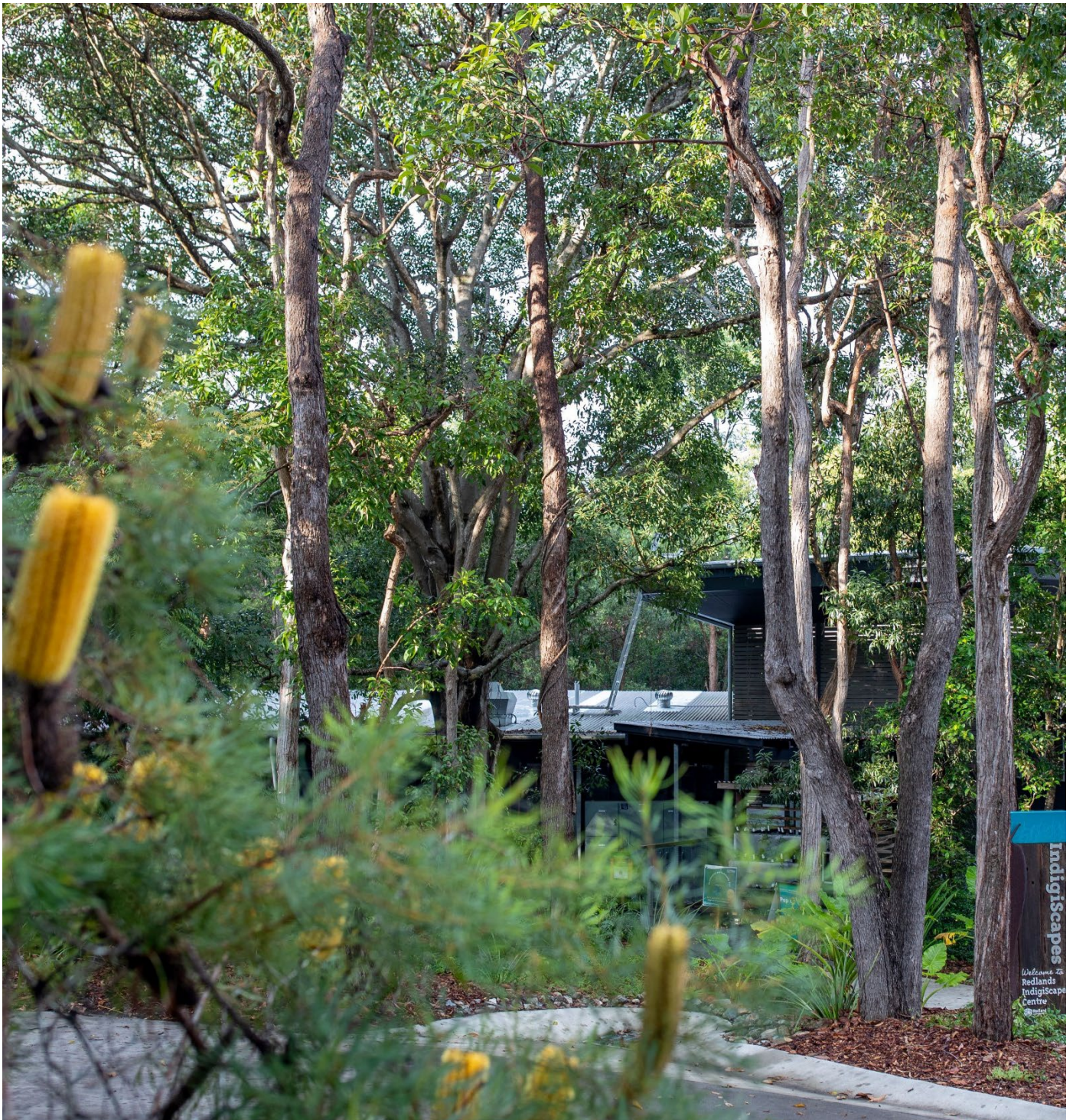


Redlands Coast Eco Precinct

Expressions of Interest – Public Art



Introduction

Redland City Council is seeking Expressions of Interest (EOIs) from suitably qualified and experienced Redland and South East Queensland artists to deliver public artworks for the Redlands Coast Eco Precinct.

The Redlands Coast Eco Precinct is on track to become a leading ecotourism attraction as a site that comprises IndigiScapes (native gardens, cafe and education centre), RSPCA Wildlife Centre for Excellence and Myhorizon (a community disability support organisation).

Situated on 14.5 hectares of serene natural bushland on Redlands Coast, IndigiScapes offers native botanical gardens, a native nursery, bush trails, a nature playground and café specialising in local cuisine with a bush tucker twist.

The artwork opportunities will form part of Council's application in the South East Queensland City Deal Public Art Initiative (the Initiative). Under the Initiative, Redland City Council can apply for \$660,000 for public art commissions within its jurisdiction, to be delivered by 31 March 2027.

Artworks commissioned will respond to the project's curatorial rationale and reflect the character of Redlands Coast, its unique First Nations heritage, coastal nature and landscapes, and the unique natural setting of the precinct.

The Redlands Eco Precinct will become home to several organisations that have shared values of care – for the environment through IndigiScapes' native nursery and botanic gardens, of wildlife through the RSPCA Wildlife Centre of Excellence and for people through Myhorizon.

Within this unified precinct, the broad curatorial theme of *A Safe Place to Flourish* will guide artists to create artworks that demonstrate the importance of precinct.

