

REGIONAL  
ARTS  
VICTORIA

WEST  
GIPPSLAND  
ARTS  
CENTRE

# EXPRESSIONS FESTIVAL

2024

ARTISTS GUIDEBOOK  
FOR YOUTH ART SHOW

[bit.ly/FutureReset](https://bit.ly/FutureReset)






*ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF*  
**Country**

Regional Arts Victoria and the West Gippsland Arts Centre acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the lands on which the Expressions Festival work is being produced.

We pay our respects to Elders past and present and acknowledge and uphold their continuing relationship to land, waterways, culture, community and storytelling.

We recognise that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples are Australia's first and most enduring storytellers, artists, communities and creators of culture. We are honoured to work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists, and feel so privileged to be able to participate in a sixty-thousand-year-old storytelling tradition and carry forward the oldest living culture in the world.



*WELCOME TO*

# **The Expressions Festival**

Dear Expressions Fest Artists,

Welcome to the 2024 Expressions Festival! We're excited to have you join us for a celebration of youth arts where your unique voices take centre stage.

Expressions Festival is more than just a showcase; it's a platform for your stories, passions, and perspectives to shine. We believe in the power of youth voices to inspire, provoke thought, and drive positive change, and we are excited to be facilitating an opportunity for art to be the medium through which we amplify your voices.

Thank you for being a part of our festival. It's your creativity, passion, and dedication that is going to make this event so special. Let's come together to celebrate the power of our collective voices and artistry.

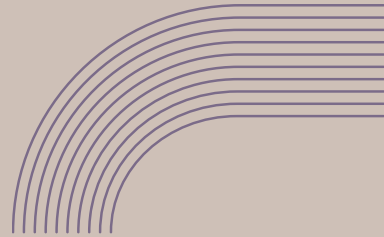
See you at the festival!

- From 2024 Expressions Young Producers

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WHAT IS THE

# EXPRESSIONS FESTIVAL

The **Expressions Festival** is a two-day celebration coming up in October 2024 at the West Gippsland Arts Centre. **This festival will exclusively feature the creative works of young people (aged 12-30)**, all made in response to our theme: My Happy Place.

Our current plan has the first night of the festival focusing on activating the beautiful foyer spaces in the centre with artworks on the walls, floors, and table displays. These can be explored while listening to the sweet sounds of local musicians, songwriters, and spoken word poets, changing the world with their music and words.

The second night will be a thrilling spectacle inside the theatre, where live performances will take centre stage. Get ready to be captivated by original plays, short films, and dance routines. This night promises to deliver unforgettable performances that will leave you inspired and moved.

Of course, this is just our hope. It will entirely depend on the artists who come forward and what they choose to submit. This is their festival, and we are just here to program their work so it shines the best.

We would love to see the entire community come out to support this work, share messages of encouragement, buy something from a local artisan or from the kiosk, and cheer and clap loudly for the works created.

Young people are cool and we hope everyone shows up to support.

# SIX MONTH OVERVIEW

## JUNE 2024

Festival goes Public!

Intent to Submit – Open from Thursday 20 June

## JULY 2024

Intent to Submit – Remain open

Free Artist Workshops:                   – Thursday 11 July  
  – Saturday 27 & Sunday 28 July

## AUGUST 2024

Intent to Submit – Remain open

Free Artist Workshops:                   – Sunday 31 August

## SEPTEMBER 2024

All Artwork submissions due by Sunday 29 September at WGAC or via [futurereset@rav.net.au](mailto:futurereset@rav.net.au)

All submissions must have a signed Art Declaration Form attached.

## OCTOBER 2024

RAV, WGAC and Young Producers going through declarations ensuring information is correct

Expressions Festival runs from Wednesday 23 until Thursday 24 October

## NOVEMBER 2024

Surveys to participants sent out asking for feedback on the festival and ways to improve for future versions

# ARTISTIC THEME

Day One of the festival will be showcasing musicians, poets, writers and visual art displays in and around the centre. Day Two will be showcasing actors, theatre makers and film makers and dancers in the main theatre.

**All artists are encouraged to submit work under the theme:**

## ***"My Happy Place: Self Expression as a Young Person in 2024."***

In a world where self-expression is a form of communication and a tool for connection, this theme invites artists to explore and share their unique interpretations of what it means to find joy, comfort and belonging in their own experiences and identities. "My Happy Place" encourages artists to explore different spaces, both physical and emotional, where they feel most at home and authentic.

