


2022 ANNUAL REPORT





Outer Space respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land on which Outer Space stands, the Turrbal and Yuggera peoples, and pays respects to Elders — past, present and emerging. We recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture.

We acknowledge the 70,000+ years of creative and educational activity that has taken place on the land where we live, make, and present work. We aim to tread lightly and respectfully when contributing to this long history of storytelling.

Cover: David Spooner. *22 Stories*.
OUTER FACE Building Facade Projection. 2023
Curated by Alice Rezende. Photo: Cian Sanders

This page: Kim Ah Sam,
Where our journey takes us
SUPERCUT Window Gallery, 2022. Photo: Louis Lim



Our Vision

Our Vision is to be a platform for artists and artworkers to ambitiously develop their practice.

Our Purpose

Collaborate with artists and artworkers to develop, make, and present critically engaged creative practice in a supportive professional environment. Our exhibitions, events, and programs welcome those involved in, and curious about the arts. Outer Space is committed to fostering a sustainable creative community in Brisbane that engages local, regional, national and global contexts.

Our History

Founded in 2016 by Brisbane-based artists Lewellyn Millhouse and Caity Reynolds, Outer Space has grown from an artist-run initiative to an emerging contemporary arts space. Outer Space moved from West End to the Judith Wright Arts Centre in Fortitude Valley, Meanjin in April 2021. In 2020, Outer Space obtained Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand (RISE) funding for the launch of a regional public art project across billboards, window gallery exhibitions and online platforms. Outer Space is also the recipient of Arts Queensland Organisations Fund 2022-2025, a crucial investment which will support the evolution of Outer Space as a dynamic and inclusive contemporary arts space in Meanjin.

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SECTION 1

About Us

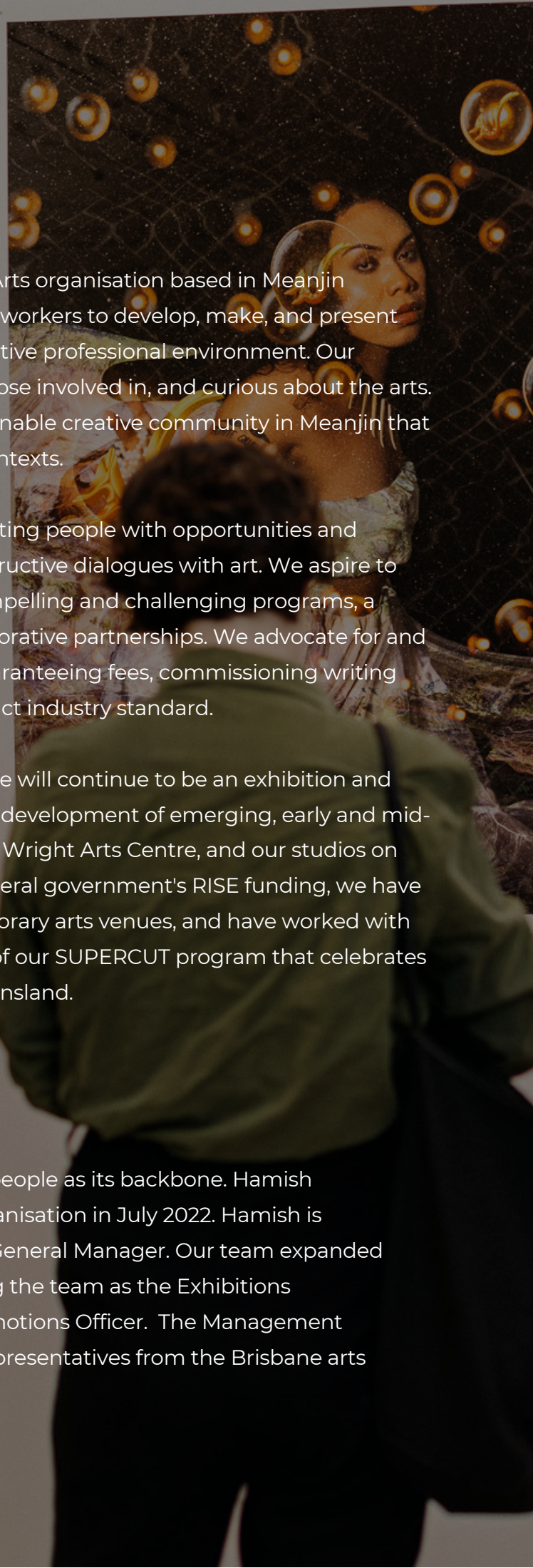
Outer Space is a not-for-profit Contemporary Arts organisation based in Meanjin (Brisbane). We collaborate with artists and artworkers to develop, make, and present critically engaged creative practice in a supportive professional environment. Our exhibitions, events, and programs welcome those involved in, and curious about the arts. Outer Space is committed to fostering a sustainable creative community in Meanjin that engages local, regional, national and global contexts.

