# Thirning Villa Creative Hub EOI

## Thirning Villa Creative Hub EOI 2027

**Applications close:** 4pm **(AEST),** Friday 27 November 2026**Need help?** Call us on 9335 2123 or 9392 5616**Email:** olivia.patchett@innerwest.nsw.gov.au or dana.santos@innerwest.nsw.gov.au

## About this Opportunity

Thirning Villa Creative Hub is a rent-free creative site comprised of multiple spaces, designed to support contemporary artists at every stage of their career

More than just a studio, Thirning Villa offers dedicated hub for artists to explore ideas, experiment, collaborate, take creative risks and develop new work. It is a place for making, thinking, connecting and growing practice.

Organisations and groups are invited to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) to operate Thirning Villa as a vibrant creative hub, bringing artists, audiences and communities together through ongoing activation and exchange. The program supports artists to focus on their work while building meaningful connections with other artists and the local community.

Applicants are invited to submit an EOI for a tenancy of up to 3 years (subject to annual review).

The successful applicant will be responsible for activating and managing the whole site as a shared creative hub (excluding areas marked on the plan below).

**This opportunity is suitable for:**

- Artist collectives
- Groups of individual artists applying together
- Small arts organisations
- Cross-disciplinary creative groups

## Instructions

- Please provide a response to all relevant questions
- When you have completed all of the questions on a page, click on **Next Page** to view the next page of the application
- Click **Save** regularly so you do not lose any information you have entered
- You can jump to any page in the application form by using the **Application Form Navigation** table on the right side
- Once you have completed all the pages the last page will provide you with the opportunity to **Review** your application. If you are happy with your application you can **Submit.**
- If you have answered all of the required questions a **Confirmation Message** will be displayed to acknowledge your application has been submitted
- Please keep a copy of your login name and password

Applicants are encouraged to read The Thirning Villa Creative Hub Guidelines before applying: https://www.innerwest.nsw.gov.au/studios-and-creative-spaces/thirning-villa

## Accessibility Support

Need help with this form?

We want to support all artists to apply. If you need help because of:

- Disability access needs
- Language barriers

Please contact us and we'll help you.

**Phone support:**

**d/Deaf or hard of hearing:** Contact the National Relay Service on 1300 555 727 or visit their website, https://www.accesshub.gov.au/about-the-nrs/nrs-call-numbers-and-links

**Need an interpreter?** Call 131 450 and ask them to call Council on (02) 9392 5000 (free service)

**Disability access needs:** Let us know what adjustments you need - we're here to help.

## Eligibility

* indicates a required field

**Will your project involve working with children? ***
○ Yes
○ No

If your project involves working with children, please upload a copy of current Working with Children Check

**WWCC Upload area**
Attach a file:

**Do you agree that all project workers in contact with children and/or young people will have their WWCC verified?**
○ Yes
○ No

## Australian residency status, tenancy promotion and public liability

**I declare I am an Australian citizen, permanent resident or resident with valid working rights in Australia * ***
○ Yes

○ No

**I understand that if my application is successful, I will need to share information to promote the tenancy on Council's website** *
○ Yes
○ No
This can include before the tenancy commences, during and after the tenancy

**If your application is successful you will be required to have Public Liability Insurance (PLI) to the value of $20 million** *
○ Yes - my PLI is current and attached
○ I understand - I do not currently have PLI (or it has expired) but I will purchase it if successful
If your application is successful you will need to give Council a copy of your PLI when you sign your contract. You can purchase PLI from places like NAVA https://visualarts.net.au/Membership/insurance/ or Duck for Cover https://duckforcover.com.au/html/. You can add the cost of PLI to your budget.

## PLI upload

**Please upload a copy of your certificate of public liability insurance to the value of $20 million**
Attach a file:

# Applicant Details

* indicates a required field

## About You (Primary Applicant)

**Contact Name** *
Title | First Name | Last Name

**Phone Number** *
Must be an Australian phone number.

**Email** *
Must be an email address.

**What are your pronouns** *
☐ She / her / her
☐ They / them / their
☐ He / him / his
☐ She / They
☐ He / They
☐ Other:

**Do you identify as:** *

☐ Aboriginal
☐ Torres Strait Islander
☐ Personal living with disability
☐ Culturally and linguistically diverse
☐ Person of Colour
☐ LGBTIQ+
☐ Other:

## Applicant Details

**Who are you applying as?** *
○ Artist Collective
○ Group of Individual Artists
○ Small Arts Organisation
○ Cross-disciplinary creative group
○ Other:

**Organisation / Collective / Group Name** *

**Address** *
Address

Address Line 1, Suburb/Town, State/Province, Postcode, and Country are required.

