

Sunshine Coast
Arts Advisory Board
2016-2017
Annual Report





Acknowledgment of Country

Sunshine Coast Council acknowledges the traditional Country of the Kabi Kabi Peoples and the Jinibara Peoples of the coastal plains and hinterlands of the Sunshine Coast and recognise that these have always been and continue to be places of cultural, spiritual, social and economic significance. We wish to pay respect to their Elders – past, present and emerging – and acknowledge the important role Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people continue to play within the Sunshine Coast community.

Dawn Awakening, Horizon Festival 2016.

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Nambour Pedestrian Link Mural. Artists David Houghton and Adam Lewczuk.

Over the past year the Sunshine Coast Arts Advisory Board has worked with council to focus on the important role that arts and culture plays on the Sunshine Coast.

Our key focus areas have included:

- Undertaking a cultural mapping exercise to provide a snapshot of the Sunshine Coast arts sector to underpin the development of a strategic, 20 year Regional Arts Plan.
- Creating a discussion paper and innovative consultation process, which is currently underway, to ensure the voices of our region's diverse arts and cultural sector are central to the Arts Plan.
- Establishing the framework for the Sunshine Coast Art Foundation, a new initiative to encourage philanthropy and build public and private partnerships in support of the arts.



Chairperson's address

Collette Brennan

I would like to acknowledge the thoughtfulness and deep commitment of all board members, the arts portfolio councillor, senior council officers, and council for the work undertaken to date. This work provides a very solid foundation for building a rich and **artist-centred approach** to our future.

Artists fundamentally underpin a vital, engaged and creative community and simply by focusing on the artist, we can more decisively:

- **Build** an original and sustained base for the arts and cultural endeavours of our community.
- **Invest** in ways that are smarter and deliver a difference to the creativity, well-being, reputation and economy of our community.
- **Measure** the substantial social, cultural and economic impacts the arts make for the Sunshine Coast now and into the future.

The Sunshine Coast is an artist rich community, encompassing a broad array of arts practices.

A recent survey of our community showed that more than 90 percent of the region's population attended at least one arts and cultural activity in 2013 – 2014 (Australian Government ABS Cultural Participation survey).

Clearly, the arts and cultural sector is ripe for focused development and feedback received through the Sunshine Coast Arts and Culture Snapshot (April 2017) uncovered some opportunities to advance arts and culture on the Sunshine Coast.

The top three emerging priority areas included:

- 1 Support for **more infrastructure** to make work in, and present work to, and with, the community.
- 2 **Strategic support** for arts and cultural organisations and groups.
- 3 More access to public and private **investment**.

While the wider consultation process will refine our priority areas within the plan, the board and council team were buoyed by this early feedback as it aligns to the board's identified areas requiring deeper consultation with the arts sector.

This has now started, and we are excited by the opportunities that engaging our community to develop our 20 year Regional Arts Plan presents.

The council team has developed a creative and engaging approach to the consultation process. For example, council worked with a group of QUT Masters of Architecture students to investigate what a new centre for the arts on the Sunshine Coast could be in the 21st century, and how such a centre could nurture and expand creative arts for the region.

The students considered two possible sites for a new socio-environmentally responsive building – the Smart CBD of Maroochydore and the revitalised Caloundra City Centre precinct. The students then presented their ideas to the community for discussion at the first community engagement event – Friday³Live at Caloundra Regional Gallery on August 18, 2017.

Once completed, the Arts Plan and the Art Foundation will have a material and sustained impact on the arts and cultural activity on the Sunshine Coast.

Our board's ambition is bold and long-term and we look forward to engaging with the community through the consultation process and then ongoing with the delivery of actions that will emerge from the Arts Plan.

Arts and culture are a significant magnet for our region and will help define the Sunshine Coast as a destination for artists and those who are hungry to experience the arts.

A thriving arts and cultural sector will make an impact locally, nationally and internationally, driving the attractiveness of the region for those who already live here, those who want to live here, and the businesses that will continue to come to our region because people want to live and work in exciting and vibrant places.

There is no doubt that the board members are inspired by council's vision to be a healthy, smart and creative community that supports quality leadership, services and infrastructure on the Sunshine Coast.

