
Report on Engagement Findings:

***Burwood Arts and
Cultural Forum &
Organisation Survey***



Prepared by:
Community Life, October 2022



Burwood
Inc.1874

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Summary

In response to the growing arts and cultural sector within our community and Burwood's planned [Urban Park | Arts and Cultural Centre](#), Council held the Burwood Arts and Cultural Forum at the Burwood Library and Community Hub on Thursday 25 August 2022.

The purpose of the forum was to:

- Connect with local organisations and groups currently working on arts and cultural initiatives or with a desire to do so in the near future;
- Share information about a range of upcoming Council-led arts and cultural projects and emerging opportunities with artists, arts professionals, community organisations and groups; and
- Hear from participants about how Council can best work with local organisations and better support arts and cultural activity in the local area.

A total of 24 people made up of local artists, arts industry professionals and representatives of community organisations involved or interested in arts and cultural projects and initiatives participated in the forum. Participants represented a broad range of CALD and diverse faith communities as well as multi- artforms and practice.

In the lead up to the forum an online survey was also made available to arts and cultural organisations to help gain a better understanding of groups operating within the local area. A total of 13 unique surveys were completed by arts and cultural organisations, including some organisations that were not able to attend the forum.

Key findings from the forum and organisation survey indicate:

- There is an emerging vision and appetite for Burwood to be a centre for arts and culture with opportunities to participate in or access diverse artforms, ranging from accessible exhibitions and workshops to unique music performances and cultural festivals. This vision is underpinned by a desire to build stronger connections across the local arts and cultural sector, establish links with local business and improve access to purpose built spaces that support the growth of arts and culture.
- Forum participants identified multiple opportunities to grow arts and culture in Burwood, notably by capturing local stories and promoting local cultural assets, increasing the number of exhibitions and events, expanding public art beyond the Burwood Town Centre and improving access to spaces that enable collaboration, community connection, performance or the display of artworks.
- Key support needs of local organisations included: Support in accessing funding, including assistance in preparing grant applications; Promotion and marketing support for community led arts and cultural initiatives; Facilitating new networking opportunities; Support in planning community events; and more venues for more diverse activities, including art workshops, exhibitions, events, maker or residency spaces that are free or low cost.

- Forum participants saw there was a need for Council to play a leadership role in addressing the above support needs and also in facilitating more effective opportunities for building local networks and connections between groups and communities.

Overall, the majority of participant feedback was supportive of Council's current direction in increasing support for arts and cultural development in Burwood. It is clear, however, that additional work is required to connect those working in the arts and cultural sector to one another as well as future opportunities to work in partnership with Council.

The forum and organisation survey findings will be utilised to identify further opportunities for collaboration and to help determine how Council can best support and work with the local arts and cultural sector. These preliminary findings will also inform the development of the future Burwood Cultural Plan and further planning in relation to the future operation and programming at the Burwood Arts and Cultural Centre.

Burwood Council would like to thank all members of the community who participated in this community engagement process and continue to provide valuable input into the advancement of arts and culture in Burwood.



Burwood Arts and Cultural Forum Invitation and Agenda



**INVITATION TO
Burwood Arts and
Cultural Forum**

Council's commitment to arts and culture has taken a giant leap forward and we are excited to share a range of upcoming arts and cultural projects and emerging opportunities with you. We would also like to hear from you about how we can work together and better support arts and cultural activity in the local area.

Arts and cultural organisations and community groups operating in the Burwood Local Government Area are invited to attend the Burwood Arts and Cultural Forum on:

DATE: Thursday 25 August 2022
TIME: 6pm – 8pm
LOCATION: Conference Room, Burwood Library,
2 Conder Street, Burwood

RSVP

Please note that places are limited. Please RSVP by phone 9911 9996 or email Alana.Fisicaro@burwood.nsw.gov.au

For more information or to register online please visit:
<https://participate.burwood.nsw.gov.au/community-arts-cultural-forum>



