



GEELONG ARTS CENTRE

# CREATIVE ENGINE'S LAUNCHPAD 2.0.

GUIDING ORIGINAL WORKS  
FROM EARLY DEVELOPMENT  
TO PRESENTATION.

Geelong Arts Centre's



**Creative  
Engine**



threadbare by Tomas Parrish-Chynoweth  
2025 Launchpad development  
Image credit: Skye Sobejko

## Launchpad 2.0 - The next evolution of Creative Engine

**Applications are now open for our industry-leading Creative Engine program, returning in a new format as Launchpad 2.0.**

Building on a significant year of artist support in 2025, the refreshed program streamlines smaller grant rounds into one richer, year-round funding and mentorship opportunity, supporting eight performance-based artists.

Throughout the year, successful recipients will develop a new work across three stages of creative development, alongside mentorship and a tailored series of workshops, culminating in a work-in-progress presentation to Geelong audiences and beyond.

From theatre, scriptwriting to dance, music, digital and community-based practices, artists across all live performance mediums from Geelong or with a connection to the region are encouraged to apply.

This refreshed program replaces all previous smaller grant round periods.

Launchpad 2.0 applications open once annually, closing at 5pm on Sunday 5 October.



# LAUNCHPAD 2.0.



Good Man by Connor Morel  
2024 Launchpad development  
Image credit: Lucinda Goodwin

## The offer

Throughout the year, successful recipients will develop a new work across three stages of creative development, alongside mentorship and a tailored series of workshops, culminating in a work-in-progress presentation to Geelong audiences and beyond.

**Launchpad 2.0. includes:**

**\$8,000 in cash per project, provided over three development periods over 12 months:**

**Development #1** (Jan - Mar) \$2,000

**Development #2** (Apr - Jun) \$2,000

**Development #3** (Jul - Oct) \$4,000 including the public development showing

- Studio access during all three development periods (up to 6 days per period), in kind value of \$18,750
- Access to The Open House for development showing (October)
- Four professional and creative skills workshops
- Mentorship sessions Geelong Arts Centre's Associate Artists, Keziah Warner and Bron Batten
- Artist development support and guidance from the Geelong Arts Centre's programming team
- Access to co-working and meeting spaces
- Monthly cohort check-in meetings
- Networking opportunities with the wider Creative Engine community of creatives
- Complimentary tickets to select Rewire and main season shows
- 12 month Artist Pass membership in 2026

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## What we're looking for

**Independent artists with an original concept they wish to develop over 12 months, with the program culminating in a public showing:**

- Artists across all live performance mediums from Geelong or with a connection to the region are encouraged to apply - from theatre, scriptwriting to dance, music, digital and community-based practices
- Artists will be expected to have detailed project plans and to engage collaborators to develop the work
- Artists must commit to the full duration of the program and attend all workshops and meetings
- First Nations artists and artists from diverse backgrounds are encouraged to apply, and additional supports are available
- Applications will be assessed via a panel of assessors including representatives from the Geelong Arts Centre and independent industry peers





Parasail by Kath Dolheguy  
2024 Launchpad development  
Image credit: Skye Sobejko

## Expectations & requirements

- Participation in planning meetings with Geelong Arts Centre's Programming team
- Clear planning for the three phases of the project development
- Completion of all studio rehearsal periods during allotted eligible times (agreed upon at time of program acceptance)
- A public showing of approximately 30 minutes in The Open House, following the third development phase
- Creative teams will be built if not already existing
- Public Liability Insurance cover of \$20 million (Geelong Arts Centre can support artists in ways to find PLI cover)
- Attend monthly cohort check-in meetings with fellow program participants and networking sessions with the wider Creative Engine community of creatives
- Compulsory attendance at all provided professional and creative skills workshops
- Attend all mentor sessions – times to be mutually agreed with artists
- Attend a photo opportunity with fellow program participants (date TBC)
- Completion of an acquittal at the conclusion of the program
- Completion of an annual artists survey for 4 years following the program

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Cabaret of Calm by Helen Duncan  
2024 Launchpad development  
Image credit: Cameron Grant

## Studio development & public showing

Applicants must be available for at least one week of each of the below development phases and public showing periods (access to the studios will be between 8am – 4pm, extended hours are dependent on availability and can be discussed).

### Development #1: February - March

- Feb: Mon 9 - Sat 14
- Feb: Mon 16 - Sat 21
- Feb: Mon 23 - Sat 28
- Mar: Mon 2 - Sat 7
- Mar: Tues 10 - Sat 14
- Mar: Mon 16 - Sat 21
- Mar: Mon 23 - Sat 28

### Development #2: April - June

- April: Mon 7- Sat 11
- April: Mon 13 - Sat 18
- April: Mon 20 - Fri 24
- May: Mon 4 - Sat 9
- May: Mon 11 - Sat 16
- May: Mon 18 - Sat 23
- May: Mon 25 - Sat 30
- June: Mon 1 - 6 June
- June: Mon 15 - Sat 20
- June: Mon 22 - Sat 27

### Development #3: June - October

- Jun/Jul: Mon 29 - Sat 4
- Jul: Mon 6 - Sat 11
- Aug: Mon 3 - Sat 8
- Aug: Mon 10 - Sat 15
- Aug: Mon 17 - Sat 22
- Aug: Mon 24 - Sat 29
- Sep: Mon 31 - Sat 5 Sep
- Sep/Oct: Mon 28 - Sat 3
- Oct: Mon 5 - Sat 10
- Oct: Mon 12 - Sat 17

### Public Showing Sept - Oct

- Sep/Oct: Tue 29 - Sun 4
- Oct: Mon 5 - Sun 11
- Oct: Mon 19 - Sun 25



## Selection criteria

### Connection

To Geelong and the G21 region in terms of audiences, place and artists.

### Artistic Merit and Innovation

Clear and innovative artistic visions and collaborations will be highly regarded.

### Need

Artists must demonstrate the need for participation in the program in relation to the development of the work and their/their collaborators artistic practice and career development.

### Planning

Strong applications will have articulately outlined plans and milestones to reach their creative ambitions for their project, and will have provided detailed budgets.

**We strongly encourage applications from First Nations people, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, people from Disabled and d/Deaf communities, people from low-income communities and people from LGBTQIA+ communities.**



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## Key dates

<b>Applications open</b>	Monday 8 September 2025
<b>Applications close</b>	5pm, Sunday 5 October 2025

## Development & presentation dates

<b>Development phase #1</b>	January - March 2026
<b>Development phase #2</b>	April- June 2026
<b>Development phase #3</b>	July-October 2026
<b>Public development showings</b>	October 2026

## How to apply

Applications are open now via [this online form.](#)

Applicants that require a different application method are invited to contact Geelong Arts Centre to discuss this – we are committed to making application processes as accessible as possible and will work with interested applicants to facilitate this, please get in touch via [creativeengine@geelongartscentre.org.au](mailto:creativeengine@geelongartscentre.org.au)

## For more information

If you require more information, don't hesitate to reach out to [creativeengine@geelongartscentre.org.au](mailto:creativeengine@geelongartscentre.org.au)



Geelong Arts Centre's



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