**Website (if applicable to your practice)**

Must be a URL.

**Social media (if applicable to your practice)**

Must be a URL e.g Instagram / Facebook

**Attach CV or Bio** *
Attach a file:

Please provide these for the key artists involved

**Tell us about your organisation, collective or group** *

Word count:
Must be no more than 100 words.

## Who are the key artists, creatives or partners involved?

## Name and Role

| Name | Role |
|---|---|
| For example, Mary Smith | For example, Lead artist |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |

## ABN Status

You **do not** need an ABN to apply.

If you do not have an ABN and your application is successful you will need to provide a Statement by Supplier form when you submit your invoice. If you are applying as an organisation or as an individual with an auspice organisation please add their ABN

**Do you have an ABN?** *
- ○ Yes
- ○ No

**ABN**

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 | |

Must be an ABN.

# Proposal Details

* indicates a required field

## Criteria 1 - Quality, strength and suitability of the proposed artistic program

**What artform(s) best describe your practice and proposed activities at Thirning Villa** *

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ☐ Visual arts | ☐ Design | ☐ Performance | ☐ Music |
| ☐ Painting | ☐ Digital & Media Arts | ☐ Dance | ☐ Community-Engaged Arts |
| ☐ Sculpture | ☐ Film & Video | ☐ Theatre | ☐ Interdisciplinary / Cross-Artform |
| ☐ Photography | ☐ Writing & Literature | ☐ Live Art | ☐ Other: |
| ☐ Craft | | | |

## What is your vision for Thirning Villa as a creative hub over the three-year tenancy period?

**Describe how you will:**

- activate Thirning Villa as a vibrant, artist-led creative hub
- support artistic development
- encorage creative experimentation
- foster collaboration and
- encourage community engagement

We would like to understand your overall intentions and do not require specific details for a three year period.

Successful tenants will participate in regular check-in meetings with Council to review progress, discuss outcomes and refine plans and programming as opportunities and priorities evolve.

**Describe your vision for the Thirning Villa Creative Hub** *

Word count:
Must be no more than 250 words.

**Please upload your Program Plan (maximum 5 pages)** *
Attach a file:

Hint: Your response should outline proposed activities, projects, public programs, and timelines

## Criteria 2 - Demonstrated need for the tenancy and alignment with the program objectives

**Tell us:**

- why do you need the Thirning Villa Creative Hub tenancy? (What gap does it fill or what opportunity will it give you?)
- why is this the right time for this opportunity? (Why now rather than later?)
- how do you expect the tenancy will impact the artists involved? (What will change or become possible as a result?)

- how will you track or demonstrate this impact? (E.g. comparison surveys, community feedback, pictures, testimonials)
- how does your tenancy align with the Thirning Villa Creative Hub objectives (see page 3 of the Guidelines)

**Why is the Thirning Villa Creative Hub an important opportunity for your organisation, collective or group?** *

Word count:
Must be no more than 200 words.

**Why is this particular space suitable for your proposed program?** *

Word count:
Must be no more than 100 words.
For example, do you have an existing connection to the area? Or is the layout of the space and the facilities provided what you've been looking for?

## Criteria 3 - Connection and benefit to the local community

**Describe:**

- what is your connection to the Inner West?
- who is this tenancy for? (Tell us who will experience or take part in it, and roughly how many people you expect to reach).
- why does this tenancy matter for the Inner West? (What will be different, better, or new because of it? e.g., bringing new audiences into arts spaces, creating paid work for local artists, presenting work that reflects our community's diverse cultures, or activating an underused public space).
- how does your tenancy support the arts and cultural life of the Inner West? (For example: does it create opportunities for people to experience art, support working artists, or bring something new or bold to the community?)
- how will you know if your tenancy has been successful? (e.g., number of people who attended, feedback from participants, new relationships formed with community groups, or your own reflection on the creative outcomes)

**What is your connection to the Inner West and what cultural and social benefits will your proposal bring to Ashfield and the wider Inner West?** *

Word count:
Must be no more than 200 words.

