

2025 PUBLIC ART FUND GUIDELINES



WHANGANUI
DISTRICT COUNCIL
Te Kaunihera a Rohe o Whanganui



The Public Art Fund supports creatives to deliver innovative and diverse public art across the region. We support artworks which showcase Whanganui's unique environment, history, and cultural identity.

The Public Art Steering Group

This group assesses all applications to ensure assessment criteria and the desired public art outcomes are achieved. The group consists of a wide range of representatives including artists, iwi representatives and council officers with relevant expertise and knowledge to advise applicants on their project. Read more about assessment criteria on page 2 of this document.

Eligible projects could include (but are not limited to):

- ◆ Works such as sculpture, street-art, pou whenua, sound art, light sculpture, land art, murals, digital art, moving image and installation
- ◆ Artists contributing to urban design developments (such as parks, streets, bridges, buildings and street furniture).
- ◆ Temporary public art activities and events, such as performance artworks, time-based sculpture, projections, paste-ups, media arts, and movable works
- ◆ Artists working with communities in public spaces.

Funding

The Public Art Fund is a contestable match funding scheme. This means applications must include additional funding close to or equal to the amount requested from the fund. For instance, if your project costs amount to \$10,000, you may apply for \$5000 from the Public Art Fund, and another \$5000 must be matched by another funder. Match funding may include in-kind support.

This year there is a total of \$30,000 available for applicants. In the case of larger projects, an application for funds for the same project may be made in consecutive years.



FUNDING CRITERIA

To be eligible for funding artworks must:

- ◆ Be delivered in a public space in the Whanganui District
- ◆ Work with the Creative Community Advisor to develop maintenance plans, if a work is intended to be permanent
- ◆ Consider public safety
- ◆ Not have started before an application for funding has been assessed
- ◆ Meet the below, which informs by Whanganui District Council's Arts & Culture Strategic Plan 2019-2029.

Artworks must demonstrate at least one of the following:

- ◆ Artworks that shape and improve the perception, image and visual quality of Whanganui
- ◆ Artworks that reflect the history and culture of Whanganui
- ◆ Projects that recount oral histories of tangata whenua of the Whanganui region that have been authenticated by at least two Iwi historians mandated by Whanganui Iwi organisations such as Te Runanga o Tupoho, Te Runanga o Tamaupoko & Te Runanga o Te Awa Tupua o Whanganui.
- ◆ Projects that celebrate the visual language and design history of the whakairo tradition from Whanganui River marae and sites of significance
- ◆ Artworks that focus on Te Awa Tupua, the Whanganui River.
- ◆ Artworks that celebrate and represent Whanganui's diverse communities through partnerships between artists and community groups
- ◆ Artworks that directly contribute to social and economic change in the Whanganui District
- ◆ Artworks that increase awareness of and participation in arts and creative cultural activity by Whanganui residents
- ◆ Artworks that take place in, on or nearby public infrastructure as part of development and redevelopment projects.

PROCESS

The fund is delivered annually, unless there are funds remaining from a funding round. All proposals must be discussed with the Creative Community Advisor before submission. They assist each applicant with their proposal before it is assessed to ensure the criteria are met and all the required supporting material is included.

Priority will be given to proposals that:

- ◆ Are executed by local artists
- ◆ Demonstrate a high standard of artistic excellence
- ◆ Highlight considered responses to the proposed place or site that take into account cultural, environmental and historical contexts
- ◆ Consider accessibility of the artwork
- ◆ Utilise local tradespeople, as well as materials sourced or manufactured in Whanganui.

If successful, applicants have a year to deliver their artwork. Application forms and additional information can be found on the Whanganui District Council webpage [here](#). For more information contact the Creative Community Advisor, Anique Jayasinghe on anique.jayasinghe@whanganui.govt.nz.

IMAGE: HANDSPAN PEACE SCULPTURE - ROSS MITCHELL-ANYON, 2002