We are truly honoured to be working together to enable our arts plan to generate a dynamic, impactful and robust arts and cultural sector – a sector that makes a positive difference to the quality of life for all who live on and visit the Sunshine Coast.



Collette Brennan

Chair - Sunshine Coast Arts Advisory Board



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The first priority of the board has been to draft a framework for the development of a strategic, 20 year Regional Arts Plan including a vision for the region’s cultural framework.

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Caloundra Regional Gallery, Sunshine Coast.



Arts Portfolio Councillor Rick Baberowski.

The Board

The Sunshine Coast is an artist rich community, encompassing a broad array of arts practices. A recent survey of our community showed that more than 90 percent of the region's population attended at least one arts and cultural activity in 2013 – 2014 (*Australian Government ABS Cultural Participation survey*).

In response to this increasingly growing sector and council's vision for the region, council established the Sunshine Coast Arts Advisory Board (a first for the region) in June 2016 and the board met for the first time in August 2016.

The board's role is to provide strategic advice to council in relation to collaborative opportunities to support and grow the region's involvement and investment in the arts including arts and cultural infrastructure.

Specifically, its role is to:

- Guide, promote and help build the identity of the Sunshine Coast as an arts destination for tourism and industry.
- Advocate the region's advantages to secure new investment in arts and cultural facilities and infrastructure.
- Provide strategic advice to council in relation to the arts and cultural facilities, infrastructure and program.
- Provide advice on strategic direction of wider arts and cultural policy and strategy.
- Provide opportunities to develop philanthropic activity in relation to the regional arts offer.

The first priority of the board has been to draft a framework for the development of a strategic, 20 year Regional Arts Plan including a vision for the region's cultural future.

This framework is now part of an extensive community engagement program which started in September 2017 and will be completed by December 2017. It will inform the drafting of the region's first arts plan.

Noting that the board did not hold its first meeting until August 2016, the report includes information on the board's activities up until August 2017 to provide a 12 month overview.

Membership

The members of the board have a diverse range of skills, expertise and creative insight in strategic planning and the development of cultural policy. To find out more about the board, visit Sunshine Coast Council's website.

Papillon exhibition by Kim Schoenberger.
Caloundra Regional Gallery, Sunshine Coast.



Collette Brennan (Chair)

CEO, Abbotsford Convent

Collette has 20 years' experience in arts leadership and management and extensive knowledge of arts based practices, issues, market development and opportunities locally, nationally and internationally. Collette is currently the CEO of the Abbotsford Convent, Australia's largest multi-arts precinct.

Background includes:

- Director International Development, Acting Executive Director of Arts Development and Director Market Development at Australia Council for the Arts



Cr Rick Baberowski

Councillor, Sunshine Coast Council

Cr Rick Baberowski joined the Sunshine Coast Council in 2012 after winning the seat of Division 1 at the local government elections. Cr Baberowski holds the Portfolio for Transport, the Arts and Heritage.

Prior to entering politics he was a creative industries consultant and more recently a senior planning and cultural development coordinator in local government.



Cr Mark Jamieson

Mayor, Sunshine Coast Council

Prior to his election as Mayor in 2012, Mayor Mark Jamieson had an extensive career in chief executive and senior leadership roles in the private sector. He had both strategic and operational responsibilities for customer satisfaction, staff development, business performance and shareholder growth. He has a proven track record of successful business expansion and a demonstrated capacity to grow and develop himself and those around him.



Phil Smith

President, Sunshine Coast Creative Alliance

Phil is an architect and urban designer with 26 years practice. Phil is passionate about promoting the value of creative enterprise and artistic expression as drivers of innovation, business, culture and regional identity.

Background includes:

- Co-founder multi-award-winning design firm Gomango Architects
- Associate director (current) Deicke Richards – urban design and architecture



Jennifer Radbourne

Emeritus Professor

Jennifer has extensive experience in performing arts and academia.

Background includes:

- Researched and published internationally in the areas of arts audiences, arts marketing, arts fundraising and business development in the arts
- Developed Queensland's first Graduate Diploma in Arts Administration at QUT
- Published: *Arts Management – a practical guide* (1996), *The Audience Experience* (2013) and *Philanthropy and the Arts* (2015)



James Birrell

Director/Owner, James Birrell Design Lab

James has extensive experience in music and visual arts events and has networks with art curators, producers, international artists, media organisations and illustrators. He has established several organisations with the purpose of creating cultural revitalisation on the Sunshine Coast and has a particular focus on generating investment and opportunities for young creatives and entrepreneurs.

