



Minutes Banyule Arts & Culture Advisory Committee 2 September 2021

Present**Council Officers**

Cr Elizabeth Nealy, Cr Peter Dimarelos, Cr. Alida McKern, Kath Brackett, Hannes Berger, Steph Neoh, Nicole Maslin

Committee Members

Kate Hansen, Kevin Ritchie, Genelle Ryan, Craig Eloranta, Joanne O'Hara, June Gassin, Janelle Dunstan, Caroline Wall, Leah Crossman, Paul Higgins, Deb Lemcke, Amy Stephenson.

Apologies

none

I. Welcome and Introductions

Cr Nealy declared the meeting open, acknowledged the traditional owners the Wurundjeri willam people, read the Banyule Diversity Statement and welcomed all present and noted apologies.

- Everyone was invited to introduce themselves (30 seconds each)

2. Banyule Arts & Culture Program Overview

- Hannes outlined the Aims / Structure / Programs of Arts & Culture at Banyule. Arts & Culture Strategic Plan, which aligns with City Plan Objectives. Arts & Culture Program can be categorised into these streams:
 - Ivanhoe Library & Cultural Hub
 - Festivals
 - Sector Development
 - Public Art
 - Cultural Development
- Cultural Outcomes Framework – basis for Banyule's A&C Strategic Plan.
 - Culture as a policy domain of public planning – 5 pillars of sustainable public planning: Cultural, Environmental, Social, Economic, Governance.
 - 5 Cultural Outcomes that we program to, and evaluate against:
 - Stimulation
 - Enrichment
 - Insight
 - Belonging
 - Appreciation
 - Ultimate goal: people are engaged in meaningful and culturally vital lives.
- Questions/Comments:
 - Paul Higgins – less than 1% of air time given to the arts in ABC news – discussion of having Arts headlines, much like sports, etc. Opportunities for Banyule to include ABC News in media releases and create Arts news points for ABC.
 - Paul Higgins - Soundscapes as part of public art
 - June Gassin - Philanthropic arm of Banyule Council, to fundraise for the arts, to support local arts industry
 - Kevin Ritchie – art during Covid – example of Alphington Community Centre, localised installations/displays of art, to delight and inspire local community

3. Cultural Vitality – Discussion

- New 4-year Arts & Culture Strategic Plan will be a big piece of work in next 12 months.
- To frame our thinking as we head into this, keen to explore the meaning & intention of the primary goal of our existing Strategic Plan (will also be a driver in our next plan)
- 3 break out rooms to discuss (15 mins):

Goal: People are engaged in meaningful and culturally vital lives

- what does this mean to you?
 - what does it look like (successful examples)?
 - what is required to achieve it?
- Feedback to group
 - Culture is the outward expression of the values of a community/group. It's dynamic.
 - 2 levels of support – professional (creators) and community (participants). Need to allow all to get involved. Pathways for professionals, and pathways for general public enjoyment, etc.
 - Belonging – being able to contribute.
 - Need to go beyond ordinary to extraordinary
 - Knowledge sharing
 - Contributes to good mental health
 - Celebrating culture – re-enforcing, building community identity.
 - Placemaking. Need to use outdoor spaces creatively. Activating outdoor public spaces
 - Economic stimulation as well as social
 - Local experiences – having cultural experiences locally is really important. Need to provide the opportunity.
 - Pop-up, travelling experiences/activities, like an outdoor fair
 - Post-Covid landscape – recovery for arts sector, rebuilding. Requires strong attention.
 - Linking through from local to larger events/themes
 - Celebration of community/gathering, sharing experiences together
 - How values and identity of the community are captured and expressed
 - Commitment to arts embedded in policy and processes

4. Arts & Culture Working Groups

- Intention, model/structure & achievements
 - Model of working groups. Formed to work on/ through particular projects, challenges, issues. Usually strategic focus. These will now be invitational, less formal.
 - Previously, some working groups were formed and some met several times and worked through several projects, whilst others didn't meet at all – had no project to meet about.
 - New model – will form specific working groups as needed, rather than set up formal groups now. Take an 'as required' approach.
- BACAC's role in Working Groups
 - Members will be asked to express their interest in being considered for working groups, which will be formed if/when they are required. No obligation but we would like to know who we can approach to participate. Working Groups will be formed as needed and BACAC members who have expressed interest will be invited to participate based on area of expertise.
 - Some working group projects will align to BACAC formally – e.g. Art Collection / Acquisitions. Policy requires formal recommendation from BACAC to Council.
- Upcoming Working Group opportunities
- Art Collection Working Group – acquisitions into Banyule Art Collection during Works on Paper Exhibition.

