gov.au

We are looking forward to receiving your application.

GUIDELINES

Eligibility Criteria

Objectives

Projects should:

- Engage First Nations peoples, in particular isolated, vulnerable, and home-based older people
- Reduce isolation and foster genuine social connection
- Encourage lifelong learning and intergenerational knowledge-sharing
- Create opportunities for creative expression and participation
- Be affordable, inclusive, and accessible
- Support Council's strategies and plans (Healthy Ageing Strategy, Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2023–2026, Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan and the Community Strategic Plan 2041).

Eligibility

Applicants must:

- Be a First Nation organisation, business or community group, or an organisation with a dedicated First Nations identified role who will be undertaking or leading the project
- Be a sole trader, incorporated not-for-profit, or a community group auspiced by one

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- Deliver activities within the Inner West LGA (Djarrawunang, Baludarri, Gulgadya, Midjuburi, Damun wards)
- Submit one application per individual or organisation
- Provide Public Liability Insurance and relevant licences
- Provide WWCC if working with children

Not Eligible

Applications will not be considered if they:

- Do not align with Seniors Festival 2027 objectives
- Deliver activities outside the Inner West LGA
- Cover ongoing admin, staffing or operational costs
- Are submitted by Council staff, Councillors, political parties, or government agencies
- Do not demonstrate a clear benefit to First Nations older residents
- One-off events with little or no community impact or legacy
- Programs that are already established and ongoing, rather than new initiatives developed for the Festival

Council's Community Wellbeing team will be available to support delivery by providing templates and guidance on event planning, accessibility, risk and safety documentation, and local community engagement.

Council staff cannot assist in the writing of EOI applications, but are available to discuss any questions or concerns or requirements of eligibility.

Examples of Eligible Projects

- Creative workshops (art, music, photography, writing)
- Intergenerational storytelling or arts programs
- Community events fostering connection among older people
- At-home activity packs or virtual workshops for home-based seniors
- Public exhibitions or performances showcasing older people's creativity
- Digital projects (podcasts, livestreamed concerts, memory maps)

How to Apply

EOIs must be submitted via SmartyGrants.

There is \$10,000 in total funding available, and successful applicants can receive a **maximum of \$5,000 inclusive of GST.**

Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.

Smarty Grants will close midnight Sunday 1 November 2027.

For successful applicants

Agreement

A formal agreement will be sent to successful applicants. Inability to comply with the agreement may result in withdrawal of support. Applicants who do not meet their obligations under the grant agreement may not be eligible to apply for further grant support from Inner West Council.

Payment and GST

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Payment information will be provided with the letter of offer. Grants will be paid in full upon receipt of a tax invoice (maximum of \$5,000). Organisations registered for GST should add GST to the grant amount.

Recognition of assistance

Successful applicants must acknowledge the Inner West Council for their activity at the activity and in any promotional material in relation to the activity.

Activity Variations

If there are significant changes to the funded activity, applicants must contact Council to confirm that the variation is acceptable prior to the activity. This includes but is not limited to, activity start and end dates, venues, fees and charges.

Ready to Apply?

The application will ask for key information about yourself as project lead for your proposal including contact information and organisation/business details as applicable.

You will need to provide key information about the proposed project including proposed location, title, description, target audience and project timeline. A balanced budget proposal is to be provided and there is an option to upload supporting material.

Please ensure you have all this information ready to input into your proposal. Incomplete and unsubmitted proposals will not be considered.

If you have any queries, please phone and leave a message for the Community Wellbeing Team at (02) 9392 5863 or email seniors@innerwest.nsw.gov.au

Applicant Details

* indicates a required field

Applicant Details

Name *

Title

First Name

Last Name

What are your pronouns

- ☐ She/ her/ hers
- ☐ They/ them/ their
- ☐ He/ him/ his
- ☐ Other:

Email Address *

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Mobile ***Organisation Name**

(if applicable)

ABN / ACN (if applicable)

The ABN provided will be used to look up the following information. Click Lookup above to check that you have entered the ABN correctly.

Information from the Australian Business Register	
ABN	
Entity Name	
ABN Status	
Entity Type	
Goods & Services Tax (GST)	
DGR Endorsed	
ATO Charity Type	More information
ACNC Registration	
Tax Concessions	
Main Business Location	

I declare I am an Australian resident *

- ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Other:

Applicant Primary Address

Address

Website**Social Media****Bank Account that funds will be transferred to if you are successful ***

Account Name

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BSB Number Account Number

Must be a valid Australian bank account format.

(if applicable) Please upload your Public Liability Certificate of Currency (min \$20m)

Attach a file:

Please note if your event is open to the public, you will need Public Liability Insurance.

Do you identify with any of the terms below? You can choose more than one option *If your project represents a particular community, you (or a dedicated staff member from that community who will be delivering the project) must identify with that community.

- ☐ Aboriginal
- ☐ Torres Strait Islander
- ☐ Person of Colour (PoC)
- ☐ Culturally Diverse (CALD)
- ☐ Living with a disability
- ☐ LGBTQ+
- ☐ Other:

Indicate which category describes your organisation best

- ☐ It provides services to the target groups identified in the guidelines (Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander, PoC, CALD, people living with a disability, LGBTQ+)
- ☐ We are a peak org serving one or more of these communities
- ☐ We have specialist staff who identify as belonging to one or more of the target groups and they will be running our proposed project
- ☐ Other:

Project Proposal

* indicates a required field

Project Details

Project Title *

Start Date *

Must be a date.

