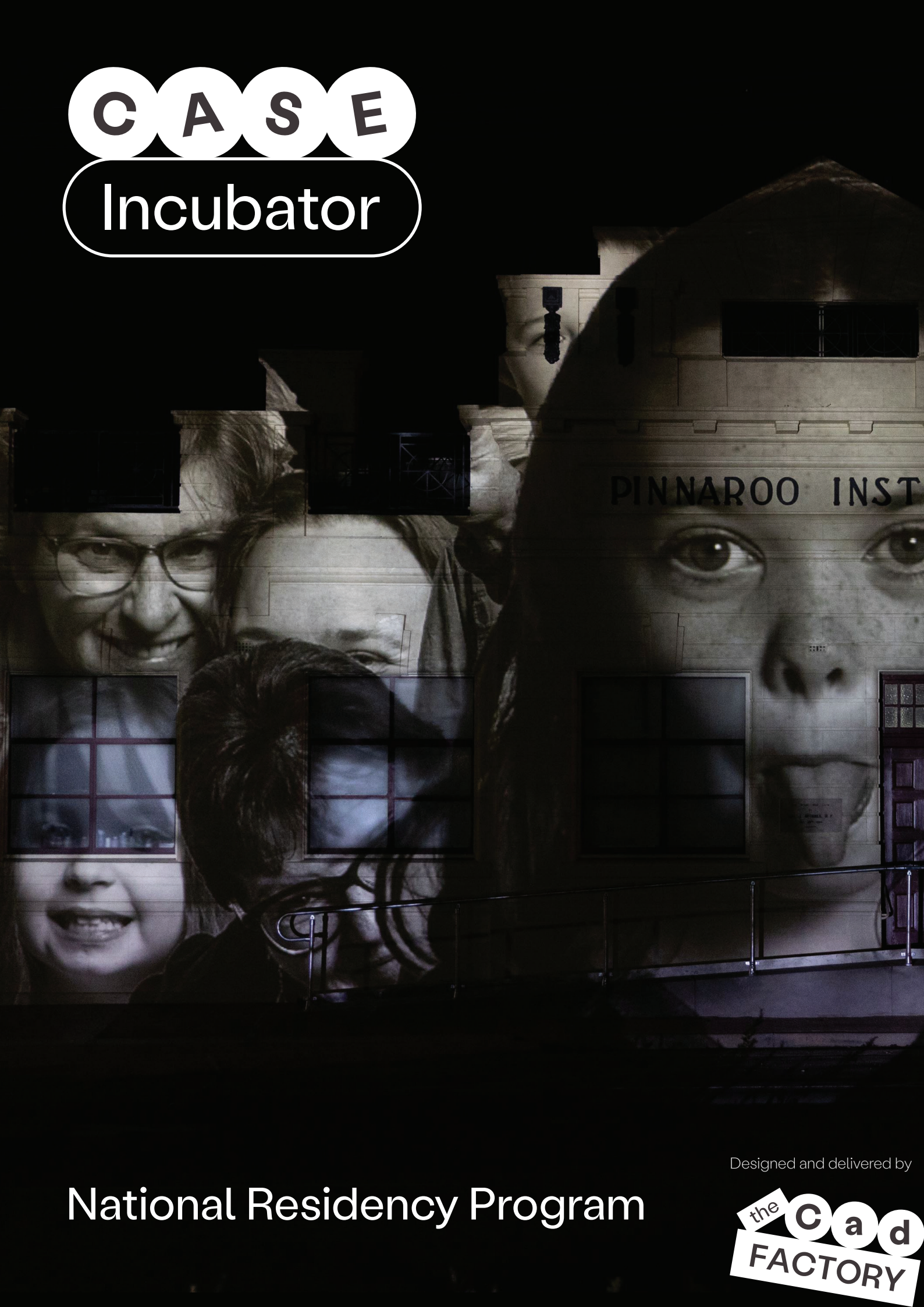


CASE
Incubator



National Residency Program

Designed and delivered by



The Cad Factory works from the ancient, unceded Wiradjuri lands of the Narrungderah people and the ancient, unceded Eora lands of the Gadigal people, who have taken care of Country for over 60,000 years. These places and their deep history contribute to how we understand the world.



Dinawans Connection dance group at River Stories in Narrandera. Photo: Cameron Muir
Front Cover: *Shoulder to Shoulder*, 2023, *And Then*, Vic McEwan and the Pinnaroo Project. Photo: Vic McEwan



Shoulder to Shoulder choir workshop development, 2023. Sarah Penicka-Smith. Photo: Vic McEwan

CASE Incubator National Residency Program

The CASE Incubator National Program is a paid, 12-month residency and professional development program for Australian socially engaged artists seeking to develop their practice, engage with their peers, create networking opportunities with diverse partners, and contribute back to the sector. It will run from October 2026 to September 2027.

Awarded to 8 mid-career, socially engaged artists, one from each state and territory in Australia, this program offers in-depth learning and mentorship from sector leaders, alongside peer-to-peer learning, network building and the support to deliver a small project or resource for the sector.

EACH ARTIST WILL RECEIVE:

- \$3000 (ex. GST) artist fee + super contribution
- \$4000 (inc. GST) to deliver a small project or resource for the sector.
- Travel, accommodation and per diems covered for two in-person residencies (to be held in Sydney)

SELECTED ARTISTS WILL NEED TO COMMIT TO:

- Travel to Sydney for a 4 day residency from 27-30 Oct 2026
- Travel to Sydney for a 4 day residency in August 2027 (dates TBC)
- 8 x 2 hour online learning and discussion workshops
- Delivering a small socially engaged art project or resource between November 2026 and September 2027, within the allocated budget

Applications

Applications open on Monday 13 July, and close at midnight Friday 28 August 2026.