Outer Space is dedicated to careers by connecting people with opportunities and creating a vibrant platform for open and constructive dialogues with art. We aspire to grow and diversify our audiences through compelling and challenging programs, a heightened digital presence and strong collaborative partnerships. We advocate for and support diverse artists and arts workers by guaranteeing fees, commissioning writing and documenting each exhibition to our distinct industry standard.

As we move into 2023 and beyond, Outer Space will continue to be an exhibition and studio space that encourages the professional development of emerging, early and mid-career artists through our spaces at the Judith Wright Arts Centre, and our studios on Wickham Street, Fortitude Valley. With the federal government's RISE funding, we have partnered with regional Queensland contemporary arts venues, and have worked with other regional venues to support the delivery of our SUPERCUT program that celebrates the flourishing contemporary arts across Queensland.

Our People

Outer Space has a committed community of people as its backbone. Hamish Sawyer completed his term in leading the organisation in July 2022. Hamish is succeeded by Georgia Hayward in the role of General Manager. Our team expanded in October 2022, with Keemon Williams joining the team as the Exhibitions Assistant along with Tess Bakharia as the Promotions Officer. The Management Committee (the Board) includes artists and representatives from the Brisbane arts sector, education and professional industries.



Our Supporters

Outer Space are sincerely grateful for the generous contributions of our 2022 program supporters whose support sustains the organisations vision to create a space for artists and artworkers to ambitiously experiment and develop their practices.



Dedicated to a better Brisbane

creative
partnerships
australia



SECTION 2

Governance

Outer Space has a strong and committed group of professionals involved in all areas of our operation. As of the end of 2022, our organisational structure includes a volunteer Management Committee (Board), a 0.8FTE General Manager, a 0.6FTE Exhibitions Assistant and a 0.6FTE Promotions Officer.

The Board works closely with the General Manager to develop and deliver a program that activates Outer Space's vision and purpose. The Board comprises artists, artworkers and those outside of the field (legal, governance, finance, architecture and marketing) ensure a diverse and inclusive approach to managing the organisation.

2022 Management Committee

Alexandra Poiner

Co-Chair (term ceased Oct 2022)

Libby Davis

Co-Chair (term ceased Oct 2022)

Dirk Yates

Board member from Oct 2021, Chair from Oct 2022

Holly Hart

Treasurer (term ceased Oct 2022)

Stephanie Mason

Treasurer (term commenced Oct 2022)

Robert Hughes

Secretary (term ceased Oct 2022)

Jacinta Giles

Secretary (term commenced Oct 2022)

Gabrilite White

Board member (term ceased Oct 2022)

Georgia Boe

Board member (term commenced Oct 2021)

Sam Harrison

Board member (term commenced Oct 2021)

Sandra Selig

Board member (term commenced Oct 2021)

Amelia McLeish

Board member (term commenced Oct 2022)

Lara Cresser

Board member (term commenced Oct 2022)

Lauren Kelly

Board member (term commenced Oct 2022)

2022 Salaried Staff

Hamish Sawyer (concluded in July 2022)

Director

Georgia Hayward (commenced in July 2022)

General Manager

Georgia Hayward (role concluded in July 2022)

Exhibitions Coordinator

Keemon Williams (commenced in October 2022)

Exhibitions Assistant

Tess Bakharia (commenced in October 2022)

Promotions Officer

2022 Casual Staff

Kirralee Robinson

Install Assistant

Alice Rezende

Curatorial Assistant

Olivia Trenorden

Public Programs Assistant

Lauren Spriggs

Public Programs Assistant

Outer Space Chair's Report 2022

Earlier in the year I saw a listing in *The Saturday Paper*, in their *what's on cultural events around Australia*, for an exhibition at Outer Space. Listed with large survey shows, musicals, and performances from major venues around Australia, it signalled the national importance that our organisation has in the support and presentation of contemporary art.

