

GEELONG ARTS CENTRE

CREATIVE ENGINE'S LAUNCHPAD 2.0.

GUIDING ORIGINAL WORKS FROM EARLY DEVELOPMENT TO PRESENTATION.

Creative Engine



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.

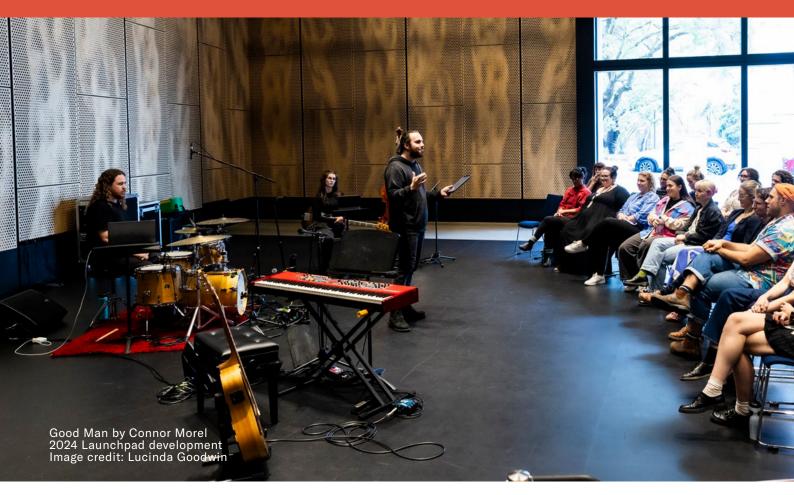
Building on a significant year of artist support in 2025, the refreshed program streamlines smaller grant rounds into one richer, year-round funding and mentorship opportunity, supporting eight performance-based artists.

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.



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



What we're looking for

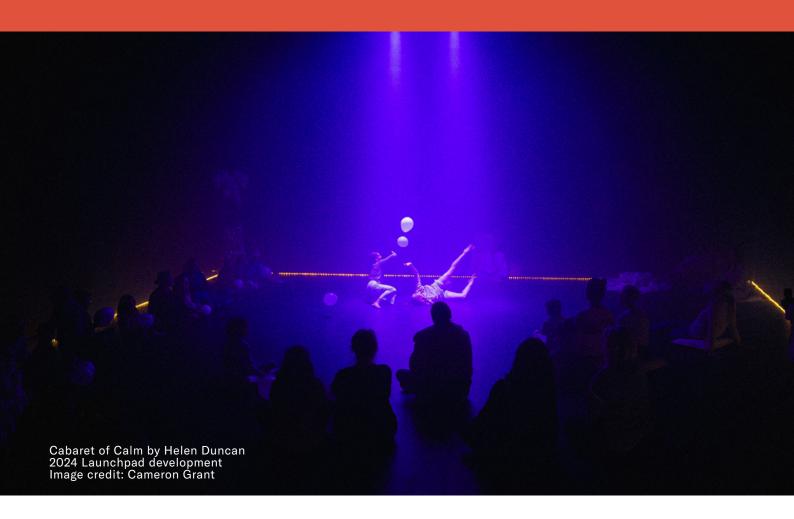
Independent artists with an original concept they wish to develop over 12 months, with the program culminating in a public showing:

- 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



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



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.

Key dates

Applications open Monday 8 September 2025 **Applications close** 5pm, Sunday 5 October 2025

Development & presentation dates

Development phase #1 January - March 2026

Development phase #2 April- June 2026

Development phase #3 July-October 2026

Public development showings 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**

For more information

If you require more information, don't hesitate to reach out to **creativeengine@geelongartscentre.org.au**

Geelong Arts Centre's