- Festivals Working Group (new directions post COVID)
- Sector Development Working Group

ACTION: Hannes to distribute A&C Working Group information with Minutes. Call for EOI's in consideration for working groups.

5. What's On

- Banyule Award for Works on Paper (17 Sept – 28 Nov)
 - Currently on hold, awaiting news of easing of restrictions, to allow for delivery of artworks to the gallery, and for the exhibition to be installed. New dates of the exhibition TBC.
- Malahang Wellbeing Festival (24 October)
 - Also awaiting Covid updates, as to whether the festival will proceed or be cancelled
- Arts & Culture Project Grants (close 3 October)

ACTION: Hannes to distribute examples of former A&C grant funded projects and current guidelines – See Attachment I

6. Questions?

- Who is the Arts & Culture Team?
 - Hannes Berger – Team Leader
 - Steph Neoh – Art Curator
 - Courtney Blackney – Arts & Culture Program Support Officer (ILCH)
 - Clarissa Crupi – Festivals Officer
 - Anthea Fahey – Festivals and Cultural Projects Officer
 - Hiroki Kobayashi – Arts & Cultural Development Officer
- List of Committee Members?
- Paul Higgins - echo Leah's comment about supporting professional sector, sector recovery

ACTION: Hannes to distribute names and details of BACAC membership to the group – See Attachment 2

7. Meeting Close

Cr Nealy closed the meeting at 7.45pm

Next Meeting: Thursday 4 November 2021 – in person, at ILCH, TBC

ATTACHMENT I**Arts & Culture Project Grant Recipients – 2020****Banyule Open Studios** (group application)

The Banyule Open Studios program will invite the community to visit local artists at work in their own studios. The Open Studios will take place in October 2021 (Friday 15th, Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th). The program will be supported by a virtual online open studios exhibition to gather interest and promote the physical open studios weekend. The online exhibition will be an essential part of the project by broadening the audience beyond Banyule and making it more accessible in light of Covid19. As part of the October event there will be workshops, performances, film viewings and artists available to answer questions about their work. Over 20 artists' studios will be opened to the public - showcasing 30 to 50 artists work. The community wide invitation will be friendly, inclusive and (unless ticketed) activities will be free. The aim of the program is to promote and introduce art to the wider community. It is hoped that links will be formed between educational institutions, local traders associations, aligned traders, arts associations and galleries.

Banyule Walk & Talk (individual application)

Banyule Walk & Talk is a four-part web series that highlights a different urban nature walk in Banyule each episode. Audience watch from home and are encouraged (and inspired!) to go and explore these local green spaces in their own neighbourhood. Each five-minute episode features two hosts (Lou Endicott & Troy Larkin) who take you around to a local green space and explore points of interest that make each walk unique. Points of interest may include: historical, cultural, environmental (flora and fauna) geological and geographical.

Omoon (individual application)

The creative development of 'Omoon' is an online-based community art project using upcycling materials such as toilet paper rolls, cardboards, fabrics and everyday materials in making puppetry characters and settings. The aim of the project is to document our individual/collective stories during the COVID19 lockdown in Melbourne. It is catered for young children aged 10 and above, as well as adults who are interested in learning how to make puppetry, creating storyline and basic video edit. The artists, Youbi Lee and Yee Wen (Ewen) Soo, will develop an interactive website, online workshops and tutorials to achieve this aim. Colourful Collective, Greenhills Neighbourhood House, Jets Studios, Transition 3081, Shop 48 - The Harmony Centre and Yarra Plenty Regional Libraries will be supporting this project through promotion, social networking and showcasing the final project. The artists will also be working in partnership with CERES Education (CERES Environmental Park) and Jets Studios (Banyule Youth Services) in the development of Omoon to cater for young people ages ten to twenty-one.