Seven years on from the humble beginnings of presenting exhibitions in the back of a small storehouse in Woolloongabba, Outer Space has grown to support stable funding from the primary funder Arts Queensland to provide a reliable platform for early career artists, artsworkers and audiences. The foundational work of Llewellyn Millhouse and Caitly Reynolds has been progressed by successive groups of community-minded artists, curators, accountants, academics, and professionals that have volunteered their time to support the organisation through the Management Committee / Board. Working on these foundations, the Board of 2022 has sought to:

- Improve financial oversight of operations and book-keeping.
- Update governance and human resource procedures to reflect changes in the organisation.
- Apply for Deductible Gift Recipient status.
- Develop employment opportunities within the organisation to improve the services and support that we can offer the community.
- Advocate for longer lease terms for exhibition and administration spaces with Arts Queensland, including a pitch for a new venue opportunity to allow for greater service provision of existing activities.

It is largely unglamorous stuff, not the kind of thing anyone cares to think about when you're enjoying an exhibition opening. Which is good. The intent is for the board to keep these sorts of activities in the background, albeit available for scrutiny and input, while we more prominently advocate for:

excellence in the artworks exhibited, critical writing & discussions, professional development programs, social events that celebrate the endeavours of the art community, and opportunities to grow the careers of artists and artsworkers.

A depth of gratitude is given to board members that completed their term in 2022, including: Alexandra Poiner, Libby Davis, Holly Hart, Robert Hughes, Sarah Werkmeister, and Gabrielle White.

We thank Hamish Sawyer for his work with the organisation, particularly with his skill in working with artists for the presentation of their work, and we are grateful for the industrious and enthusiastic work of Georgia Hayward in the role of General Manager from the second half of the year.

Dirk Yates
Chair, Outer Space

Outer Space General Manager's Report 2022

In July 2022, I commenced the role of General Manager, taking over from Hamish Sawyer who led Outer Space through a period of transition and continued to expand the organisations programming. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Hamish and the 2022 Board for their leadership and visioning that has guided the organisation over the past year. I would also like to extend my deepest gratitude to Kirralee Robinson, Alice Rezende, Olivia Trenorden and Lauren Spriggs for sharing your talents, creativity and wisdom with Outer Space across our exhibitions and public programming in 2022.

Outer Space delivered yet another year of dynamic arts programming in 2022. Our SUPERCUT program supported the development and delivery of new works from forty-three emerging, early and mid-career practitioners through the regional art activation project SUPERCUT. Supported by the Federal Government's RISE (Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand) COVID recovery fund and presented in partnership with Artspace Mackay and NorthSite Contemporary Arts, Cairns, the project focused on creating more opportunities and networks with regional artists, arts workers and communities throughout Queensland. With the support of Judith Wright Arts Centre Management team and funding from Arts Queensland, Australia Council for the Arts, Creative Partnerships Australia and the Brisbane City Council, Outer Space was able to present a series of ambitious exhibitions in the JWAC Gallery space and outward-facing exhibitions on the building's facades and Berwick St Windows, extending our program into highly visible public locations.

To assist with the delivery of our programming, we welcomed Keemon Williams into the role of Exhibitions Assistant and Tess Bakharia as our new Promotions Officer in November. The addition of these roles to our staffing structure has supported a necessary capacity growth to 2FTE. Both Tess and Keemon have taken to their roles with passion and ability - taking Outer Space from strength to strength.

In line with the 2021-2025 Strategic Plan, Outer Space met the requirement for 72.2% of the 2022 KPIs. We have met all goals relating to Compelling and Challenging Programming and Support and Advocacy. However, we have only met 33.3% of our Growing our Audience KPIs, 50% of our Financial Stability KPIs and 50% of our Transparent and Responsible Governance KPIs.

With our increased staff capacity and refined governance structuring, I am confident we will deliver on our outstanding KPIs next year. Our operational areas of focus moving into 2023 are:

- Ensuring diversity of revenue streams
- Expanding our partnerships and marketing strategy
- Board Diversity and Succession Planning

I extend my sincerest thanks to the Outer Space Board for their continued support as we navigated the various changing landscapes in 2022, and their continued commitment to building a strong foundation for the organisation's ongoing success. I am delighted to continue working with my colleagues, Keemon and Tess, to deliver yet another exciting year for Outer Space in 2023.