Storylines Featuring Kirli Saunders by Karla Hayes, David Cragg, Nori Cragg

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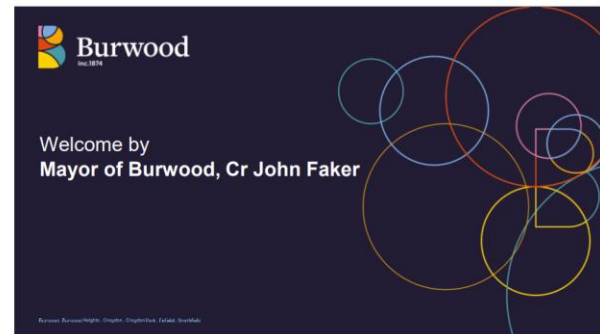
Arts and Cultural Forum Agenda

Thursday 25 August, 6pm - 8pm | Burwood Library and Community Hub

6.00pm	Registration and refreshments upon arrival
6.10pm	Welcome by Mayor of Burwood, Cr John Faker
6.20pm	Introductions around the room
6.35pm	Presentation on Council's arts and cultural initiatives
7.00pm	Workshop Activities: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. What is your vision for arts and culture in the Burwood Local Government Area?2. What is needed to achieve this vision/grow arts and culture in the Burwood LGA?3. What do you see as your role and what role could Council play?
7.45pm	Next steps, networking and tour of the Community Hub

Burwood Council values your input and contribution to strengthening arts and culture across the Burwood Local Government Area.

Burwood Arts and Cultural Forum Presentation by Council



Overview of the Forum 21 December 2022

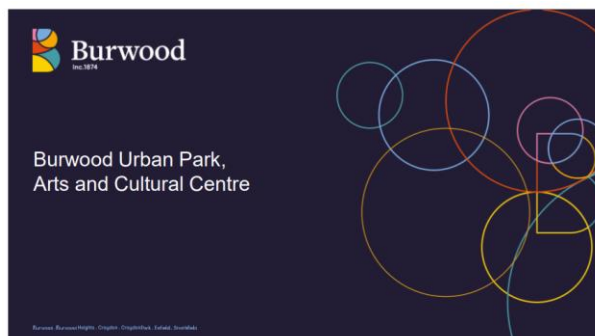
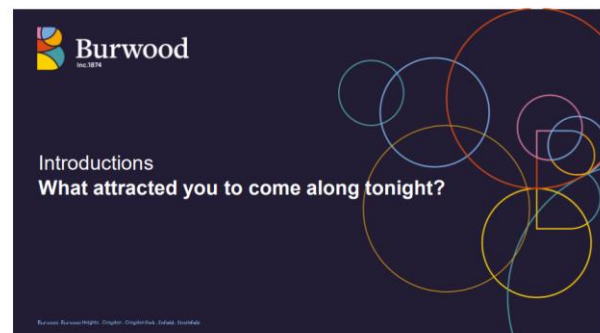
Program

- Introductions
- Presentation on Council's Arts and Culture Initiatives
- Workshop Activities
- Next Steps, Networking and Tour of the Hub



George Hill, WITH YOU
Horsley Lane Murals Project

Burwood BurwoodHills Diggle DiggleHill Finkel Burwood



Community Need 21 December 2022

By 2036:

- New Community Centre 1875sqm
- New dedicated Cultural / Performance Space
- New parks for local use in the high density area of Burwood



Burwood Community Facilities and Open Space Strategy


10 October 2019

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Project Objectives 21 December 2022

1. Creation of a civic, arts and cultural centre for the growing community of Burwood.
2. Provision of additional open space and community facilities.
3. Contribute to positioning of Burwood as a strategic centre for the Region and global Sydney.
4. Contribute to the activation and liveability of Burwood Town Centre via a contemporary, accessible and agile space.
5. Ensure the project is financially viable and sustainable.



