

YOUNG ARTS PROJECTS

When researching Young Arts projects to support in Melbourne our criteria was to support local organisations that inspire young people with a lasting enthusiasm for the arts, an awareness of our arts heritage and its conservation and to expand the horizons of young people through their involvement in creative activity.

The Firestation Print Studio

The Firestation Print Studio (FPS) is a dynamic hub of arts activity, printmaking at its core and can include a wide range of projects and practices. As a community-based organisation, FPS supports artists with diverse cultural and socio-economic backgrounds at various stages of their career, by providing a supportive environment in which to create and exhibit their artwork. This unique element of FPS provides facilities for all stages of artist development in printmaking from inception and execution in the print workshop, to its display to the public in their gallery.

The FPS / ADFAS Melbourne Young Emerging artist's grant provided \$2,000 in 2024. It was offered to a graduate of printmaking from a tertiary organisation. The successful applicant commenced their residency June 2024 for six months.

The FPS / ArtsNational Melbourne Young Emerging Printmakers grant provided \$2,000 in 2025. It was offered to a graduate of a tertiary Printmaking course (TAFE or University). The successful applicant commenced his residency in January 2025 for six months.

The proposal for the 2025/26 ArtsNational Melbourne Young Emerging Print makers will be to offer two grants. The first will be selected from RMIT and the second to an applicant from Monash, VCA, Box Hill TAFE and Melbourne Polytechnic. The successful Young Printmakers will receive induction, gallery hire, six months' access to FPS, annual membership of FPS and a two-person exhibition. The grant will provide \$2372 between the two young emerging printmakers and the residencies which will run from early 2026.

Polyglot Theatre

ArtsNational Melbourne has also supported Polyglot Theatre for several years and since 2023 we have provided \$2,500 annually.

Polyglot Theatre is Australia's leading creator of interactive and participatory theatre for children and families. Inspired by artwork, play and the children's ideas, they create imagined worlds where children actively participate through touch, play and encounter to create theatre and film. Polyglot's work has always offered an inclusive experience with flexibility and strong sensory focus. This has led to their growing specialisation in working with children with disabilities, an underserved audience. They have undertaken many events, performances within Australia and collaboratively in partnerships internationally. Some of these have included: When the World Turns, Art-Play, Bees, Boats, Ants, Pram People, Paper Planet, Voice Lab, and Whirlwind. These and other performances will continue in various locations in 2026.