Artsish (individual application)

Artsish is a digital art showcase for Banyule artists from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities. The project aims to provide the people of Banyule with an opportunity to engage in a meaningful and culturally vital online experience. I aim to do this by creating an accessible, creative, and insightful showcase that the audience may access from their own home or even on their phones! The website will feature stories in the form of podcasts and excerpted quotations from featured artists alongside their artwork to create a connected, inclusive experience. This will allow viewers to feel involved in the artists' experiences and creations. In building this personal connection between the audience and the artists, I hope to develop a stronger sense of community here in Banyule. The project also seeks to stimulate the audience's curiosity and imagination by featuring unique, emerging artists and art in all its forms - fashion, music, dance, poetry and visual arts. By featuring CALD artists, I aim to provide insight into the CALD experience here in Banyule. I also aim to celebrate Banyule's cultural diversity and contribute to council's Multicultural Plan, which includes developing projects that promote anti-racist messages. I will also include opportunities for moderated interaction on the website

such as a feedback forum and a hashtag for the audience to be featured on the website too. My hope is that this will encourage audiences to create artistic works themselves and will reinforce the project's community spirit.

STOP, LISTEN (individual application)

Install two listening shrouds (four in total) in two public park locations that subtly change the aural experience for those who encounter them. The aim of this project is to encourage deeper connection to place through listening to the environment, to provide an aurally-focussed public art project, and to do so in a way that is as COVID-19-safe as possible, particularly given the lack of public physical aural experiences available. Sites are selected to give the best possible public access while balancing vibrant fauna that produce acoustic phenomena.

Arts & Culture Project Grant Recipients – 2019

Banyule Maker Month (group application)

March is Maker Month at Yarra Plenty Regional Library (YPRL). In Banyule, YPRL has identified interest by artists, creatives and entrepreneurs in professional development and networking opportunities to assist development, production and presentation of creative work within the library environment, beyond what is currently available. Supported by expert facilitators, library programming, local artists and organisations, YPRL plans to host a creative development program facilitating extension of skills, business strategy, marketing and tech proficiency strengthened by knowledge of local programs, services and supports. Planned activities include business development workshops, networking events, accountability tools, social media sessions and Maker Space workshops connecting arts and technology. A 'toolkit' will also be built on throughout the month, equipping participants with reference material, network information and practical skills, tips and strategies. YPRL will work collaboratively with the Banyule Arts and Culture team throughout Maker Month, ensuring effective cross promotion, service integration, network development and best-practice service delivery across existing programs such as Pinpoint: Banyule's Creative Network. YPRL will also profile local makers, creatives and artists through library website and social media channels, during and beyond the program as part of the YPRL #Community Creatives series.

A Community of Reading - 100 years of the Ivanhoe Reading Circle (group application)

The project aim to celebrate and sustain the Circle's heritage for future generations, by expanding its visibility, audience and membership leading to enhanced community literary and cultural enrichment. This will be achieved by: • hosting an engaging Centenary Event (April 2020). This Banyule Arts and Culture Grant funding is sought for this element of the project. • partnering with organisations to co-host a range of other literary activities. as described in part 8. The Centenary Event will honour and highlight the Circle's historical legacy as follows. An Aboriginal Elder will open with a Welcome to Country. The Circle's Chair will introduce its historical legacy and the agenda. A local choir will sing a Psalm to reflect how a meeting began at the inception of the Circle. Well known journalist and author, Jane Sullivan will moderate a discussion with local authors Sarah Schmidt and Stuart Kells, on the value and future direction of community book circles. Heidelberg Theatre actors will perform readings from the Circle's first minuted paper presentation of a book read. The launch of an updated booklet which describes and analyses the 100 year social and cultural history of the Ivanhoe Reading Circle. A presentation of this booklet to the Banyule Mayor, Ivanhoe Library and Heidelberg Historical Society. Afternoon tea, display of memorabilia, commemorative Ivanhoe Reading Circle Centenary bookmark and 2020 syllabus. Participants will get a unique insight into the Circle's historical legacy, trends in reading tastes, availability of books, and literary interests of the residents of Ivanhoe and Heidelberg.