**How will your program encourage regular visitation and community use of the site?** *

Word count:
Must be no more than 100 words.

## Criteria 4 - Access and Use of the Site

**Tell us:**

- who will have access to the studios, gallery and shared spaces?
- will spaces be used by a core group of artists, members, residents, partners or a combination of these?
- how will studio spaces be allocated?
- what process will you use to select, rotate or assign artists to the studios?
- how will you ensure access is fair, transparent and equitable?
- how will artists from diverse backgrounds and career stages be able to participate?

**How do you propose to allocate and manage access to the three studios, gallery space and shared facilities?** *

Word count:
Must be no more than 200 words.

**Will you establish a membership, residency or partnership model?**

Word count:
Must be no more than 100 words.
Please describe how it will operate

## Criteria 5 - Management and Operational Capacity

**Describe you / your group's experience with:**

- the management of sites, facilities or programs (your role / responsibilities and the scale e.g. length of management, number of artists, events, staff, visitors etc)
- being part of an arts collective, lessons learnt and what you believe makes for a positive arts collective experience
- programming and activating spaces
- attracting participants / audiences for programming
- supporting artists, cultural practitioners and community groups
- managing budgets, resources and reporting requirements

**Describe your experience and approach to managing and activating creative, cultural or community spaces.** *

Word count:
Must be no more than 250 words.
List any key achievements you are most proud of

**Please provide examples of previous projects, facilities or programs you have successfully managed.** *
Attach a file:

You may share webpage snapshots, images or past project plans/ outcomes etc

## Supporting Material

**Please provide any other relevant support materials**
Attach a file:

Hint: Any other information demonstrating your capacity to deliver and manage the proposed program, e.g. letters of support

# Budget

* indicates a required field

## Outcomes and Support Stipend

As part of the tenancy program, artists can apply for limited stipends of up to $10,000 per year to support public programming and professional development initiatives.

**Eligible activities include:**

- Artist talks
- Workshops
- Public programs
- Presentations
- Studio open days
- Arts markets
- Creative development activities

Applicants must clearly outline how the stipend will be used and how it will increase community impact and / or artist development.

**Do you want to apply for the limited stipend?** *
○ Yes
○ No

**If successful, how would you utilise the available Outcomes and Support Stipend (up to $10,000)?**

Word count:
Must be no more than 150 words.

## Access Stipend

You can access up to an additional $3,000 to support accessibility. This funding can be used to meet individual access needs or to make studio programs and activities more accessible for participating artists and audiences.

**Do you intent to apply for the Access Stipend (up to $3,000)** *
- ○ Yes
- ○ No

**Amount Requested** *

Must be a dollar amount and no more than 3000.

**Please describe how this funding would improve accessibility for artists, participants and audiences.** *

Word count:
Must be no more than 150 words.

## Preparing your budget

Please include all the money you will **need** to realise this project. This can be the funding you are requesting from Council, any other grants you are applying for or already have, any of your own money or others (in-kind) you will use to contribute to the project. Expected revenue from artwork or ticket sales should be listed. These "incomes" need to be listed under the heading **Income**.

Include all the items you will **spend** money on for your program e.g. artist fees, exhibiting costs, venue booking, permits, printing, marketing, workshop materials, casual staff and so on. These expenses need to be listed under the heading **Expenditure.** Indicative quotes must be provided for any items over $500.

**If you are applying for The Access Stipend up to $3,000 more can be added to your budget - Access Stipend costs must be explained in the Budget Expenditure.**

Any value in kind costs (not a hard-cash cost to you e.g. waived venue hire, volunteers, donated materials) should be listed as **Value-In-Kind.**

Council supports fair wages for creatives, consider using peak body guidelines to set fees: NAVA Code of Practice (visualarts.net.au) *select the menu button on the top left for a list of Fees. MEAA (film and entertainment). ASA (writers and illustrators).

## Funding amount requested

Funding of between $1 - $13,000 is available and includes the optional addition of the Access Stipend. Please specify a whole dollar amount (no commas).

**Total amount requested** *

Must be a dollar amount and no more than 13000.
No more than 13000.