Burwood BurwoodHills Diggle DiggleHill Finkel Burwood

Urban Park






Burwood BurwoodHills Diggle DiggleHill Finkel Burwood



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Arts and Cultural Centre

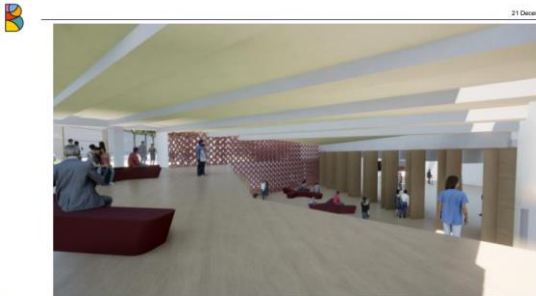
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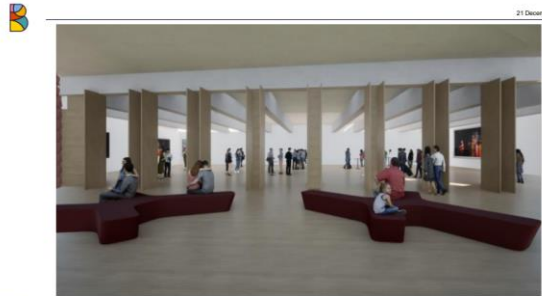
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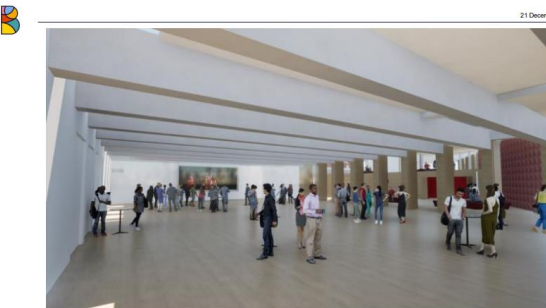
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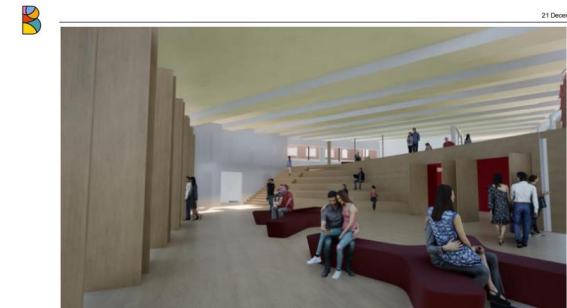
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21 December 2022



Burwood, Burwood Heights, Diggle, Digglebrook, Arden, Burdick



21 December 2022



Burwood, Burwood Heights, Diggle, Digglebrook, Arden, Burdick



21 December 2022



Burwood, Burwood Heights, Diggle, Digglebrook, Arden, Burdick



Burwood, Burwood Heights, Diggle, Digglebrook, Arden, Burdick



Current Public Art Projects

21 December 2022



Enfield Village Revitalization
Artists: George Rose, Thomas Jackson, Georgia Drowns & House



Burwood, Burwood Heights, Diggle, Digglebrook, Arden, Burdick

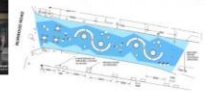


Current Public Art Projects

21 December 2022



Deane Street Precinct Transformation
Artists: Nadia Gellum, Lottie Ales Smith and Sharon Billings



Burwood Park Plaza Project
Call for Expression of Interest (EOI)

Artists: Maddison Gibbs, Jason Wing



Public Art Program

21 December 2022



Artists:
Sophie O'Leary, Christina Nguyen, Kari McPherson, Pink
Cactus, Kim Siew & Nico Nicolson

Burwood, Burwood Heights, Diggle, Digglebrook, Arden, Burdick



Public Art Program

21 December 2022




Burwood, Burwood Heights, Diggle, Digglebrook, Arden, Burdick

Burwood Art Prize 21 December 2022

- Annual arts event for Burwood Council, established in 2017
- Average of 85 entries annually
- 2023 Prize open to all of Sydney
- 2023 Prize Pool of \$14,000, including two new prize categories
- 2023 Prize entries open to a range of mediums including: Painting, Printmaking, Drawing, Digital Artworks (moving or still)
- Professional Judging Panel, always comprised of an Arts Professional, Curator and Artist
- Extended exhibition of four weeks in Burwood Library and Community Hub
- Tailored public programs to activate the exhibition

Burwood, Burwood Heights, Croydon, Croydon Park, Fyshwick, Strathfield



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Events and Festivals

Burwood, Burwood Heights, Croydon, Croydon Park, Fyshwick, Strathfield



Events and Public Space Activations 21 December 2022

Closure of Burwood Road and Clarendon Place
3 weekends March – May 2022

bounce BURWOOD back




Burwood, Burwood Heights, Croydon, Croydon Park, Fyshwick, Strathfield

Light Up Burwood 21 December 2022

Clock Tower and Unity Place
February to April 2022

bounce BURWOOD back



Burwood, Burwood Heights, Croydon, Croydon Park, Fyshwick, Strathfield


Burwood Bounce Back 21 December 2022

Summary:

- Cutting red tape and streamlining processes
- Partnership approach building the capacity of local business partners
- Focus on hard hit industries
- High street and laneway activation
- Financial support
- Night time economy

Delivery across 5 streams:

1. Outdoor Dining and Entertainment
2. Events and Public Space Activations
3. Burwood After Dark
4. Business Recognition and Support
5. Council Subsidies and Fee Waivers



Burwood, Burwood Heights, Croydon, Croydon Park, Fyshwick, Strathfield

Performance, Participation and Support Opportunities 21 December 2022

Burwood Festival Expression of Interest Now Open

New Events Linked to the Burwood Festival:


- Saturday 1 October – Burwood Laneways Market (Emerald Square, Chinatown & Unity Place)
- Sunday 9 October – Burwood Festival
- Thursday 20 October – Food Truck Fats
- Saturday 29 October – EAC Open Day & Movies in the Park

Celebrate Croydon – a series of activations and engagement with The Strand.

Other Supports Available:

- Community Facilities and Parks Hire, including concession categories.
- Event Planning Advice
- Community Grants Program

150 Years of Burwood 1874–2024

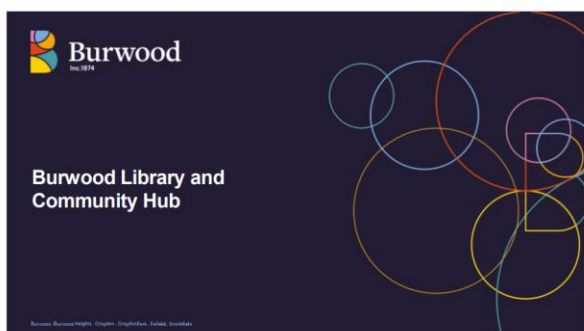


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Burwood Library and Community Hub

Burwood, Burwood Heights, Croydon, Croydon Park, Fyshwick, Strathfield



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A creative, community space for residents and visitors to learn, play and connect with STEAM.



Burwood, Burwood Heights, Croydon, Croydon Park, Fyshwick, Strathfield



21 December 2022

Our Programming

- Seniors and Juniors Tech Club (Coding, Robotics, AR and VR)
- Midnight Hours
- Podcasting and Audio Tours
- Special programming: Science Week, Mental Health Month etc.
- A future of creative and intergenerational programming



Burwood, Burwood Heights, Orpington, Orpington Park, Forest, Burwood



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Workshop Activities

Burwood, Burwood Heights, Orpington, Orpington Park, Forest, Burwood



21 December 2022

Discussion Items:

1. What is your vision for arts and culture in the Burwood Local Government Area?
2. What supports are needed to grow arts and culture in the Burwood Local Government Area?
3. What role do you think Council could play?



Burwood, Burwood Heights, Orpington, Orpington Park, Forest, Burwood



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Next Steps, Networking and Tour of the Hub

Burwood, Burwood Heights, Orpington, Orpington Park, Forest, Burwood



Burwood Arts and Cultural Forum Notes

Following the presentation by Council officers on Council's key arts and cultural initiatives, workshop activities focussed on the following key questions:

1. What is your vision for arts and culture in the Burwood Local Government Area?
2. What is needed to achieve this vision/grow arts and culture in the Burwood LGA?
3. What do you see as your role and what role could Council play?

The following provides a summary of the workshop activity discussion.

What is your vision for arts and culture in Burwood Local Government Area?

- *Notice what people are good at and facilitate its expression.*
- *Mentorship*
- *Community libraries*
- *Learning village*
- *Something future driven*
- *Creative opportunities for schools – Integrating the school programs within the community*
- *Classical music – performing space for choirs and classical musicians*
- *Sculptures - all around the LGA decorated by different groups and auctioned off with money invested back into the community*
- *Free accessible resources/opportunities*
- *Not enough for 'night life'*
- *Creatively displayed community notice boards – Providing opportunities for space and connection (seen in Hobart).*
- *Footpath projects – Chalk art, mosaics etc.*
- *Houses can be artistic*
- *Opportunities that celebrate cultural diversity*
- *Businesses / home crop-swapping*
- *Permaculture movement*
- *Inclusive of all communities*
- *Stories underpinning the arts*
- *Artistic expression that is meaningful to community*
- *International*
- *Connecting to business – Encourage businesses to create their own artistic endeavours*
- *Foster diverse art forms and art in all spaces*
- *Keeping up momentum – We are heading in the right direction with the new facility*
- *Leading arts and culture for the region*
- *Motivate local artists/creators in the area by building stronger connections across the LGA*
- *More recognition for musical history in Burwood*
- *Spaces for interaction of different groups, such as Woodstock*
- *Multipurpose spaces under one roof*
- *Passive recreation spaces*
- *Purpose built festival and event spaces*
- *More activities*
- *Community gardens*
- *Spaces and places for the community to meet and interact – Formal and informal*
- *Festival and event spaces – Attract diverse events*

