

Cultural Development Network

E-bulletin: April 2007

From the office

Cultural Development Network moves into 2007 with a full slate of projects and programs. If you visit our web-site you can see our current projects and the growing list of past activities as we move through the year.

Generations Project

For the immediate future we are managing the *Generations* project which, over the next two years, will highlight many of the issues that the community and cultural development sector of local government deals with daily. RMIT's Globalism Institute is running research parallel to the five *Generations* projects. We are expecting a body of knowledge about the contribution of arts to the civic engagement of communities to be drawn from the project over this time.

Expanding Cultures conference July 2007

In 2006 Cultural Development Network joined with 8 inner city councils and their arts and culture managers to co-ordinate a conference focussing on arts in local government. Titled '*Expanding Cultures*', the conference will bring international, national, state and local experiences and debates onto the stages at Chapel off Chapel, the venue sponsored by the City of Stonnington. Kim and I have been joined by part-time conference coordinator Elodie Hodgkins. We hope to see many of you there. Visit the Conference web-site at <http://www.culturaldevelopment.net/expandingcultures>.

Member relationships

Both Kim and I are keen to keep our contact with members through events such as forums and conferences. We are also able to visit councils across the state to meet with our members and local communities to discuss the key issues that face councils and their 'arts and culture' departments. With a good amount of time to plan we can work with small local groups to hold network events such as forums and round-tables where the knowledge in the field can be brought together on specific issues.

Culture in public policy

The general climate of changing communities and the impact of international events, refugee movement and media portrayal of the world around us brings local communities and local government into the forefront of public policy at both a state and federal level because this is where people live and work. There is a growing world-wide movement of local governments and cities that are championing the importance of the cultural

development dimension in public policy and all major political parties and the community focussed departments include community health and well-being in their messages and their strategies. This will inevitably lead to a greater realisation that there is a cultural dimension that needs to be understood and strengthened. This is a good time for local government to harness that public policy momentum and continue to build strength into local communities through the revision and refreshment of cultural plans and arts strategies.

Changes foreshadowed in the Australia Council, state arts bodies and community services departments and agencies mean that the local government arts and cultural development sector will be an important player in the immediate future of public policy.

Changes to membership:

'Subscriber' category and new membership fees

In response to this growing activity, the Board of the Cultural Development Network recently approved the establishment of an additional level of membership, a 'Subscriber' category, which is free. We anticipate that 'Subscribers' will be people not directly engaged with arts and culture in local government and local communities, but who have some relationship to our area of interest and expertise. We anticipate that a larger body of 'Subscribers' will bring more associated experience and diverse knowledge into the organisation, beyond just a mailing-list, that will allow us to keep up to date with, and in some cases in front of, the main policy initiatives.

In search of ever streamlined administrative processes, the Board also approved changes to our membership structure to eliminate the current two-tier level of membership that requires payment of a joining fee. Annual membership for new and renewing members will be now standardized at \$44 or \$22 concession.

We are also very close to the introduction of an automated membership system which will be a vast improvement on our current labour intensive manual system. Look out for computer generated invoices, reminders and receipts coming soon to you!

John Smithies
Director, Cultural Development Network

CDN activities: coming up in 2007

Expanding Cultures Arts & Local Government Conference 24-27 July, Chapel off Chapel, Prahran

The Cultural Development Network and partner councils, Stonnington, Yarra, Melbourne, Moreland, Maribyrnong, Moonee Valley, Boroondara and Port Phillip are pleased to announce the opening of registrations for the 'Expanding Cultures' conference.

'Expanding Cultures' will focus on the contribution of arts and cultural development to the strength and well-being of local communities, and provide opportunities for networking and skill development for those in the cultural development sector, especially those in local government.

Two recent rounds of 'Calls for Expressions of Interest' generated a large number of interesting proposals for papers and workshops. The program is shaping up really well on conference themes of

- the changing shape of community cultures and their impact on local government in Victoria
- arts as a vehicle for strengthening communities and facilitating social inclusion
- the impact of arts activities on health, education and economic development
- local government's engagement with Indigenous art and culture
- improving evaluation of arts activities and cultural development programs
- innovative partnerships

International keynote speakers will include Jordi Pascual, Coordinator of the Working Group on Culture, of United Cities and Local Governments based at the Institut de Cultura at Barcelona City Council; Jude Bloomfield, an independent researcher in urban cultures, cultural planning and citizenship and the Hon Nanaia Mahuta, Minister for Youth Affairs and Associate Minister for Local Government, New Zealand.