## Budget: Income (First year only - indicative)

**This area outlines all the money or in-kind contributions that will be used to deliver the program. Please confirm if the money or in-kind support is "confirmed" or "pending" in the last column.**

*In-kind contributions are non-monetary support, such as time, services, or resources provided by you or others at no cost to the project.*

Please note you can you can delete any "Income/Expenditure" lines that are not relevant to your activity by pressing the minus button. You can add other "income/expenditure" lines by pressing the plus button.

You can also edit the fields and adjust the amounts by deleting/typing in the existing box.

| Income Description | Funding Source | Income Amount | Confirmed or Pending |
|---|---|---|---|
| (Money coming in) Must be no more than 10 words. | e.g. Inner West Council, name of person or organisation providing the grant/value-in-kind contribution Must be no more than 10 words. | Must be a dollar amount. | |
| Outcomes and Support Stipend | Inner West Council | 1000 | |
| E.g. Access Stipend | | 3000 | |
| E.g. In Kind contribution | | 000 | |
| E.g. Other grants | | 000 | |
| E.g. Workshop ticket sales | | 000 | |
| E.g. Arts sales | | 000 | |

## Income uploads

This area can be used to upload confirmation of other funding sources or partners delivering in-kind contributions.

**Please upload evidence of any other confirmed sources of income**

Attach a file:

**If you have applied for other grants for this program, how would you adjust your project if this funding is not received**

For example, reduce your offering of public programming

## Budget: Expenditure (First year only - indicative)

This section shows how the money you've listed in the income area will be spent to deliver your program.

Your budget must balance. This means the total money coming in should equal the total money going out.

Please provide details in the “Budget Notes” section, such as a breakdown of hours, dates, times, and fees. You can also include how costs were calculated, who will deliver the work, and what each cost relates to.

Please list all budget expenditure (costs) items for program. The $ amount you have requested from Inner West Council must be fully accounted for in the expenditure area.

Indicative expenditure items provided as an example only and can be deleted if not necessary.

| **Expenditure Description** | **Supplier** | **Expenditure Amount** | **Budget Notes** |
|---|---|---|---|
| List the items you will spend money on Must be no more than 10 words. | Who receives these funds? e.g. name of person or organisation providing the service Must be no more than 10 words. | | E.g. breakdown of cost (e.g. only 11hrs@ $45x5days NAVA rate) |
| Artist / Project lead fees | | | |
| Artist development fees | | | |
| Facilitator fees | | | |
| Workshop materials | | | |
| Production staff fees | | | |
| Equipment hire | | | |
| Technical costs | | | |
| Marketing and promotion | | | |
| Graphic Design | | | |
| Bump in/out | | | |
| Documentation | | | |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| First Nations protocols | | | |
| Access measures (list) (up to $3,000 available) | | | |
| Ticketing charges | | | |
| Public Liability Insurance | | | |

## Budget Totals

This area is auto-calculated

**Total Income Amount**

This number/amount is calculated.

**Total Expenditure Amount**

This number/amount is calculated.

**Income - Expenditure**

This number/amount is calculated.

## Expenditure Uploads

**Please upload any quotes for items over $500 listed in your Budget Expenditure**
Attach a file:

This can be a snapshot from a webpage highlighting the cost, an email/ sms from an artist agreeing to fee

## Final Declaration

* indicates a required field

Before you can complete and submit an application you must accept the following conditions by declaring:

I certify :

- I have read and understood the Thirning Villa Creative Hub 2027 Guidelines
- I have been authorised to make this application on behalf of our group or my organisation
- All information supplied as part of this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

I acknowledge:

- If successful, I will enter into a funding agreement with Inner West Council on terms to be agreed
- Inner West Council has the right to investigate any information provided in this application and/or request additional information
- It is solely my responsibility to ensure my application is correct and complete before submitting. Inner West Council does not check, amend or update applications. Applications cannot be modified after being submitted
- Inner West Council has the right to withdraw any offer of funding or demand the return of funds already paid if my declaration is found to be incorrect or misleading.

**Do you understand and acknowledge these conditions?**

○ Yes

**Name of applicant** *

First Name | Last Name

**Declaration date** *

Must be a date.

## Important note for applicants

**Please keep a record of the SmartyGrants (username and password) details you used to submit this application.**

You will need your SmartyGrants login details for all future communications relating to this project, including funding agreements and acquittal reports.