End Date

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Outline when your program will take place, including frequency. *

Word count:

Must be no more than 150 words.

Include details about your target audience.

Describe your program - What are you planning to do? Required *

Must be no more than 200 words. Include details about the nature of the activity and the target audience (e.g. Aboriginal Elders).

Where will your project be delivered? Required *

Word count:

Must be no more than 150 words.

Include details of the venue/location and the Inner West ward it's located in.

How will your activity benefit First Nations older people in our community? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Must be no more than 200 words. Describe how the program supports healthy ageing, social connection, creativity, lifelong learning, or intergenerational engagement.

Describe your experience delivering similar projects *

Please provide some examples of previous work/projects you have delivered to support your application

What language(s) will your project be delivered in *

What steps will be taken to ensure your event is accessible and inclusive? Required *

View our Accessible Events Checklist on Council's Inclusion Festival webpage, or get in touch with seniors@innerwest.nsw.gov.au

How many people do you expect to attend your activity? Required *

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How will you promote or advertise your program? Required *

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Must be no more than 200 words. Include outreach strategies, any partnerships, and target demographics.

Proposed project timeline *

Please outline key planning, delivery, and evaluation milestones for your program over the 2026–2029 period.

Is your event open to the public? *

☐ Yes ☐ No

Is your event free? *

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Other:

NOTE: The majority of Seniors Festival events are offered free of charge to the public to encourage wide participation and accessibility. If your event involves a fee, please provide details and justification.

If your event is not free, please provide details of any costs to participants and a brief justification for these charges.

Considerations

Considerations may make your work more accessible and responsible, opening up opportunities for more people to participate and delivering better outcomes for your project.

What considerations will you make for your project

- ☐ Cultural Safety
- ☐ Accessibility
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Work health and safety
- ☐ Environmental

Think about what things could improve your project. You may like to add items to your budget that help you deliver on these considerations. A great example of important work around accessibility and diversity can be found here: <https://content.acca.melbourne/uploads/2021/09/ACCA-Equity-Action->

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[Plan-2020-2022_website.pdf](#) Some ideas for reducing waste in businesses can be found here: <https://businessrecycling.com.au/research/>

Events open to the public

Would you like your event listed on Council's website?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Budget

* indicates a required field

Budget

A budget should include all items required to deliver, maintain, and evaluate the program over the funded period (e.g. artist/facilitator fees, materials, venue hire, insurance, marketing, evaluation). You are responsible for budget management and any associated costs.

- Income Description: List all expected income sources (e.g. Council EOI, sponsorships, grants, in-kind support). Indicate whether income is confirmed or unconfirmed.
- Expenditure Description: List all expected costs. Superannuation must be included for eligible artists or contractors as per ATO guidelines.
- Quotes must be uploaded for any single expenditure item over \$500.
- Supporting documentation is also encouraged.

Total Amount Requested *

Must be a dollar amount.

Must be a dollar amount. You can apply for up to \$10,000 per year for three years (2026–2029).

Budget

Income Description \$

Expenditure Description

List the money you will source for the project (e.g. Council EOI, In-Kind Contributions, Other sources).		List all the items you will need to spend money on (e.g. facilitator/artist fees, venue hire, materials/equipment, marketing/promotion, insurance/licences, evaluation/reporting)	
	\$		\$
	\$		\$
	\$		\$
	\$		\$
	\$		\$

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	\$		\$
	\$		\$
	\$		\$

Budget notes/quotes

Please upload quotes for any expected expenditure over \$500.

Attach a file:

Supporting documentation

Please upload any supporting documentation you wish to include

Attach a file:

e.g., example of previous projects, facilitator bio or other reference material.

Declarations

* indicates a required field

Child Involvement

Will your event potentially involve people under the age of 18? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

Child Safe Requirements

The Parties agree that performance of the project may include Child Related Work. For the purposes of this section, "**Child Related Work**" has the meaning given to it in the *Child Protection (Working With Children) Act 2012* and usually includes any work where the work involves, or is likely to involve, direct contact with a child or children and that contact is a usual part of and more than incidental to the work in connection with at least one of the specified categories of child related work.

Before the applicant organisation undertakes any Child Related Work, the applicant organisation must ensure that:

- relevant staff and volunteers hold a valid Working With Children Check and that verifications have been undertaken;
- relevant staff and volunteers have required child protection skills and knowledge and have attended relevant training and induction sessions;
- it has in place appropriate child protection policies and procedures and such policies

and procedures are updated to address any key changes under child protection legislation;

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- any specific undertakings in its policy and procedures, such as training requirements, are being complied with;
- its Child safety risk management strategies are developed, implemented and regularly reviewed; and
- notification of any and all reportable allegations regarding staff of the applicant organisation are notified to Council as soon as the applicant organisation becomes aware.

The applicant must provide Council with any report reasonably required by Council relating to the applicant organisation's obligations under this section. The applicant accepts that Council may itself or engage a third party to undertake formal reviews of the applicant organisation's child protection policies, procedures and practices to assess compliance with relevant child protection legislation and the child protection requirements and will reasonably cooperate with Council or any such third party including provision of the information which is reasonably requested.

Please indicate whether or not this Child Safe requirement clause is applicable to your project/program/initiative? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

Declarations

How did you hear about this opportunity? *

I declare that to the best of my knowledge the information in this application is true and correct *

☐ Yes