Local keynote speakers include Professor John Wiseman, McCaughey Centre for Health and Wellbeing, University of Melbourne; Dr Martin Mulligan, Deputy Director, Globalism Institute, RMIT; Colleen Marion, CEO of the Western Suburbs Indigenous Gathering Place and Glenyys Romanes, Manager Community Relationships, Department of Infrastructure and many managers, co-ordinators officer and artists from local government across Australia.

Enquiries: +61 3 9658 9976
kim.dunphy@culturaldevelopment.net.au

The conference website is now up with details continually being updated. www.culturaldevelopment.net/expandingcultures

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Recent CDN events

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**An interactive workshop for cultural planners –
'Cultural Planning and Cultural Indicators': how do we measure what we have planned?**

February 16, 2006, VicHealth, Carlton

This theoretical and practical workshop was designed for those who plan for and measure cultural activity, especially local and state government arts and culture workers and social, community and urban planners. This event picked up on interest generated from Mike Salvaris' presentation on Cultural Indicators at the 'Working Outside the Box forum' presented by CDN and partners in May 2006. The workshop was intended to connect the theory and practice of cultural planning and cultural indicators.

The full house of 43 participants, mostly local government cultural workers, explored underlying goals and values of cultural planning processes and considered the value of cultural indicators in a local government context. An interactive planning activity, using Zing Learning Technology, generated a long list of possible indicators relevant to participants' contexts.

Attendees overall found the workshop valuable, with comments including 'refreshing', 'inspiring', 'very participatory' and 'valuable and continuing forum'. Feedback indicated that attendees were very keen to develop further their working knowledge and ability to apply relevant and appropriate indicators.

The interest in this topic was so strong that two further events are planned; one for people who attended the first event to further develop the application of indicators in their own work setting and the second, a re-run of the whole event for all those people who were unable to be accommodated at the first event.

Dates and times to be advised shortly.

In the meantime, outcomes from the forum are available from ***http://www.culturaldevelopment.net/cdnevents_past.htm***

- *Forum report*
- ***Cultural wellbeing indicators in programs and policy making: report on a workshop for cultural development workers in government and the community***, Adj. Prof. Mike Salvaris, School of Global Studies, Social Sciences and Planning, RMIT University

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New on our website

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Report on ‘Agenda 21 for Culture’ meeting and ‘Interaccio’ conference Barcelona, Spain, October 2006

Report on visit to Barcelona by Kim Dunphy, Manager, Sue Beal, Chair and Jon Hawkes, invited keynote speaker, for the Agenda 21 for Culture meeting and 'Interaccio' conference on cultural policy for communities. Jon Hawkes gave a keynote speech at this conference to 600 European delegates, all interested in the relationship of culture and local government
http://www.culturaldevelopment.net/cdnevents_past.htm#

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Events in Victoria

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‘Look At Me’: Youth Disability Photographic Exhibition

April 10-22, Angela Robards-Bird Gallery

Gasworks Arts Park, 21 Graham St, Albert Park

Showcasing the diversity and pride of young people with disabilities

A National Youth Week event presented by the Youth Disability Advocacy Service **Enquiries: www.ydas.org 9267 3755**

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‘Folk: A World Within A World ‘

presented by Geelong Performing Arts Centre

3-5 pm April 29, June 24, July 29, September 9

A series of eclectic and energetic performances showcasing Geelong’s multicultural communities. We bring the world to you – dancers, choristers, opera singers, instrumentalists, percussionists, orchestras, tea makers, dragons, tigers, cultural artefacts and wares.