Background includes:

- landscape architecture, urban design, furniture design, art curation, urban renewal
- President of the Maroochydore Revitalisation Association



Tracey Vieira

CEO, Screen Queensland

Tracey is currently the head of Screen Queensland. She is experienced in cultural policy and works closely with cultural organisations such as QAGOMA, TEQ and QPAC.

Background includes:

- 2016 Telstra Queensland Business Woman of the Year
- Strong relationships in the corporate sector with private investors and within State and Federal Government
- Board Director for the Arts Centre Gold Coast, RSPCA Qld and Board of Advisors Australians in Film



Kathi Holt

Executive Director, Nero Holt

Adjunct Associate Professor Kathi Holt is an architect and urban designer with over 26 years teaching and research experience. Kathi consults to government agencies, community groups and not-for-profits. She specialises in urban space and placemaking, has extensive experience in arts and culture and how it relates to strong communities.

Background includes:

- Key event organiser, Queensland Government Heat Architecture program - Peggy Guggenheim Museum, Venice

Board Meetings

The board held regular scheduled meetings throughout the year.

These meetings were structured to allow open discussion. As a new board of council, the schedule included a two day workshop to enable the board to come together and learn, share and begin work on the vision for the arts on the Sunshine Coast.

The Chair maintained regular contact with the Sunshine Coast Council Manager, Community Relations, who provided administrative support for the board, throughout the year and particularly in the lead up to the board meetings.

Board meetings for 2016-2017 were held on:

- August 16, 2016
- September 6, 2016
- December 2, 2016
- March 2, 2017
- April 24, 2017

