

Kirk Robson Theology and the Arts Memorial Fund Grant Application information



Introduction

The Kirk Robson Theology and the Arts Memorial Fund supports artists and projects engaging faith through the arts. In recognition of the ground-breaking work of Kirk Robson, the fund supports art projects characterised by Community Cultural Development principles and practice, and an artistic engagement with theology. Reconciliation with Aboriginal people is a significant focus of the Fund. The Fund also contributes toward academic research projects reflecting on theology and the arts.

Annual Grant Pool

Each year, the Grants and Scholarships Committee will determine if there is sufficient funding available to award a grant. If so, a grant of approximately \$5,000 to a single project will be made.

Who can apply?

Applicants may be an individual, a community, small group or an incorporated body. Artists or a group of artists, researchers, congregations, schools or agencies can apply. Applicants will not necessarily be funded more than once as the fund seeks to support diverse projects in a range of locations over time.

How will the grant be administered?

The Fund is administered by the Synod of Victoria and Tasmania, Grants and Scholarships Committee. A Fund Warden provides voluntary support and advice, drawing together an Expert Panel to consider applications before making recommendation to the Grants and Scholarships committee. The grant will be paid to the successful applicant, or auspicing body. Individual applicants will need to provide an Australian Business Number, provide an exemption certificate, or identify an auspicing body where funds may be held.

What types of projects will be funded?

The fund will support projects in any art form or medium, and academic or research projects that incorporate or enquire into a practical arts-based outcome with theological reflection, and conducted within Victoria and Tasmania.

What would the fund not support?

The purpose of the fund is to support arts projects conducted within communities. Capital expenditure, individual costs of travel, conference attendance and professional development will not be supported.

Timeline for 2025 Grants

Terms of reference available, applications open	1 June 2024
Applications due	30 September 2024
Grants announced	Late 2024
Grants paid from	January 2025

Selection criteria

Projects will be assessed on the following criteria, with questions in the application form to guide responses.

- **Community engagement**
- **Indigenous engagement**
- **Outcomes respond to need**
- **Artistic innovation**
- **Collaboration and partnerships**
- **Theological reflection**
- **Evaluation**



Documentation

Applicants should present a short (500 word) description of the proposed project addressing the selection criteria:

- Application form
- Budget
- Timeline
- Evidence of partnerships, with supporting documents

Acquittal

Successful applicants will present an acquittal report of the project to the Grants and scholarships Committee. The acquittal report of 300 – 500 words will be posted on the Synod website, with high quality images. There may be other opportunities to present the project in Crosslight or other journals.

Previous recipients include:

- 2009, an Artist-in-Residence program at the Centre for Theology and Ministry with writer and theatre director Jane Woollard during the development and production *Prophet and Loss*.
- 2010, the fund supported the Easter Arts Festival in the Pakenham to Drouin UC Growth Corridor Ministry.
- 2017 the Fund supported a Yarn Art trail with schools and community groups animated by Chelsea UC (Carrum, Chelsea and Edithvale)
- 2019 the Fund supported Boroondara Outreach Ministries project, *God With Us*, where participants engaged with personal story development and then created a “stained glass window” on perspex.
- 2021 the fund supported the Manningham Uniting Church and Community Centre Community Mural in Templestowe together with the Manningham City Council and Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to create a vibrant five-part mural along the western boundary wall and public walk through of the new Manningham Uniting Church & Community Centre, with work still in progress.
- 2023 the fund supported the Sacred Edge – First Nations Performers Project hosting First Nations artists who share their stories as well as perform (music, poetry, guiding a labyrinth walk, offering healing workshops)

Enquiries

If you would like to discuss an idea or project, please don't hesitate to contact grants@victas.uca.org.au

Applications for 2025 funding round should be addressed to:

Kirk Robson Theology and the Arts Memorial Fund
Grants and Scholarship Committee
equipping Leadership for Mission
29 College Crescent
PARKVILLE VIC 3052
email: grants@victas.uca.org.au

Closing Date: 30 September, 2024