



Hiromi Tango, weaving for the new Tweed Valley Hospital

Artist Peter Poulet's mural for the New Maitland Hospital

A community collaboration engaging three Gumbaynggirr communities

HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE

Expression of Interest (EOI)

Cowra Hospital Creative Commissions

14 March 2025

EOI closes Midnight, Sunday 6th April 2025

Cowra Hospital Redevelopment

Located on the Traditional Lands of the Cowra-gu Wiradjuri People, Health Infrastructure is redeveloping Cowra Hospital to deliver improved infrastructure to meet the needs of the community now, and into the future.

A new hospital is being built behind the existing hospital on the campus and will ensure patients, staff and the Cowra community have access to a patient focused health service that is integrated, equitable and sustainable for Cowra and surrounding communities.

Arts Strategy

As part of the redevelopment, the Hospital is seeking artworks for a range of clinical and non-clinical areas, in- and external to the Hospital. The Arts Strategy aims to:

- 1. Contribute to enabling a therapeutic environment for patients, workforce and community;
- 2. Support improved health care outcomes with particular focus on Aboriginal Health and wellbeing

Creatives with a relationship to the Cowra region are invited to register their Expression of Interest (EOI) for two key opportunities detailed on Page 3 – Creative Care & Cultural Safety.

Artist Selection Process

There are three phases for Artists to be selected for the Creative Commissions:

Phase	1 <i>the purpose of this EOI</i>	2	3
What	Artist submit EOIs EOIs assessed by Panel and recommended to Project Governance for endorsement	Nominated artists will be invited to develop concept designs based on a site specific brief for Governance review	Selected artists will be contracted to the project to develop detailed artworks for Governance endorsement & implementation
When	EOIs CLOSE 6 April 2025 Assessment May-June 2025	Winter 2025	Winter-Spring 2025

Eligibility Criteria

Artists/creative teams will be selected to progress to the next stage based on the below criteria:

- 1. Completing the Application Form IN FULL by **Midnight 6th April 202** <https://forms.office.com/r/RjmCKKrv6k>
- 2. Relationship to Cowra and region, and for artists applying to Opportunity 2, a continued connection to Cowra-gu Wiradjuri-gu Country;
- 3. Creative practice: Artists must have a portfolio of work that demonstrates their ability to create high-quality artwork with a sensitivity to the healthcare context, and whose practice has capacity to work with the architectural, and interior design intent of the new service; and
- 4. Experience: demonstrated experience in creating artwork for public spaces, healthcare environments, or institutional settings

Creative Commissions

Creatives may apply to one or both opportunities. Creatives wanting to apply for both opportunities must indicate this in their EOI Application Form and supporting documents.

	Opportunity 1: Creative Care	Opportunity 2: Cultural Safety
Scope	Up to 20 artworks to contribute to a new Art Collection for Hospital places of wait and rest, in both clinical and non-clinical areas	With community and informed by Elders, co-create artwork/s licensed for interpretation at up to 5 key areas including, but not limited to the Cultural Garden, Main Entry, Emergency Department and Cultural Lounge.
Artists encouraged	Diversity of Artists with a connection to the Cowra region working at all stages of creative practice.	Aboriginal Artist/s with a continued relationship to <i>Cowra-gu Wiradjuri-gu Ngurambang-gu</i> (Cowra Wiradjuri Country)
Content & Concepts:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Artworks should provide a sense of joy, wonder and uplift to health service consumers and staff For most areas, artworks reflecting landscapes or landmarks from the Cowra region will be most impactful due to biophilic design principles - connecting staff and patients to nature 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Artwork/s should enable a culturally safe environment for Aboriginal families and staff to give and receive care, and welcoming to all users of the health service, co-created with community and respectful consultation with Elders; A new Cultural Room is proposed for the redevelopment. Early consultation with the Aboriginal Reference Group has described the role of Country in this area to reflect <i>yilawura</i> – a pleasant place. Geographical landmarks and animal totems (eg references to water, colours, kangaroo, murray cod, goanna and birds from Country) are encouraged for the room and may provide a starting point for other Aboriginal commissions to be developed with community across the site. Story/ies of cultural significance will accompany the artwork/s displayed
Scale & Materiality:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> preference will be given to 2-D artworks readily able to be framed or digitized as large scale wall graphics Artwork dimensions should not exceed 1200mm (h) x 1800mm (w) Original and reproduction artworks or licensed designs will be considered for this opportunity across all media – photography, painting, sculpture, drawing, design, however MUST be created by the applicant. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An original work with capacity to translate as a digital file for application across a range of materials suitable for external and internal environments such as glass, steel, stone and other hardscaping areas
Artist Fees	Artist fees will be provided based on the scope of work required for each artwork/project and discussed with the selected artists upon final selection, commensurate with NAVA recommendations.	
Relevant Stages	Stages 1-4	Stages 1-5

Artwork Implementation Stages

Stage	Applies to	Activity*	Deliverable/s	Est. Program
1	ALL shortlisted artists	Artist Contracting	agreeing the terms and conditions of each party	End of Financial Year
2	Artists selected for Creative Care Package only	Detailed design	Concept designs developed, inclusive of costings, materials and scale	End July 2025
3	Artists selected for large scale graphic prints only	Large Scale Artwork Production	Production Drawings are finalised, governance endorsed, prototyped ready for print & installation	End August 2025
4	Artists selected for Creative Care Package only	Artwork completion	Artworks are ready for delivery, installation and display	End September 205
5	Contracted Aboriginal Artist/s*	Artwork planning, co-creation and delivery in collaboration with community, facilitated by Aleshia Lonsdale, Arts OutWest Artwork finalisation and digitisation Work with design teams to integrate artworks in to final production ready files		Aug 2025- Mar 2026

*All project activities will be subject to detailed separate brief with the Artists at time of contracting, specific to the area they are commissioned to.

How to Apply

EOIs will be reviewed by a Selection Panel comprising representatives of Health Infrastructure, Cowra Hospital Redevelopment, and local Arts leaders, with selected artists endorsed by Project Governance. To be considered, you MUST apply by:

Completing the EOI form in FULL - <https://forms.office.com/r/RjmCKKrv6k>

Email your Creative Response to: HI-Arts@health.nsw.gov.au by **Midnight 6th April 2025**. The Creative Response is to be submitted as a single PDF file attachment (not exceeding 10MB) and must include the following information:

- Artist bio and CV (max one page)
- Up to 10 images of previous artwork
- Creative response outlining how you will approach the opportunity (max 250 words)

Need More information?

Artists and creatives of all genres and skill are invited to a Q&A Session at Cowra Art Gallery, 10am Wednesday 19th March. Following this event, an EOI Fact Sheet will be published on the Project Website for further information.

We acknowledge traditional custodians of the lands of the site of the Cowra Hospital, Cowra – the Wiradjuri people. These lands have been, and continue to be a special place for the custodians of Country.