Georgia Hayward
General Manager, Outer Space

A group of people at an event, with a woman in a pink shirt in the foreground. The background is slightly blurred, showing other attendees and colorful fabric hanging from the ceiling.

Objectives

As outlined in our 2021-2025 Strategic Plan, Outer Space's organisational objectives in 2022 were to:

1. Provide compelling and challenging programming
2. Maintain a high level of professionalism
3. Grow and engage a wider audience by
 - a. Making space for open dialogue
 - b. Heightening digital presence
 - c. Diversifying public programming
 - d. Brokering organisational partnerships
4. Support and advocate for artists and artworkers, especially early career
5. Operate with financial stability
6. Have transparent and responsible governance

Activities & Achievements

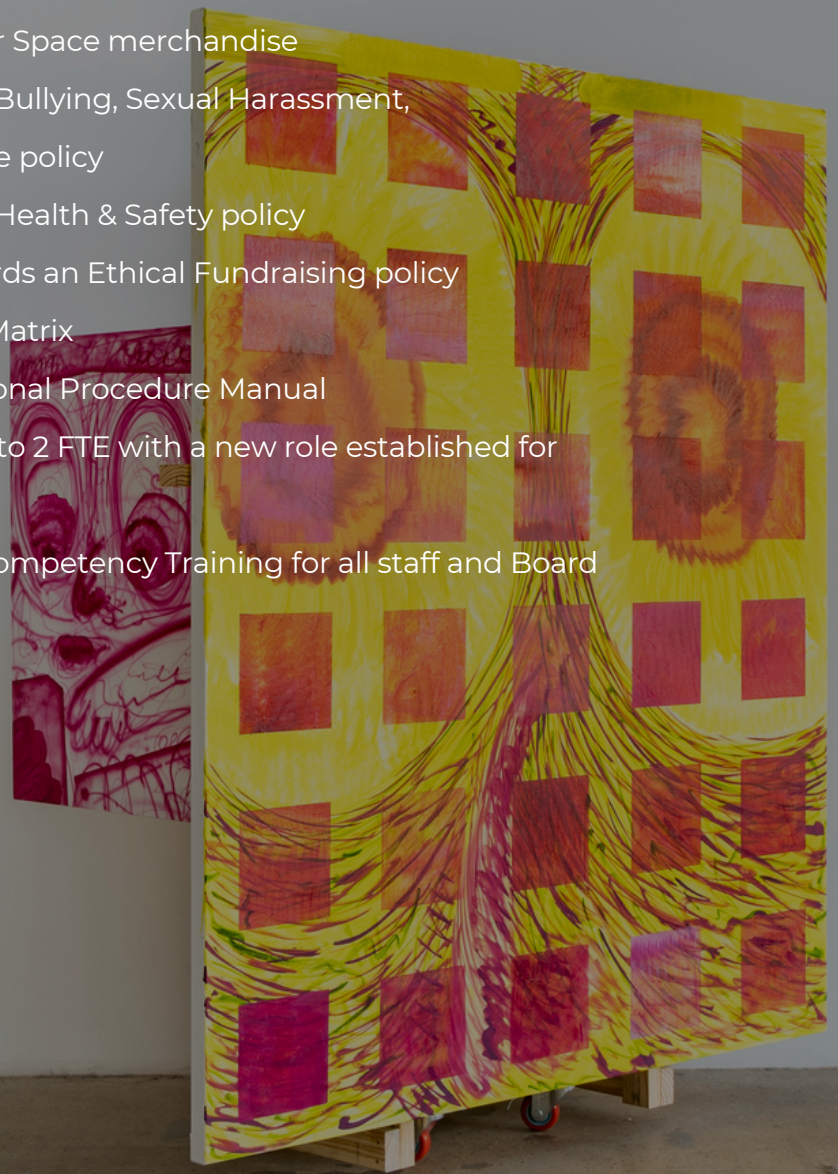
Throughout our 2022, we continued to expand our digital and gallery-based public programs and public art opportunities, alongside our core activities maintained from 2021.