Winter Solstice Soundwalk and Storytelling Celebration (individual application)

I am proposing a Winter Solstice Soundwalk and Storytelling Celebration to be held in Wilson Reserve, Ivanhoe, June, 2020. To celebrate the shortest night of the year and the varied traditions it has inspired, this participatory art project centres on the theme of winter and the power of listening and story telling – how stories can emotionally contribute to our traditions, influence our ways of listening and perceiving, and foster our relationships to natural environments and each other. The celebration

begins for each attendee with the reading of a story that theatrically frames a five- to ten-minute semi-lantern-lit soundwalk (wherein listening to the natural sounds of the surrounding environment becomes the sensorial focus of the walk). This story psychologically and emotionally transforms the environment each person then moves through. With their senses appropriately heightened, attendees can pay close attention to their perceptions as they move through the environment and question their position in and impact on the surrounding, active eco-system. Here a well-worn path becomes eerie, disquieting, and ultimately thrilling. Through this dark soundwalk, each participant will arrive at a brighter, lantern-lit celebration in which, over warm food, storytellers from various cultures residing within the Banyule area recite their traditional winter folk tales. Through these stories we can trace the cultural histories informing our relationships to winter, how we listen to each other and the natural world around us, how we listen depending on our emotional and physical circumstances, and how we respond, in kind, to nature throughout the coldest season.

ATTACHMENT 2

Banyule Arts and Culture Advisory Committee (BACAC) - Membership 2021-2022

12 members – 6 new and 6 returning for a second term

Janelle Dunstan	Extensive experience in the arts and cultural development. Education: Master of Arts (Museum Studies) Monash University, Postgraduate Diploma of Visual Culture (Art history and Film Studies) Monash University, Bachelor of Arts (Fine Arts) Monash University Experience: Arts programming in a Library Context (YPRL, Thomastown Library 2014-2018). Various Administration and education positions at NGV, Monash University Museum of Art, Melbourne Museum (Immigration Museum). Crafts Practise with a focus on Jewellery and stationary. (2003-2008)
Genelle Ryan	Is passionate about the creative industries and has had a lifelong association including as a performing artist, a qualified arts manager (BA, Arts Management, Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts) and is currently working in the Infrastructure Assets and Delivery team at Creative Victoria, Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions. Experience includes program and project management roles in the creative industries, tourism and events.
Craig Eloranta	Has been actively working in the events industry for over 10 years. Craig leads the development and delivery of a number of large scale community/cultural events and festivals for the City of Melbourne. Is passionate about community engagement and activation and the role this plays not only in the delivery of events but also in the legacy and placemaking opportunities this provides for a range of stakeholders. Current member of the Banyule Arts and Culture Advisory Committee. Current member of the Australian Amusement Leisure and Recreation Association (AALARA).
Caroline Wall	Masters in Cultural Heritage with Deakin University in 2018, shortlisted for the Rosalyn Lawry award for high academic results. Worked for AMaGA Victoria in the role of Museum Accreditation Program Co-Manager, working closely with a variety of cultural organisations to raise standards and guide organisations through Accreditation and Re-