Ph 5225 1200 www.gpac.org.au

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Professional development

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'Creative Collaborations in the Classroom between teachers, artists and young people'

A joint colloquium presented by Western Edge Youth Arts, Debney Park Secondary College & Melbourne University

Thursday April 19, 5.15 to 7.15pm

Melbourne University: Doug McDonnell Building, Level 5 Lecture Theatre

This Colloquium will explore what is involved in a successful collaboration; innovative pedagogy and creative partnerships between schools and community arts organizations. This work is part of a three year ARC funded research partnership exploring: Transformative arts education partnerships: a creative approach to whole school renewal and is supported by the Victorian Government Department of Education and Training.

Enquiries: dave@westernedge.org.au

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Successful Grant Submissions And Tender Writing Workshop
Infoxchange

Thursday April 19, 9.00am to 4.30pm

375 Johnston Street, Abbotsford, Melbourne.

This intensive one day workshop will equip you with the information you need to ensure you have an edge over other applicants. You will discover the right way to manage the application process to develop a successful application. Workshop Manual, Lunch and refreshments provided.

Enquiries: Maya **Phone:** 9418 7401 training@infoxchange.net.au
www.training.infoxchange.net.au/news

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Workshop: Community Indicators Victoria: a tool for Council planning
April and May 2007, through Victoria

Presented by the McCaughey Centre, VicHealth Centre for Mental Health and Community Wellbeing, with the Centre for Regional Development, Swinburne University.

Update your knowledge on the community indicators framework and forthcoming data; explore the potential uses of the framework and data for your particular council and consider the strengths and challenges arising from this approach; inform the development of the CIV strategy to build the capacity of local government and communities to make best use of the data.

For councillors, executive staff; planners – including corporate, community, social, health, environment, cultural etc and key community partners.

Region	Date	Time	Co-host Council & Location
Loddon Mallee	18 April	9.00 – 12.00	City of Greater Bendigo
Barwon Sth West	26 April	12.30 – 3.30	Surf Coast Shire
Southern Metro	27 April	1.00 – 4.00	Kingston City Council
Eastern Metro	3 May	1.00 – 4.00	Maroondah City Council
North and West	4 May	1.00 – 4.00	Melton Shire Council
Gippsland	9 May	9.00 – 12.00	Wellington Shire Council
Hume	24 May	9.00 – 12.00	Wodonga City Council
Grampians	29 May	9.00 – 12.00	Horsham Rural City Council

Places are limited and bookings are essential.

Enquiries: kjenkins@unimelb.edu.au.

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‘The Art Of Change’ Workshops, RMIT Community Advocacy Unit.

Join this free public seminar series and explore the dynamic history and practice of activist art.

Streams in: Graphic design; Music; Film; Theatre; New media.

Workshop dates for all streams except graphic design:

Saturday 5 and 26 May, 9am-5pm;

Graphic design stream:

Saturdays 28 April, 12 and 26 May, 9am-5pm;

Cost: \$30 / \$120 for three days

Enquiries: Gillian Davy 9925 2910 advocacy@rmit.edu.au.

[RMIT Community Advocacy Unit](#)

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Regional Arts Victoria's Biennial Symposium
Saturday 5 May, 2007
Lakes Entrance Surf Club, Lakes Entrance.

This event presents an ideal opportunity for anyone involved in delivering cultural events and activities in a regional context to meet others working in the same sphere, discuss current issues and challenges with peers, inspire and be inspired by the multitude of success stories that often remain untold until such occasions.

The symposium coincides with the RAV AGM and the first presentation of the RAVE Awards, acknowledging excellence in six categories. Delegates will also enjoy a rare public performance of James Griffin's new collection of dark, anecdotal vignettes from country Australia, 'Songs from the Jukebox at the Ghost Town Bridge Hotel.'

Enquiries: 03 9644 1800 toll-free on 1800 819 803.
www.rav.net.au

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Museums Aust Vic. forum: 'Art of Collecting and Using Photographs'
Monday May 14, 9.30-5 pm, Melbourne Museum

Have we been good collectors and custodians of our photographic collections? What issues can we expect to face in the future? What is best practice in collecting and preserving photographs?

Speakers include: Helen Doxford Harris OAM (genealogists & family historian), Detlev Lueth (Conservation, National Archive), Angeletta Leggio (Conservation, Museum Victoria), John Kean (Producer, Museum Victoria) and Isobel Crombie (Photography, NGV).