Across the project site, there will be opportunities to design and deliver both 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional sculptural artworks.

Curatorial Rationale

A Safe Place to Flourish refers to the forest understory, the area between the forest floor and canopy, a diverse and shaded environment supporting various plant and animal life, including ferns, palms, vines and smaller trees, as well as various insects and reptiles. Like the community itself, these plants, nurtured by IndigiScapes, are the resilient 'understory', which thrives abundantly in the climate and conditions of Redlands Coast. The idea of the 'understory' connects to the experience of the site – the preservation of important green and natural water courses and the importance of exploring and discovering these precious natural environments. The curatorial rationale challenges artists to research and expose the rich diversity of stories and layers on the site, and the diversity and multi-faceted nature of the precinct. It reflects the shared values of care – for the environment through IndigiScapes' native nursery and botanic gardens, of wildlife through the RSPCA Wildlife Centre of Excellence and for people through Myhorizon. Commissioned artists will create works that encourage the community and visitors to explore, discover and examine their environment - to move between it and understand the environment, place and Country at a deeper level.

Application Process

In order to express your interest, carefully read the information below, complete the form via the link that follows by 11.59pm (AEST), 14 April 2025.

Phase 1 – Expression of Interest

Suitably qualified and experienced Redland and South East Queensland artists and artist collectives are invited to submit an Expression of Interest by the above-mentioned due date. Artists or artist collectives will then be shortlisted against the Assessment Criteria to progress to Phase 2.

Phase 2 – Concept Development Phase

Shortlisted artists and/or artist collectives will be invited to develop an Artwork Concept for one of the available artwork opportunities and will:

- be provided with an Artwork Commission Brief for the artwork opportunity and Concept Design Agreement; and
- receive a Concept Design Fee.

The Expression of Interest form can be accessed below:

<https://redland.smartygrants.com.au/publicarteoj>

Please note that the application process uses the Smarty Grants platform.

For general information about using Smarty Grants, please see the Smarty Grants Help Guide for Applicants: <https://applicanthelp.smartygrants.com.au/help-guide-for-applicants/>

If you have accessibility requirements and need assistance with this application, please contact Redland Art Gallery directly. Contact Details are at the end of this document.

Eligibility Criteria

- Applicants must be recognised as a professional practicing artist.
- Applicants must have previous experience delivering significant public artwork.
- Applicants must have a connection to South East Queensland.
- Applicants must be available to participate in the Concept Design process (17 April – 12 May 2025).

Redland City Council strongly encourages First Nations peoples and Australian artists, including artists with a disability, or from a diverse cultural or linguistic background to submit their expressions of interest.

What do I need to submit an Expression of Interest?

Eligible artists and artist collectives will be required to supply the following:

- Current resume (2-3 pages)
- Artist biography (200 words). For art collectives, please provide a description of the art collective and highlight key artists (200 words total).
- Artist statement (up to 400 words) outlining key themes and considerations within your practice in response to
 1. the curatorial rationale (outlined in the introduction) and
 2. the following objectives of the South East Queensland City Deal Public Art Initiatives:
 - Enhance visitor experiences and quality of the built environment.
 - Contribute to the identity of Redlands Coast
 - Highlight cultural heritage.
 - Encourage cultural tourism.
- Up to six examples of previous relevant public artworks.

Note: Artists/artist collectives are **not** to submit concept artworks in response to the art opportunity as part of the EOI process.

EOI submissions will be assessed by a selection panel and shortlisted artists or artist collectives will be invited to develop concept designs in response to an artwork brief. Those shortlisted will be notified of the selection process outcome on 14 May 2025.

How will my Expression of Interest be assessed?

Artist proposals will be assessed by the Redland City Council’s Public Art Advisory Panel (the Panel). When assessing your application, the Panel will consider the following:

- 1. Curatorial Rationale - A Safe Place to Flourish**
Artist’s art practice has a strong thematic alignment with the project’s curatorial rationale and themes.
- 2. Artistic Merit**
The artist’s previous artwork demonstrates high quality, innovative public artwork, or the potential to adapt and translate into public art opportunities.
- 3. Project Relevance and Place**
The artist’s previous artwork demonstrates relevance and appropriateness to the IndigiScapes environmental purpose and values, embodied in its native botanic gardens and native nursery and has the potential to engage with the IndigiScapes community.

Important Dates

Phase 1 (Expression of Interest):

Expressions of Interests open: **Wednesday, 26 March 2025.**

Expressions of Interests close: **Monday, 14 April 2025.**

Phase 2 (Concept Development):

Shortlisted Applicants advised: **Thursday, 17 April 2025.**

Shortlisted Applicants Concept Proposals due: **Monday, 12 May 2025.**

Shortlisted Applicants present completed concepts to selection panel: **Tuesday, 13 May 2025.**

Stage	Date
Stage 1: EOI and artist shortlisting	March - April 2025
Stage 2: Concept designs	April - May 2025
Stage 3: City Deals Grant application process	May - August 2025
Stage 4: Artwork commission	September 2025 - March 2027

Redland Art Gallery Contact Details

Phone: (07) 3829 8899

Email: gallery@redland.qld.gov.au

Address: Corner of Middle and Bloomfield Streets Cleveland QLD 4163. Opposite the Cleveland Library.

Cover Image and image below: View of IndigiScapes. Photography courtesy of IndigiScapes.