	<p>accreditation. In this role, Caroline works with organisations on strategic planning, conducting in-depth reviews of policies and procedures including collection policies, disaster plans, preventive conservation plans, exhibitions and education policies and plans, and reviewing onsite practice. Worked casually on exhibitions and public programs within the Arts and Culture team at Glen Eira City Council as History and Heritage Assistant, also assisting with wider arts and culture events, such as community festivals. Volunteered extensively within museums in both Melbourne and London, UK in exhibitions development and collections management.</p>
Kevin Ritchie	<p>Is a practising artist (in a part-time capacity), both in works on paper, as well as in the art of bonsai development. As part of these interests (passions), Kevin has been instrumental in helping establish and support exhibitions, education programs, and development programs to engage with the wider community in these fields. Kevin has worked with a number of arts tutors to expand his personal skills and knowledge, and, in turn, Kevin has supported them in seeking wider opportunities for them and their classes to engage with community and other public programs. Current member of the Banyule Arts and Culture Advisory Committee.</p>
Kate Hansen	<p>Arts & Culture Coordinator (Public Participation Team) at Yarra Plenty Ranges Libraries. Creative industries professional with strategic project management and communications experience across diverse communities and contexts.</p>
Leah Crossman	<p>Is an arts management professional with nearly 15 years' experience across many facets of the Australian contemporary art sector. For the past three years Leah has worked for the City of Darebin as the Art & Collections Coordinator, overseeing the management of the City's public art gallery, its art collection, and public art across the municipality. Leah has worked across various parts of the contemporary arts sector, including private galleries, local community spaces, fine art auction houses and public institutions working as a curator, manager, educator, administrator, and client liaison. Leah has built expertise across people and project management, communications and marketing, access and inclusion, and an in-depth knowledge of contemporary visual art. Leah's field of great passion is Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art.</p>
Paul Higgins	<p>Paul has been self-employed in the recording business since 1986. His studios were originally based in Collingwood but in 2018 began the transfer to Heidelberg West. Paul now manages Empire Music Studios in Northern Rd along with the Kool Skools Youth music educational and vocational project now in its 25th year. Empire is the largest commercial studio group in Victoria and offers world class recording facilities for all types of music groups. Empire is also active in the areas of photography, graphic design, video production, artist development and music licensing. Career highlights include signing Delta Goodrem to a record deal with Empire when she was just 14yo and on-signing her to Song before her 16th birthday. Paul has also co-released artists with Roadrunner Records and has an extensive artist catalogue which is distributed by MGM in</p>

	Sydney. Paul's label also developed young artists like Marc Collis and Natasha Duarte who he co-managed with Glenn Wheatley.
June Gassin	Director of the Horwood Language Centre, University of Melbourne 1993-2003. Extensive experience in promoting language learning and teaching in the University and in the wider community. Introduced an innovative Evening School of Languages Program offering foreign languages to over 500 adults in the community. Member of the National Trust and NGV. Over 12 years of experience in academic administration including roles as Associate Dean Information Technology and Multimedia in the Faculty of Arts. Responsible for a Faculty-wide staff development program introducing new technologies in learning and teaching. June has a keen interest in the visual arts and participated in the development of the Banyule Public Art Policy June has experience developing strategic and operational plans.
Joanne O'Hara	MA Arts Management from The University of Melbourne. BA (Hons) Literary Studies, University of the West of England, Bristol. Joanne has worked in the arts sector for over 15 years. Joanne's current role at Arts Centre Melbourne is working with a range of stakeholders in the performing arts, from commercial to community partners. Prior to this Joanne held roles at ACMI, NGV, MTC and Film Victoria. Joanne is a passionate advocate for the arts which has only increased after this last year and having seen how devastating the pandemic has been to artists, arts venues, audiences and creative development. Member of Arts Centre Melbourne and Heidi Member.
Deb Lemke	Deb runs a communications and event management business with a focus on the public and for purpose sectors. Deb is currently undertaking a Master of Arts, Art in Public Space through RMIT. Member of The Australian Institute of Company Directors since March 2013 – present. Is a highly experienced communications professional who brings skills in issues management, government relations, corporate and business planning, brand and reputation management, traditional and digital marketing, stakeholder relations and community engagement with a commercial perspective.
Amy Stephenson	Amy is an experienced Festival & Event Coordinator, educator and theatre producer, and has professional experience in promoting arts and managing major festivals and events. Amy's work experience includes; Festival & Event Coordinator, ACMI, 2013 – present, working with arts organisations and community groups to plan and deliver film festivals, live performance, and industry events including: MIFF, Korean Film Festival, & HRAFF; Educator, Fed Square, 2012-2014. Amy led history & architecture tours to students, focussing on Indigenous history, Federation & Fed Square as a civic space; Producer of production, Santa Maria College & Darebin Arts Centre, 2011-2014. Qualifications; Bachelor of Creative Industries, QUT, 2004-2006; Graduate Diploma of Education (Drama & Humanities), RMIT, 2009; Master of Arts and Cultural Management (partial), Melb Uni, 2013

Councillor Representation

Cr Elizabeth Nealy (Chair)

Cr Peter Dimarelos

Cr Fiona Mitsinikos (substitute)

<https://www.banyule.vic.gov.au/About-us/Councillors-and-Council-meetings/Councillors>