Cost: \$80 members/ \$120

Enquiries: Anne Thoday 03 8341 7344 tpd@mavic.asn.au.

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Understanding Islam, The Muslim Community & Impact On Services.
Thursday 7 June, 10am -- 12pm
Darebin Arts & Entertainment Centre)

Gain an understanding of the Muslim community and barriers which prevent service access. Topics:

- An overview of Islam
- Understanding the myths and misconceptions regarding the Muslim community in Australia
- Customs and cultural expectations
- Improving cultural sensitivity

Keynote Speakers

- Mrs Manar Chelebi - Executive Officer, Australian Council of Islamic Education in Schools & Diversity Consultant
- Mr Yasser Soliman -- President of Islamic Family and Child Care Agency

Cost: \$44 **Email: priocons@ihug.com.au** **Mobile: 0438 846 584**
<http://www.prioletticonsultants.com.au>

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Training Course in Theatre For Living,
presented by Cultural Action Theatre,
mid-September 2007 , The Centre, North-West Melbourne,

Five day workshop led by David Diamond of Headlines Theatre (www.healdinestheatre.com) Vancouver for artists, activists, educators, anyone interested in seeking skills and techniques in the use of a theatrical language to explore community dialogue. Also three day workshop on Rainbow of Desire Techniques and Cops in Your Head.

Enquiries: socat@vicnet.net.au

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Opportunities

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City of Kingston seeks members for 2007 Youth Arts Steering Committee

Broad requirements of the role of the steering committee member in 2007 will involve investigating and developing the capacity to incorporate of a not for profit Youth Arts Organisation and will include 'hands on' active involvement

Closing date: April 23 **www.kingston.vic.gov.au**
Enquiries: lynne.donnelly@kingston.vic.gov.au 9581 4692

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Microsoft Donation program for artists and community organisations

Microsoft is committed to helping as many community organisations as possible have access to the tools of technology, now and in the future.

Enquiries: www.donortec.com.au or bba@bbridges.com.au.

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The Melbourne Awards 2007

Lord Mayor John So encourages applications to the Melbourne Awards to recognise individuals and organisations that have made outstanding contributions to our community.

Closing date: Friday June 8

Enquiries: 9658 9658 www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/melbourneawards

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Funding opportunities

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Community Partnerships Grants Program

Melbourne Information Session

Thursday May 3, 12.30pm – 2.00pm

Victorian Writer's Centre, Level 1, 37 Swanston St (Nicholas Building)

Come and hear how the Australia Council for the Arts supports and promotes community-based arts and cultural activities and receive detailed information about the 2007 Community Partnerships grant categories. Individual meetings to discuss projects with Community Partnerships staff are available on the day from 9am–11.30am and 2.30pm–5.30pm.

**Enquiries: Sabine Horner on (02) 9215 9126 / toll free 1800 226 912
s.horner@ozco.gov.au**

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Launch Pad - Partnership Grants with Young People and Organisations

The aim of Launch Pad Grants is for young people and organisations to work together to implement a creative idea that results in meaningful change with young people aged 12-25 years.

Closing date: Monday June 4

Enquiries: www.youngaustralians.org or call 03 9670 5436.

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Foundation For Rural And Regional Renewal: Small Grants For Small Rural Communities Program

A new and innovative funding program offering \$300,000 a year in grants to benefit people in rural and remote communities seeks applications in the following areas of interest:

- community hardship in drought affected areas
- retention of young people in rural and regional Australia.

- resettlement of immigrants in rural Australia
- community Infrastructure

Closing dates: September 30

Enquiries info@frrr.org.au www.frrr.org.au/programs

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Requests

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Reach Out Foundation Seek Multimedia Stories About Mental Health And Illness

Reach Out! is an online service preventing youth suicide and helping young people get through tough times. They seek multimedia content to showcase; personal narratives of no longer than 5 minutes that deal with the themes of 'mental health' or 'mental illness'

Enquiries: www.reachout.com.au

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Connections Zulu Choir Seeks Sponsors And Performance Hosts

The Oaktree Foundation, Australia's youth run aid and development agency, is bringing a South Africa Zulu choir Connections to Australia for a tour between June 4-24. The choir are 21 young adults whose songs tell the story of growing up in South Africa. They sing in three and four part harmonies across a range of styles, including gospel, traditional Zulu, soul, and *kwaito* (South African hip hop). The Oaktree Foundation is currently seeking interest from corporate sponsors and from venues interested in hosting the choir for a performance.