Key programming highlights of 2022 included:

- The SUPERCUT project that supported 46 Queensland-based emerging practitioners to develop new works across regional billboards, online exhibitions and our Window Gallery
- 87 Artists paid to exhibit and realise ambitious projects
- 9 Main Gallery exhibitions
- 8 Window Gallery exhibitions
- 12 exhibition texts commissioned and published
- 9 Outer Space studio residencies in Fortitude Valley
- 9 regional billboard activations
- 4 Berwick Window Vinyl exhibitions
- 8 Projection programs
- 7 online artist interviews
- 5 online exhibitions
- 22 artswokers paid to deliver public professional development workshops and events for the community
- 3 regional engagement workshops
- 2 Open Day events
- 1 Community Forum event
- 4 industry collaborations with Artspace Mackay, NorthSite Contemporary Arts Cairns, the Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane and Flying Arts, Brisbane

Key outreach & governance highlights of 2022 included:

- 4586 audience members engaged with cutting-edge contemporary experimental art a 24% growth on 2021
- 40% increase on website traffic with 18,000 website visits
- 2 podcast interviews for Outer Space's new platform IN-FORM
- 1 review published in Lemonade: Letter to Art
- 1 published artist interview by The 12 presented by Popsart Squad
- 1,000 + new Instagram followers
- Produced and sold Outer Space merchandise
- Developed a Workplace Bullying, Sexual Harassment, Discrimination & Violence policy
- Developed a Workplace Health & Safety policy
- Commenced work towards an Ethical Fundraising policy
- Established Delegation Matrix
- Established a Organisational Procedure Manual
- Grew Outer Space team to 2 FTE with a new role established for promotions
- Implemented Cultural Competency Training for all staff and Board Members



Financial Overview

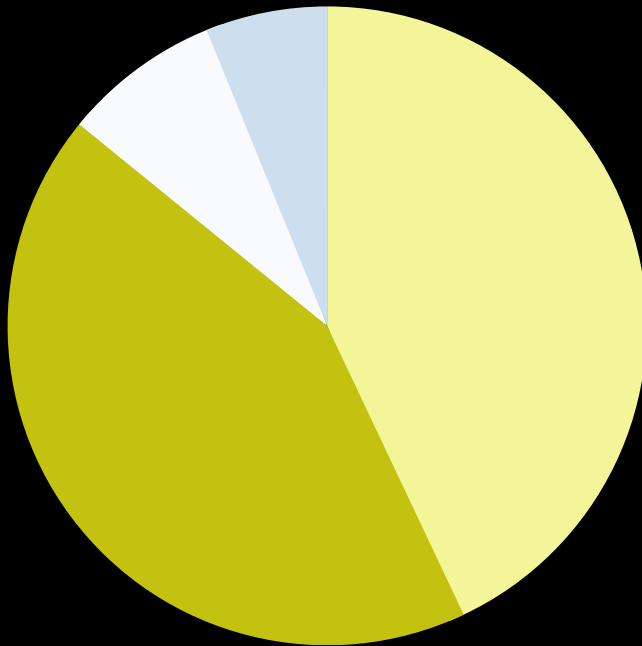
92.4%

of annual income was supported by grant funding

Over

28K

earned income raised



Overview of total expenditure

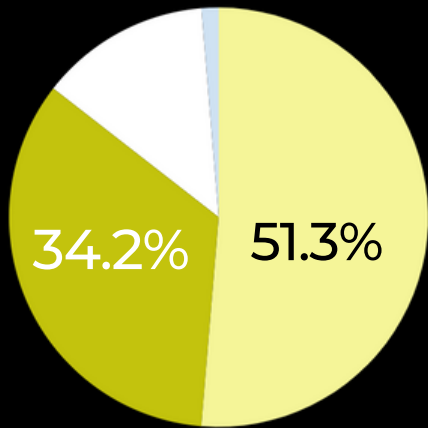
- Creatives Fees
- Administration Expenses
- Program Expenses
- Other expenses