Artists of all mediums are invited to submit their work, whether it be visual art, music, performance, literature, or any other form of creative expression. However, each submission must be accompanied by an explanation of how the work reflects the theme. Whether it's through the use of color or shapes, the portrayal of personal experiences, or the exploration of identity, artists are encouraged to express the connection between their work and the theme of "My Happy Place."

Through this festival, we aim to not only showcase the talent and creativity of young artists but also to foster a deeper understanding of the diverse ways in which self-expression can exist in the modern world. Join us as we celebrate the power of art to inspire, and create spaces of joy and belonging for all.

# FREE ARTIST WORKSHOPS



## SCRIPT AND STORY

Join our story generating and script writing workshop! Collaborate with Playwright and Theatre Maker Stephanie Clark and creative peers to bring your ideas to life. Open to all artistic mediums, it offers opportunities in character and world building, script formatting, idea expansion and audience connection, and will help forge meaningful social connections to other young creatives in a supportive environment.

Thursday 11 July @ 4.30PM - 6.30PM  
West Gippsland Arts Centre - Lyrebird Room  
Max Cap. of 15 People. Extra session can be added



## THEATRE

Welcome to the Workshop Floor!  
In this workshop join local Theatre Maker and Playwright Stephanie Clark to transition your scripts from page to stage. Focus on improving story, characters, dialogue, scene transitions, and adapting original works on the go! Plus, enjoy free rehearsal space at the West Gippsland Arts Centre for your group to work.

Saturday 27 July @ 9.30AM - 2.30PM  
West Gippsland Arts Centre - Fountain Room  
Max Cap. of six groups. Extra Session can be added



## PHOTOGRAPHY

Join local photographer Lauren Murphy in this three hour masterclass and be introduced to new photography techniques and settings. Enjoy a series of solo and group exercises, along with practical photo-taking time. If time permits, 1:1 time will be available for you to work through your ideas with Lauren and walk away with a clear idea of what you'd like to submit for the festival.

Saturday 27 July @ 3PM - 6PM  
THE MAST, Warragul



## MUSIC

Join musicians Lucy and Nick from 'The Raging Hormones' in this jam-packed workshop that explores songwriting and generating unique ideas, DIY recording and making yourself sound good as well as what it means to self release music and how to do it successfully. Join us as our two industry professionals personalise this experience to you, and help to find your sound and sell your music.

Sunday 28 July @ 10AM - 1PM  
West Gippsland Arts Centre - Fountain Room





# FREE ARTIST WORKSHOPS



## VISUAL ARTS

Come along to Open Studio! Facilitated by multidisciplinary artist Emma Hearnese, this open studio session offers young artists a collaborative space to work on their art projects. You can receive support and feedback while chatting about all things creative. Emma will share her experience/insights on art-making, exhibiting, engaging in the industry and anything else participants are curious about. Bring your work in progress, any necessary art supplies and all the questions you've been eager to ask.

Sunday 28 July @ 2PM - 5PM  
West Gippsland Arts Centre - Fountain Room



## FILM

Working with East Gippsland Film Maker, Ash Ball from These People Who, learn what it takes to develop, plan, film and edit your own short films. No matter your experience level, you are welcome.

More details to come in the coming months.

Saturday 31 August @ 10.30AM - 2.30PM  
West Gippsland Arts Centre - Fountain Room



## MORE WORKSHOPS

Stick with us as we program our [August Workshops](#) In an ideal world we would like to explore: Stage Management and Theatre Technician Workshops, more Visual Arts mediums and hopefully more Theatre, Film and Music opportunities.


**These workshop details will be released via social media and via email. Be sure to let us know if you would like updates on these.**





## ARTFORM Guidelines

The theme is yours to explore as you will and we encourage you to follow your creativity, wherever it takes you. However, all pieces submitted must abide by our timings or item limits (found on the next page) in addition to the following content warnings:

- Artists can submit in up to four categories in total (E.g. One short film, one photograph, one pottery submission and one original song)
  - Coarse language will be permitted in original works but you will be required to write a warning for the audience. Information on this will be provided closer toward the festival.
  - Nudity, Racism, Homophobia, Transphobia will not be accepted or tolerated under any circumstances. **Everyone has a right to feel safe and included at this festival.**
  - If your submission contains any of the following, you will be required to speak to our Producers before your piece can be performed or displayed.
- 



## THEATRE

- All Monologues have a max run time of five minutes (5).
- Theatre pieces have a max run time of 25 minutes.
- For groups larger than six actors, please contact [futurereset@rav.net.au](mailto:futurereset@rav.net.au) directly for our Producers to approve a longer run time.