Enquiries: Olivia Brian: oliviab2006@gmail.com

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Resources

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Film: 'Doan Ket La Suc Manh' (Together We are Strong),

A unique short film made by prisoners for prisoners through an innovative and creative approach to health promotion, with partners including the North Richmond Community Health Centre, Arts and Culture program and Vietnamese prisoners from Fulham Correctional Centre.

Enquiries: Vivien Fox vivienf@ceh.org.au

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New report: “Creating Community: Celebrations, Arts and Wellbeing within and across Local Communities”

This newly published report was compiled by the Globalism Institute at RMIT working in partnership with VicHealth. The research, funded primarily by the Australian Research Council, was conducted over three years in St Kilda, Broadmeadows, Daylesford and Hamilton. The report finds that people who take part in community arts find new ways to deal with challenges, from helping migrants adapt to their new community, to helping rural communities cope with the challenges of drought.

Enquiries: Dr Martin Mulligan, (03) 9925 2725.

martin.mulligan@rmit.edu.au

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Research report: Strengthening Local Communities: Arts in Community Settings. The evaluation of two Community Support Funded Arts Programs (2006)

Arts Victoria and Department of Victorian Communities

This report examines the results of focus groups undertaken with artists, participants and community groups about the impact of two Community Arts Programs. The report demonstrates the importance of partnerships in making arts and cultural activities sustainable in local communities.

[Strengthening Local Communities: Arts in community settings \(PDF 1.3mb\)](#)

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Cultural Mapping Toolkit

The Creative City Network of Canada with 2010 Legacies have developed two new resources to assist local governments, as well as arts, cultural and heritage organizations, plan for the future. The Cultural Mapping Toolkit takes you through the entire mapping process, from creating an inventory of cultural resources to drawing and presenting your map. Examples, checklists and worksheets are included to help you along the way.

www.creativecity.ca/toolkits Enquiries: info@creativecity.ca

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Australian Bureau Of Statistics Australian Year Book

The latest edition of the Australian Bureau of Statistics’ principal reference book includes information on volunteering, not-for-profits and social health.

• **Random Statistic #1:** Almost half (49.1%) of Australia’s 1300-plus art and other museums are operated without paid employees, relying on the work of more than 9000 volunteers. The 676 museums that do have paid employees employ a total of 7600 people, who are assisted by 11,000 volunteers.

• **Random Statistic #2:** The quality of people's close relationships is one factor researchers agree has a fairly strong association with high levels of subjective wellbeing. Participation – be it social, educational or in the workforce – has also been associated with higher levels of life satisfaction.

Download from this link:

www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/subscriber.nsf/log?openagent&13010_2007.pdf&1301.0&Publication&D6C6B02D31617DA4CA25726D000467A6&0&2007&24.01.2007&Latest

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Creative Spaces: New Matchmaking Website For Creative Spaces

Creative Spaces is a new resource that matches arts spaces with arts projects. This joint initiative of the City of Melbourne and Arts Victoria and aims to become the definitive directory for anyone looking for a space to exhibit, perform or develop their work.

**Enquiries: Eleni Arbus on 9322 3711 elelearnb@melbourne.vic.gov.au
www.creativespaces.net.au**

IMPORTANT NOTE:

The Cultural Development Network welcomes contributions to this bulletin. If you wish to advertise your events, if you have changed address, or no longer wish to receive this e-bulletin, please contact us:
kim.dunphy@culturaldevelopment.net.au

E-bulletin publication guidelines:

One subject per item: 25 words (minimum) to 100 words (maximum): 12 point font, single spaced, no tabs, no caps, no colour and definitely no pictures. Text must be in the body of the e-mail (no attachments). The subject heading should say "for e-bulletin".

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