Board meeting for 2017-2018

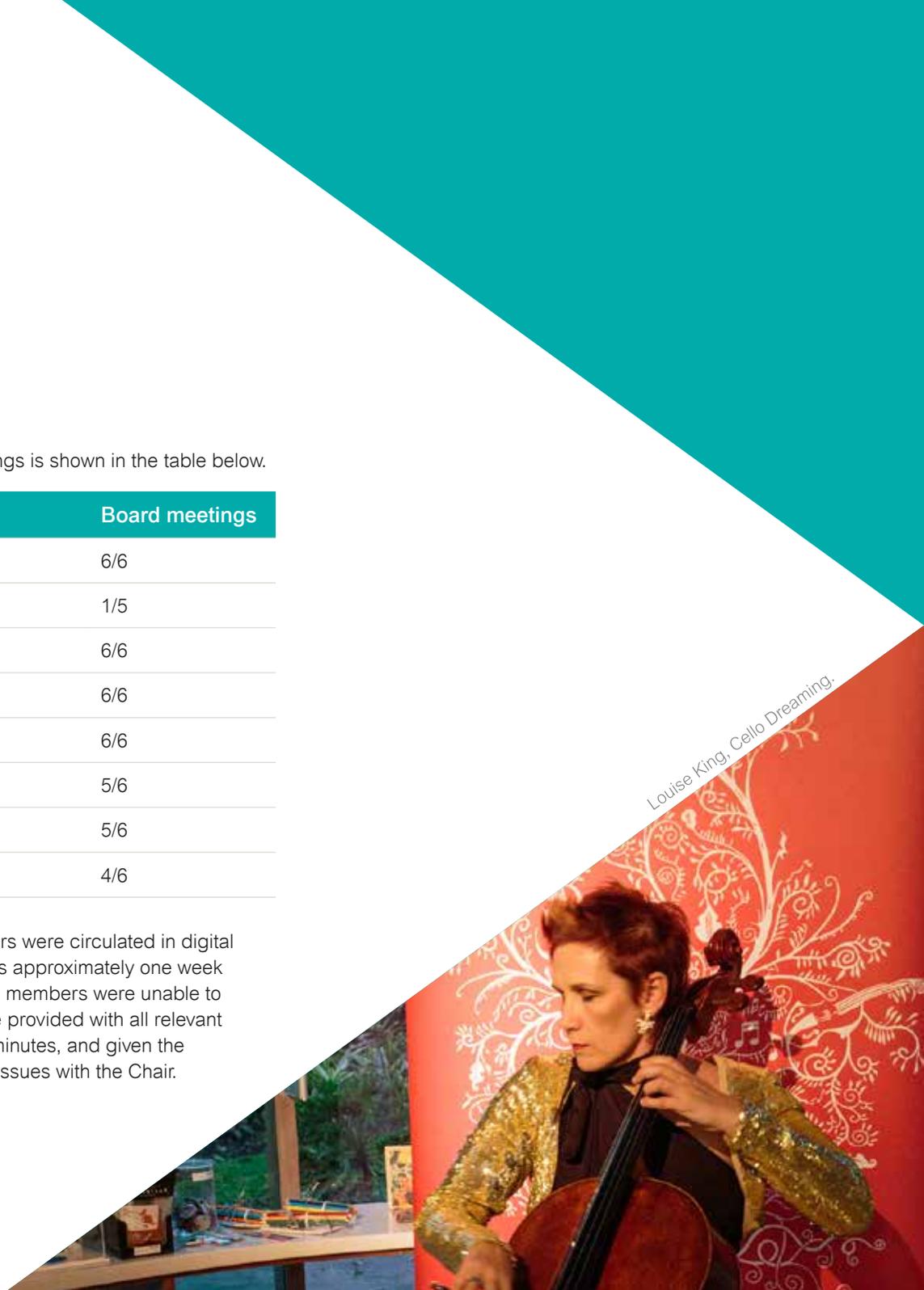
- July 14, 2017

Attendance at board meetings is shown in the table below.

Name	Board meetings
Collette Brennan (chair)	6/6
Mayor Mark Jamieson	1/5
Cr Rick Baberowski	6/6
Phil Smith	6/6
Kathi Holt	6/6
Jennifer Radbourne	5/6
Tracey Vieira	5/6
James Birrell	4/6

Agendas and briefing papers were circulated in digital format to all board members approximately one week before each meeting. When members were unable to attend a meeting, they were provided with all relevant briefing papers, including minutes, and given the opportunity to discuss any issues with the Chair.

Louise King, Cello Dreaming.





Caloundra Regional Gallery, Sunshine Coast.

Finance

The Queensland Government’s “Remuneration procedures for part-time Chairs and Members of Queensland Government Bodies” (Category E-1) allows for the payment of local government boards.

Under this arrangement, the board (excluding councillors and council staff) has been remunerated as outlined below:

	Half Day (four hours or less a day)	Full day (more than four hours in a day)
Chairperson	\$167	\$334
Ordinary member	\$141	\$281

In 2016/17 the Sunshine Coast Arts Advisory Board costs were as outlined below:

Item	2016 – 2017
Board members fees	\$8887
Catering and hospitality	\$1650
Travel costs	\$4799
Contract services	\$552
Conferences, training and seminars	\$2254
Total	\$18,142

As an advisory board of council, and in the absence of a head of power (an endorsed strategic arts plan), the board does not allocate funding or endorse arts programming, events or services.

The Report

Governed by its Charter, the board is required to report to council on an annual basis. This report covers the first year of the board's operation. Noting that the board did not hold its first meeting until August 2016, the report includes information on the board's activities up until August 2017 to provide a 12 month overview.



It is anticipated that the final 2018-2038 Sunshine Coast Arts Plan will be endorsed by council by mid-2018.



iDIDIT!. Artist Russell Anderson. Village Park Birtinya.

Achievements

Over the past year the Sunshine Coast Arts Advisory Board has worked with council to focus on the important role that arts and culture plays on the Sunshine Coast. Key focus areas of the board for its inaugural year have included:

Undertaking a cultural mapping exercise to provide a snapshot of the Sunshine Coast arts sector to underpin the development of a strategic, 20 year Regional Arts Plan

Urbis consulting company was commissioned by council to undertake a cultural mapping process of the Sunshine Coast Arts and Culture sector. This process was a desktop analysis and survey, undertaken primarily to inform the development of the Sunshine Coast Arts Discussion Paper which was created by the Sunshine Coast Arts Advisory Board.

The feedback received through the Sunshine Coast Arts and Culture Snapshot (April 2017), established the following top three emerging priority areas for arts and culture in the region:

- Support for more infrastructure to make work in and present work to and with the community.
- Strategic support for arts and cultural organisations and groups.
- More access to public and private investment.

