

# Creative Sparks Program 2026 grant recipients



*Dedicated to a better Brisbane*

The following [Creative Sparks](#) grants projects were approved in March 2026.

Successful grant recipients receive funding to implement creative projects, develop a professional practice or foster creative entrepreneurial partnerships with Brisbane artists and cultural workers.

Recipient	Project name	Description	Amount Approved
Alex Buchanan	Flabaret	To develop Flabaret, a cabaret with original songs, exploring life in a fat body within a fat-phobic world, presenting a work-in-progress at Pip Theatre in August 2026.	\$14,902.50
Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra	Bohemian Dreams Debut	The Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra brings a new immersive classical experience to new Brisbane audiences. 'Bohemian Dreams' combines sparkling Viennese and Czech chamber music, an interactive music talk, and luscious supper in Plant Empire's newly-renovated and inspiring setting.	\$4,914.00
Boneta-Marie Mabo	Colonial Seeds: The Next Chapter	A developing body of works that confront Queensland's history of girls' incarceration within institutions and their ongoing legacy in child incarceration, culminating in a public exhibition and community conversation in Brisbane.	\$12,870.00
Brisbane Ballet	Her	The project will present a night of dance focussing on women's stories featuring Arianna Marchiori's In The Blur exploring stability and fragility and Rosetta Cook's Interior which takes us on a journey through memory, love and loss via Beethoven sonatas.	\$16,500.00
Cecilia Martin	Steam - Creative Development	This project supports the creative development of Steam, a new circus, physical theatre and dance work exploring power, rage and softness. Led by Cecilia Martin, the Brisbane development unites acclaimed artists and culminates in a public showing and community workshops.	\$14,993.00
Dots and Loops Pty Ltd	Sounding Spaces	Dots+Loops will deliver Sounding Spaces, a series of free arts events combining immersive live performances, participatory music-making activities, and sonic exploration place-making walks. These will be presented throughout 2026 in various locations in Brisbane.	\$14,100.00

Ehud Joseph	Fashioning Queer Identities: Creativity, Community, and Co-Design	The second phase of this project will develop a multimedia exhibition that investigates how identity is expressed, shaped, and sometimes concealed within LGBTQIA+ identities. Through co-design workshops, the project will showcase the fashioned identities of participants, their communities, and local cultural capital.	\$14,058.00
Flipside Circus Ltd	Freshwaters— A Professional Circus Opportunity for Young First Nations Artists	Freshwaters is a First Nations-led circus initiative providing young First Nations people with pathways from community engagement to professional creative development.  Through training, mentorship, and paid performance opportunities, it fosters cultural expression, skill development, and representation within Queensland's circus industry.	\$14,000.00
Gina Tay Limpus	Second Creative Development of new psychophysical theatre work, Red Almodovar	This project will support the second-stage creative development of Red Almodovar, a new psychophysical theatre work investigating gendered power dynamics in Australia and El Salvador. The development will be followed by a two-day preview season at Studio1 in Brisbane.	\$11,232.10
Greta Kelly	Mzaza Residency and New Album Development	Mzaza composers undertake a residency and develop new cross-cultural compositions exploring 'connection to place' through first-generation migrant experiences, contributing to Mzaza's fourth studio album and multi-disciplinary show. This project phase culminates in a workshop and public showing at BEMAC.	\$14,952.96
Hayley Maree Marsten	Hayley Marsten Third Album	This project will cover the production and recording of acclaimed singer-songwriter, Hayley Marsten's third album in Brisbane with two-time ARIA award-winning producer Cody McWaters. With a public 'listening party' of the new work at the studio's event space once complete.	\$15,000.00
Muses Inc	Muses Trio Emerging Composer Development Program	Mentoring four young composers to create, perform and record a 15-minute collaborative work inspired by Brisbane's lights.	\$11,900.00
Nerida Matthaei	Retroactive: Celebrating 20 Years of Phluxus2 Dance Collective	Retroactive is a celebration of Nerida Matthaei and Phluxus2's 20-year contribution to the Queensland dance landscape. Reuniting 31 local artists to reimagine 17 key work excerpts into a new performance honouring legacy, intergenerational innovation, and presented at Thomas Dickson Centre.	\$15,892.80

Prita Tina Yeganeh	My Soil Farsh: Iteration 4 (Acts of Reciprocity)	The project will develop a moving-image film titled 'Acts of Reciprocity', to be exhibited at Onespace Gallery. It brings together women from Brisbane's diverse migrant and diasporic communities to explore how shared-labour, printmaking, and ecological restoration foster social-cohesion.	\$15,000.00
Sing Sing Sing Ltd	What the World Needs Now...	Sing Sing Sing, Queensland's first 'dementia choir' will reach new audiences, rehearsing and delivering a participatory choral experience that creates a genuine sense of connection and belonging for participants and the audience, to be presented during Brisbane's Anywhere Festival.	\$15,620.00
Thomas Yaxley	Gruesome Playground Injuries	Gruesome Playground Injuries is the debut play of internationally acclaimed playwright Rajiv Joseph and will be the inaugural theatrical grenade launched by new company Patchwork Theatre at Metro Arts.	\$14,074.29
Vulcana Womens Circus Inc	Cashless & Care-Free	Vulcana Circus will present a new circus-based work, 'Cashless and Care-Free', at the Spring Hill Baths in Brisbane, about care and care work. Key partners are synchronised swimming troupe Aqualina and the older women's dance collective The Catalogue of Forgetting.	\$13,010.00