Over

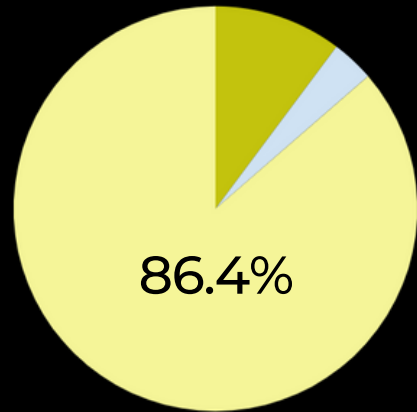
140K

investment in artists fees to support new creative developments

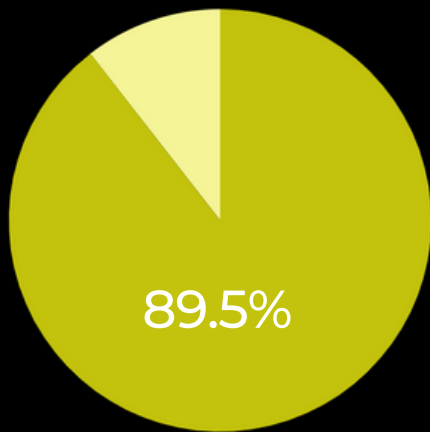
Overview of Artists Engaged



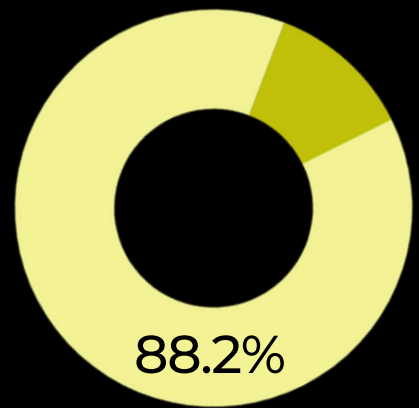
● Emerging ● Early Career ● Mid Career ● Established



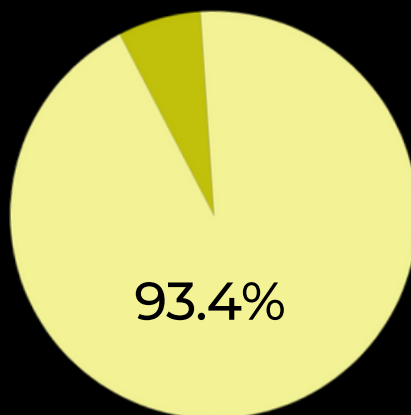
● Artist ● Curator ● Writer



● Identifies as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
● Does not identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander



● QLD ● Elsewhere



● Identifies as: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, Women and non-binary, Transgender, CALD, LGBTQIA+, regional and remote, and people with disability
● Does not

Program Engagement Overview



18K

Annual website visits



5417

Instagram followers



4586

Annual gallery visitors



8

External print and
media mentions

SECTION 3

Acknowledgements & Support

Grants & Funding Partners

- Queensland Government, via Arts Queensland
- Australian Federal Government, via the RISE Grant
- The Australia Council for the Arts
- Australian Cultural Fund
- Brisbane City Council
- Creative Partnerships Australia

Volunteers

We could not do what we do without the generous time and enthusiasm of our wonderful volunteers. We simply cannot thank you enough – we cannot open our doors without you! A very special thank you to our 2022 Outer Space Volunteers:

Abbey Lucas, Agatha Blaxell, Alex Chadwick, Alexandra Perestrelo, Alice Rezende, Amelia Hughes, Amirah Mohamad Yusof, Ari Eddie, Ashlee Becks, Austin King, Bek Gregory, Bill Foley, Cassandra Dimitroff, Charlee Carthew-de Looze, Claire Grant, Connor Andree-Evarts, Daniele Lamarche-Sarvia, Druscilla Handebo, Ellen Anderson, Emily Grabski, Emma Kenward, Georgia Scott, Hannah Currie, Harmony Otrupcek, Imogen Corbett, Isabella Cort, Isabella Strachan, Isabella Wadley, Izzy Vesey, Jack Hardy, Jenna Muir, Jenni Baxter, Joseph Botica, Judy Lewis, Katie Howell, Lauren Spriggs, Liam Johnston, Lora Lama, Louise Truan, Luca Masnata Lyle Duncan, Madeline Holt, Mairaed Roache, Maria Hill, Miranda Everingham, Molly Pekol, Myfanwy Halton, Neil Moorhead, Olivia Trenorden, Phaedra van Wersch, Renee Kire, Shana Barker, Sophie Claude, Summer Yang, Susan Gourley, Tegan Bates, Tess Bakharia, Thom Ryan, Tianai Zhang, Vanessa Pirsic, Victoria Lenton



SUPPORT US

Volunteer with us

Join our team of volunteers and help deliver our suite of exciting exhibitions and programs. To enquire about our volunteering opportunities, get in touch via email at admin@outerspacebrisbane.org

Become a corporate sponsor

As our organisation continues to grow, partnerships with like-minded sponsors, collaborators, neighbours and supporters are crucial to securing a bright future for Outer Space. If you or your business is interested in collaborating with us, or supporting our programs, we would love to hear from you. Please email admin@outerspacebrisbane.org



Contact us

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