Creating a Discussion Paper and innovative consultation process to ensure the voices of our region's diverse arts and cultural sector are central to the development of the region's first Arts Plan.

Prior to the development of the discussion paper, the board was briefed on the current strategic framework the arts plan will sit within and the alignment with current strategic planning.

The board participated in a series of intensive, facilitated workshops to develop the discussion paper, which was the first step in the development of the region's first arts plan.

The discussion paper outlines potential ideas on a vision, goals, opportunities, challenges and strategies to support and grow the sector. The paper was finalised by the board in August and has become the key document in an arts sector led community engagement program.

The first phase of the engagement program is now underway and will close in December 2017. The discussion captured via this process will test the discussion paper outcomes and inform the draft 20 year arts plan.

The draft plan will be circulated for general community feedback early next year. It is anticipated that the final 2018-2038 Sunshine Coast Arts Plan will be endorsed by council by mid-2018.

Establishing the framework for the Sunshine Coast Art Foundation, a new initiative to encourage philanthropy and build public and private partnerships in support of the arts.

The board has invited specialist experts from the foundation and philanthropy arena to discuss and share information in relation to the establishment of a foundation.

Board members and council staff have carried out benchmarking with other foundations from across Australia and drafted objectives for the entity. Legal representation has provided advice on options in relation to the structure and framework of the foundation and its relationship to council.

A Councillor Strategic Discussion Forum briefing paper, with board recommendations, is currently being developed. Council's direction will be sought as part of the next stage.

Building a profile for the Arts

During the year, members of the board have both formally and informally represented and promoted the Sunshine Coast as an arts destination for both tourism and industry.

The board has also proactively supported the work of council in understanding and building its arts profile through a range of activities including networking, introductions and engagement with philanthropists, government agencies, and the arts sector.

This representation has included participation in:

- The first Arts Plan Community Engagement event. The event was hosted by Caloundra Regional Gallery as part of its monthly Friday³Live program on 18 August 2017. The event was the first opportunity for the local creative community to have its say on the development of a new, 20 year strategic plan for the arts on the Sunshine Coast. Arts Advisory Board Chair Collette Brennan briefed the audience on the arts board and its role in the development of the Arts Plan and encouraged attendees to contribute their thoughts on the challenges and opportunities for the local arts sector. Board members have been actively involved in subsequent events to engage artists, the arts education sector and artists with disabilities sectors.
- The Sunshine Coast Art Prize. The Prize is the Caloundra Regional Gallery's flagship annual exhibition. Now in its 12th year, it has grown into a nationally recognised award that attracts emerging and established contemporary Australian artists, working in range of 2D media. This

year the prize received 431 entries from artists across Australia, from which the 39 finalist works were selected. The judge for this year's prize was Griffith University Art Museum Director, Angela Goddard. An invitation only 'Vernissage' (preview) event was held on 16 August 2017 and capped at 60 attendees for sponsors, councillors and other key stakeholders was held with a number of Sunshine Coast Arts Advisory Board members attending the opening and other related events to network.

- This year's Remix Academy Sunshine Coast Summit. The Summit was held as part of Horizon Festival and themed *Creative Places – Nurturing Creative Communities*. The session was held on 1 September 2017 and considered:
 - How can the arts influence and shape urban development projects?
 - How do we think about holistic placemaking when thinking about the infrastructure of cities?
 - Is the growth of a creative city largely organic or can we engineer it through tools such as policy and investment?
 - How do we balance top down with community empowerment and grass roots cultural activity?

Board members attended to learn, join the discussions and network.

Music on Kings. Horizon Festival 2016.



Horizon Ignites, Horizon Festival 2016.

- Board members have engaged broadly within their networks to bring national and international knowledge back to the Sunshine Coast. This includes a program with the London School of Economic and Political Science, to investigate the social, environmental and economic challenges facing communities around the world under the broad themes of:
 - challenges around social integration
 - analysis of and identifying suitable indicators
 - designing strategy
 - examining urban governance and delivery.

The learnings from these engagements continue to inform the development of the Sunshine Coast Arts Plan.