Artists will be notified of the outcome of their application by mid-September 2026 for a 27 October 2026 start.

If you have any additional questions, please email our Assistant Producer, Kimberley Beattie, at kimberley@cadfactory.com.au

ELIGIBILITY CHECKLIST:

1. I am applying as a solo artist
2. I have an active ABN
3. I have public liability insurance or am willing to get this if needed
4. I have delivered five or more socially engaged projects
5. I am available to attend the in-person residency in Sydney 27-30 Oct 2026
6. I can attend eight online meetings that are 2 hours in length
7. I have capacity to devise and deliver a small socially engaged project with a budget of \$4000 between November 2026 and August 2027
8. I want to engage generously with a cohort of peers from across Australia to share, learn and talk about socially engaged practice

Key Dates

13 July 2026: Applications open

28 August 2026: Applications close

Mid-September 2026: Applicants notified

27 – 30 October 2026: In-person residency in Sydney

November 2026 – July 2027: 8 x 2hr online professional development sessions

November 2026 – September 2027: Devise and deliver socially engaged project

August 2027 (Dates TBC): In-person, four-day residency in Sydney

Eligibility Criteria

1. You are a mid-career socially engaged artist and can demonstrate you have led and delivered five or more socially engaged projects in any artform.
2. You have questions about your socially engaged practice and a willingness to discuss these in a shared group environment while also having a generosity to listen to other selected artists' questions and engage with them.
3. You can work well in collaborative and group environments and be part of a curious cohort who are trying to understand their artistic practices more deeply.
4. You have an ability to devise and deliver projects according to project timelines and budgets. The CASE Incubator National Program will finish in September 2027 and all creative projects will need to be concluded by August 2027. The \$4000 budget is final and no more funds will be offered to selected artists
5. You have an active ABN
6. You have or are willing to get public liability insurance to cover you in the delivery of a socially engaged project

Extra Information

1. In the Application Form you will not be required to submit project ideas. This will be devised and discussed during the first residency
2. One artist will be selected from each State and Territory across Australia. Artists from regional and remote areas and First Nations applicants are encouraged to apply. A diversity of artforms will be considered in the selection of applicants.
3. We will not consider duo/group applications. This is an opportunity for a single artist.
4. Artists who have received previous Cad Factory opportunities such as the CASE Incubator Program, Joyce Spencer Textile Awards, Scene Shift Residency or who have been commissioned for River Stories, are not eligible to apply.



Pangala: *Returning Home*, 2023. Image courtesy of the National Museum of Australia. Photo: Jackie Cooper

About the Cad Factory

The Cad Factory is an artist-led organisation delivering socially engaged, contemporary art that addresses complex social, environmental, and health challenges through collaborative, community-embedded practice.

Cross-disciplinary collaboration underpins our work. We build partnerships across government, academia, industry, health, and community sectors, integrating artistic research with diverse knowledge systems. Projects such as *More than a Fish Kill* demonstrate our capacity to address complex socio-environmental challenges through integrated creative, scientific, and community-led approaches. We combine participatory practice with artistic excellence, ensuring community-based processes produce significant contemporary art outcomes. Our work has been presented at leading institutions including Tate Liverpool, the National Museum of Australia, and major galleries and festivals across Australia, showcasing our ability to deliver projects with both local relevance and national and international cultural significance.

For more information head to our website:

www.cadfactory.com.au



Year two CASE Incubator artists in residence at the Cad Factory Studio, Rosebery. Photo: Vic McEwan

Reflections from past CASE Incubator participants

It's a very rare thing to step out of the work/home reality and into this other zone of reflection, questioning and exploring new possibilities with such focus. I have kept thinking about things we discussed and it's nice to have time to see how I can integrate this into my upcoming projects.

– KARENZA EBEJER

I felt a sense of being connected to a collective of artists - I wasn't out there in the field floating on my own.

– MELANIE MUDDLE

My brain and heart is[sic] full! Looking forward to the future.

– HARRIET BODY

Application Form

The CASE Incubator 2026-27 Application Form will ask the following key questions:

Please describe your contemporary art practice and why you make socially engaged art.

Response should be a maximum of 2000 characters, or up to 2 mins duration if you decide to respond in a video.

How will this opportunity benefit your artistic career?

Response should be a maximum of 2000 characters, or up to 2 mins duration if you decide to respond in a video.

Please describe and share with us your reflections of previous socially engaged projects you have delivered.

Response should be a maximum of 2000 characters, or up to 2 mins duration if you decide to respond in a video.

Please attach a current CV which demonstrates your history of practice (doc or pdf).

Ensure your name is included in the file name.

Please attach a small portfolio of recent work (up to 10 images, 2 pages of text, 5 mins of video or 3 links). Ensure your name is included in all file names submitted. Please give preference to showcasing projects and work that is socially engaged.

Thank you for your interest in the CASE Incubator Program. We appreciate all the work that goes into these applications.



This project has been assisted by the Australian Government through Creative Australia, its principal arts investment and advisory body. The Cad Factory is supported by the NSW Government through Create NSW and the Minderoo Foundation.