



NT Register of Peers

guidelines



ARTS NT

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ROLE OF THE REGISTER OF PEERS

The NT Register of Peers forms an official pool of specialist advice in arts development. Members of the Register may also nominate for the Arts Grants Board.

Specialist advice may be requested:

- by the Arts Grants Board on particular applications
- by Government through working parties drawn together to address particular topics/issues

Register Members may also be called on to participate in:

- Grant Assessment Panels for special initiatives outside of Project Rounds and other Panels including the Key Arts Organisations Annual Funding Program

Membership of the NT Register of Peers will provide a diverse coverage of Northern Territory arts practice.

Establishment of the Register of Peers is aimed at achieving a broad, balanced and fair representation of art forms as well as arts management and community interests, including those of multi-cultural and remote Northern Territory. Supporting traditional and contemporary Indigenous and non Indigenous arts and promoting greater involvement by young people in the arts are also priority areas for the Government.

Where a Peer is requested to participate in a policy working party or Assessment Panel the general guidelines and conditions for the NT Arts Grants Board (AGB) will apply. Nominees are requested to refer to the AGB guidelines for remuneration and process information.

REQUIREMENTS

Peers need to demonstrate that they represent, or have experience in, at least one of the following areas:

- A professional artist with at least five years experience; or
- A young emerging artist able to demonstrate commitment to their chosen art form/s.
- Work or have experience within an arts-related profession, including marketing, production, arts management or arts administration.

Peers will be expected to adhere to the code of conduct outlined below and provide evidence of current Northern Territory residency.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Confidentiality: Members of the Register **MUST NOT** disclose the deliberations of any Panel in which they participate and all discussion during the course of any formal meetings is to be treated as confidential.

Peers will be required to sign a declaration with regard to confidentiality and conflict of interest if and when called on to participate in an Assessment Panel, participate in Working Party, or provide advice to the AGB or to Government.

Where possible, participation will be managed to avoid any potential **Conflict of Interest**. A conflict of interest occurs when a Peer's decision-making is influenced by a private interest. It is important to avoid, as far as possible, any potential conflict of interest, show no favouritism and base decisions solely on artistic merit.

Although it is impossible to list every circumstance giving rise to a possible conflict of interest, the following serves as a guide to for declaring potential Conflict of Interest to Arts NT. Where doubt exists, full disclosure of any situation should be made to permit an impartial and objective determination.

A Peer could have a conflict of interest if:

- they or a member of their immediate family have applied for a Grant under assessment;
- they or a member of their immediate family are employed by an organisation/individual applying for a Grant under assessment;
- they or a member of their immediate family belongs to the board of an organisation applying

- for a Grant under assessment; or
- they have previously discussed the details of an application or have been involved in the preparation of an application under assessment.

For the purposes of these guidelines, the definition of “immediate family” in relation to a Peer means the spouse, parent, brother, sister or child, and includes the child or parent of the Peer's spouse or de facto spouse.

Where a situation arises, Peers are required to declare all potential conflicts. Other Peers also have responsibility for declaring a Peer to be in a position of potential conflict. In such a situation, the Panel or Working Party Chair shall determine how to proceed. The ruling of the Chair may be challenged by a member of the Panel and will then have to be settled by majority vote of the Panel members. However, Peers will be required to abstain from discussion on their own applications or applications relating to an organisation with which they are associated.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The following selection criteria will be applied to Peer nominations and all nominees are requested to clearly address the criteria in their application:

Demonstration of:

- Specialist expertise in the development and practice of one or more art forms;
- An ability to participate in and contribute to panel processes; and
- Recognition as a professional artist/ arts worker.

In appointing peers Arts NT will aim to achieve a broad Register from which to draw peers in order to provide expert and specific knowledge. The following are also taken into consideration in developing the Register of Peers:

- Adequate representation from both regional and remote areas;
- Adequate representation from both ‘established’ and ‘contemporary’ areas of arts practice;
- Adequate representation of both international, commercial and community cultural development skills;
- Level of involvement and existing networks within the community
- Representation from different linguistic and cultural backgrounds;
- Peers who are reasonably free of potential conflict(s) of interest and who can provide balanced, informed opinions;
- Peers whose expertise encompasses two or more art forms; and
- Peers with experience in Indigenous, youth arts and accessible arts.

TIMELINES

Nominations to the Peer Register are accepted at any time. Membership is reviewed annually to maintain the currency of information.

Nomination forms are available at: www.arts.nt.gov.au or by contacting Arts NT.