- Locally, board members have:
 - Developed their teaching and lecturing programs to include student projects that focus on supporting the arts on the Sunshine Coast and relayed the challenges faced by artists in relation to available spaces to show and make work.
 - Represented the board at events including local film festivals, exhibition openings and cultural events.

- Board members have attended local arts community/ association meetings, events, programs and performances to both represent the board and share information about its work in developing the region's first arts plan and to engage with the sector, to listen and understand the arts sector on the Coast. These engagements better informed the development of the arts plan discussion paper and subsequent sector engagement program.
- Attendance at, and participation in, the region's peak arts and creative industries body, the Sunshine Coast Creative Alliance, industry programs to share expertise and knowledge and to provide industry advice and connections.



Dawn Awakening, Horizon Festival 2016.

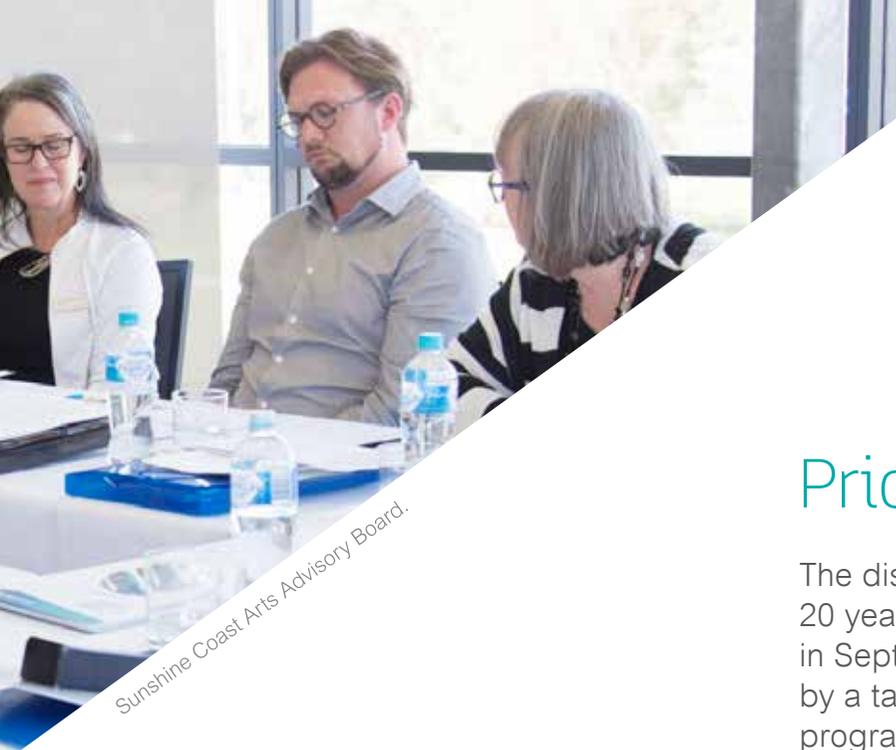


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The delivery of actions that will emerge from an endorsed 20 year Arts Plan for the region will remain the board's focus for the next two decades.

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Horizon Ignites, Horizon Festival 2016.



Sunshine Coast Arts Advisory Board.

Priorities for 2017 - 2018

The discussion paper to inform the 20 year Regional Arts Plan was released in September 2017 and was accompanied by a targeted stakeholder engagement program. Feedback received from this process will form the basis of the draft Sunshine Coast Arts Plan.

It is anticipated that the draft arts plan will be completed in early 2018 and presented to council for comment and endorsement before going out for wider consultation. The feedback from broader community consultation will be used to finalise the draft plan before going back to council for final endorsement.

Once complete, the arts plan will have a material and sustained impact on the arts and the arts sector on the Sunshine Coast by establishing:

- A clear vision.
- A set of principles.
- Timely actions to focus efforts on developing and supporting an arts environment that makes the region a vibrant, supportive and nurturing place for new and established artists to live and practice.
- A destination for audiences seeking contemporary/arts experiences.

The establishment of the Sunshine Coast Art Foundation is a concurrent priority and will be established by the end of the 2017-2018 financial year.

The board's ambition is bold and long term. The delivery of actions that will emerge from an endorsed 20 year arts plan for the region will remain the board's focus for the next two decades.



Lincoln Austin exhibition 2016. Caloundra Regional Gallery, Sunshine Coast.



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