What is needed to achieve this vision/grow arts and culture in the Burwood LGA?

- *Historical walking tours*
- *User guide for promotions and events*
- *School social services programs*
- *Visits/performances in nursing homes*
- *Recording local stories*
- *More outreach into where the community is operating to provide support 'on the ground'*
- *More community run exhibitions and events*
- *Connecting to businesses*
- *Provide studio/workshop spaces and spaces for rehearsal that are free or affordable*
- *Shared space for collaboration*
- *Opportunity to show artists' process and inspire other artists*
- *Public art – Also beyond the Burwood CBD*
- *Public participation across various art forms, including linking with non- arts organisations and offering opportunities for STEAM learning*
- *More studio spaces and other functional and flexible spaces*
- *Repurposing underutilised spaces for artist studios/spaces for creatives/makers.*
- *Further funding for programs*
- *Assistance in preparing grants*
- *Spaces for live music/multi-display events*
- *Further flexibility around the use of Council spaces - Removing as much red tape/bureaucratic processes as possible*
- *Accessible, free or more affordable spaces*
- *Multipurpose spaces*

What role could Council play?

- *Facilitating more opportunities for connection*
- *Dedicated webpage for arts and cultural events*
- *Digital noticeboard*
- *Arts grants*
- *Connecting community, businesses and local artists*
- *Access to space and funding for artists*
- *Sharing the importance of arts by raising awareness*
- *Providing access to resources*
- *Celebrate the achievements of the community*
- *Improve communication and marketing by letting people know about programs available, doing more to get the message out to diverse communities, increase advertising including new methods such as on public transport*
- *Increase temporary advertising assets e.g. banners*
- *Using more council assets to display projects*
- *Bring new events and festivals to Burwood incorporating meaningful art*
- *Run drawing and art classes*
- *Embrace looking at spaces differently*
- *Support artists, cultural community and performers*
- *Bring new events and festivals to Burwood.*
- *Encourage more information dispersal of opportunities/events*

Burwood Arts and Cultural Forum List of Attendees

Community groups and other participants included:

Local artists and/or arts workers (e.g. curator, artistic director, arts facilitator/teacher, markets operator) (10)

Burwood 150 Years Anniversary Steering Committee (2)

Burwood Chinese Painting Group (2)

Australia Korea Cultural Exchange Association Inc. (2)

Islamic Council of NSW (2)

St Paul's Anglican Church, Burwood (2)

Australian Traditional Asian Culture Group

Australasian Human Capital Development Centre (AHCDC)

Climate Action Burwood Canada Bay

Non-Resident Nepali Association Australia (NRNA Australia)



Burwood Arts and Culture Organisation Survey Data

Council invited local arts and cultural organisations to participate in an online survey on [Participate Burwood](#) from 12 August to 2 September 2022. The purpose of the organisation survey was to help gain a better understanding of groups operating within the local area who are actively contributing to the development of arts and culture along with some initial insights into their support needs.

The following presents a summary of the survey data.

Survey participants included a total of 13 organisations, including:

- Arterest Art School
- Australia Korea Cultural Exchange Association Inc.
- Australian Traditional Asian Culture Group
- Climate Action Burwood Canada Bay Group
- Cultural Arts Collective
- Islamic Council of New South Wales
- Islamic Council of New South Wales
- Palmer Events
- Paper and Pixel Workshops
- St Paul's Anglican Church, Burwood
- St. Paul's, Burwood
- Starry Arts Pty Ltd
- Thursday Art Class

Audiences and member bases served by the above organisations varied from culturally specific communities, multicultural audiences across diverse age groups (including children, young people and seniors), faith based communities and the broader community of the Burwood LGA and Inner West Region.