## FILM

- All short films must have a 2- 9 minute run time including all titles and credits.
- For any group larger than 12 people, please contact [futurereset@rav.net.au](mailto:futurereset@rav.net.au) directly for our Producers to approve a longer run time.

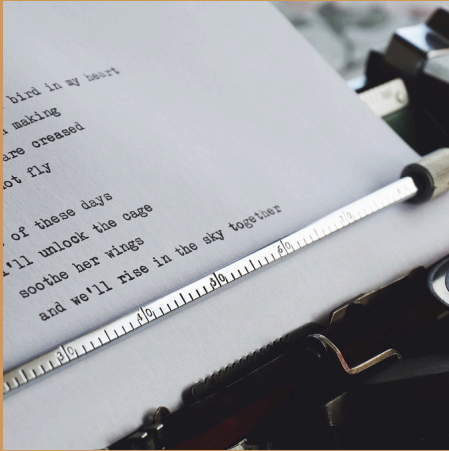


## MUSIC/SONGS/DANCE

You can enter:

- Three short pieces that have a max run time of four (4) minutes each.
- One medium piece that has a max run time of 10 minutes.
- One long piece that has a max run time of 15 minutes.





## POETRY/SPOKEN WORD

- Written pieces have a max length of two (2) A4 pages.
- Spoken word pieces have a max run time of five minutes (5).



## VISUAL ART

You can enter:

- Up to three small pieces.
- Up to two medium pieces.
- Up to one medium piece and one small piece.
- Up to one large piece.



## OTHER

We welcome work from all artistic mediums to be entered into the festival.

If you have something that you would like to submit, please email [futurereset@rav.net.au](mailto:futurereset@rav.net.au) with your request and we'll be back in touch with information that is relevant to you.





# INTENT TO SUBMIT

We are so excited that you are looking to be a part of the Expressions Festival 2024.

To help us program the festival effectively, we need some information from you about your submissions. As it's very early days for your creative works, we don't need any specifics (we'll gather this information later). But what we do need to know is:

- Type of piece you are intending to submit
- Total number of pieces being submitted
- Are you submitting solo or in a group
- Contact information

**To complete this form, please go to: <https://www.tfaforms.com/5132854>**

If writing or filling out a form isn't your thing, that's okay! We will also accept this form in the following ways:

- Video or Audio Submission: Simply film or voice record yourself answering these questions and send the video file to [futurereset@rav.net.au](mailto:futurereset@rav.net.au)
- Via phone call, please call Stephanie on 0474 915 748 to provide this information.
- Via SMS, please text Stephanie on 0474 915 748 to provide this information.

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## REGISTER FOR WORKSHOPS

A part of the Expressions Festival, we are offering free workshops to all artists submitting works into the festival. These works are to connect you with industry professionals who can help you elevate your works to the level you are seeking, as well as creating moments to collaborate with other artists your age.

**We ask that you register below to secure your place as some workshops have limited places available. Please note: Each member of a group will need to submit this form if planning to attend a workshop. This form will only secure ONE workshop place.**

**To register, please go to: <https://www.tfaforms.com/5132857>**

If writing or filling out a form isn't your thing, that's okay! We will also accept this form in the following ways:

- Video or Audio Submission: Simply film or voice record yourself answering these questions and send the video file to [futurereset@rav.net.au](mailto:futurereset@rav.net.au)
- Via phone call, please call Stephanie on 0474 915 748 to provide this information.
- Via SMS, please text Stephanie on 0474 915 748 to provide this information.

To create an event that brings such a lively and exciting energy through showcasing the youth in our community

Artists can meet likeminded people

That people feel understood amongst their peers

This becomes a long-lasting opportunity for young artists and creatives, that will be carried on for years to come.

This is a place for every young artist to be seen and heard through their artistic flair, and be able to share a part of them that they never thought was possible

# Festival Dreaming

Our hopes for the festival are:

Everyone feels safe and has an enjoyable time

That people stop underestimating the impact of 'youth' art

That some cool art gets made and celebrated!

We see lots of different artforms

Creating a safe and open space where everyone can express who they are and be encouraged and supported through collaboration within the arts.



# OUR Contact

## *Get in touch with Us!*



Stephanie on 0474 915 748  
Kellie on (03) 5624 2456



[futurereset@rav.net.au](mailto:futurereset@rav.net.au)



<https://wgac.com.au/>  
[www.rav.net.au](http://www.rav.net.au)



Corner of Smith and Albert  
Streets, 1 Civic Pl, Warragul VIC  
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