Types of regular activities, events or projects delivered by participant organisations included:

- Art classes, such as drawing and painting workshops
- Art competitions for school students
- Artisan markets and fairs and music festivals
- Arts projects with a community development focus
- Children's art programs and exhibitions across multi-art forms (painting, craft, sculpture, drawing, digital art, film, animation, STEAM, art excursions, art theory)
- Chinese art and calligraphy workshops
- Community choir and music recitals
- Community education programs, including sustainability initiatives
- Community festivals and events
- Members meetings
- Music festivals, performance, rehearsals and workshops
- Networking events

What venues and other resources do you use to deliver these projects and events?

Venue and/or Resource	No. of Surveyed Organisations
Burwood Council community facilities	12
Facilities outside the Burwood LGA (including Concord Bowling Club, Lidcombe Church Hall, Sydney Opera House, Sydney Town Hall, Factory Theatre, University of Sydney's Manning Building, Sydney Olympic Park, Pratten Park, Ashfield)	9
Public parks and open spaces within Burwood LGA	3
Online Zoom classes	2
Social media	1
Our own facilities within Burwood LGA	3
Home office/studio space	1
Participant resources, materials and equipment	2

What Burwood Council community facilities do you use?

Council Facility	No. of Surveyed Organisations
Woodstock Community Centre	6
Burwood Library and Community Hub	3
Burwood Park Community Centre	3
Fitzroy Hall	1

How can Council better support your organisation in achieving its goals?

<i>We've got best support from Council. If we could, we would like to have exhibition and international exchange to get more ideas and vision from outside Burwood or Australia.</i>
<i>We value the opportunities to discuss our ideas and plans with Burwood Council staff and to explore ways for further benefits. We are interested in community grants programs. We are also very interested in learning about the technology that is planned for the Arts and Community Centre and how we may be able to utilise these.</i>
<i>Support by provide grants, discounted rates. Keep us informed so that we know when we can act properly for the right group.</i>
<i>Host free workshops in the community centre and other council facilities; Have a screen regularly showing children's original artworks in the council facilities; Collect children's original artworks, and display in the 3D museum video and on the 3D-frame robot; Host art exhibitions to show children's original artworks and animations.</i>
<i>More assistance with promotion of Woodstock events. Financial assistance in order for us to spend more on our marketing. Continued reduced rates for venue hire. Introductions to businesses within the area who could partner with us.</i>

Provide opportunities to create new work that includes the local community that strives for innovation, collaboration and inclusion, marketing support and residency space (for new projects).

Help us to build bridges with broad communities in Burwood. We're happy to organise events engaging the Muslim community.

Financial contributions and publicity.

Promotion of art and culture; and provide more council venues for more activities.

Financial support and advertising.

I would like to talk to council staff who organise workshops for adults, seniors and teens and see what would be of interest to teach here. I have moved here 1 1/2 years ago but not taught in Burwood yet. Also to talk to people who support your own staff to explain how a meditative drawing workshop can lower stress levels and reward staff for hard work! I'd like to know the local venues available for workshops and costs. and payment terms for workshops taught through council.

If Council is still making its facilities available and COVID has receded enough by next year we may be able to recommence.

Burwood Arts and Culture Organisation Survey Instrument

If you require support filling in this form, please speak to a Council staff member.

1. Organisation name: Required

2. Contact person: Required

3. Organisation website (if applicable):

4. Your email address: Required

5. Your phone number: Required

6. What is your organisation's main focus? Required (What is your main purpose? For example, it could be "to teach traditional drumming practice within our community")

7. Who are the audiences and member bases you serve? (For example, young people, Korean speaking residents, visitors to the Burwood area etc.)

8. Please list any regular projects, activities or events that you conduct throughout the year.

9. What venues and other resources do you use to deliver these projects and events?

10. Do you use any Council facilities? If so, please select relevant facilities below.

☐ Burwood Library and Community Hub

☐ Burwood Park Community Centre

☐ Woodstock Community Centre

☐ Fitzroy Hall

☐ Other (please specify)

11. How can Council better support your organisation in achieving its goals?

12. Is there any further information you would like to share with us?

Thank you for participating in the Burwood Arts and Culture Organisation Survey.