

Minister for the Arts Leeanne Enoch today announced that the next round of the Queensland Government's Individuals Fund is now open for applications. The fund will support professional and career development opportunities and increase employment for Queensland artists and arts workers.

"The Individuals Fund provides support of up to \$7000 for Queensland artists and cultural workers looking to extend their practice, upgrade skills, undertake new projects or participate in important professional development opportunities," Minister Enoch said.

"As we continue to navigate COVID-19, it is more important than ever to invest in our local talent to ensure artists can adapt their skills to an ever-changing environment.

"I encourage artists and arts workers to consider the next step in their career and apply to the Individuals Fund to support these ambitions.

"This long-running fund has been a game changer for hundreds of Queensland artists over the years, helping to further careers and expand professional networks."

Minister Enoch said the Individuals Fund 2021 supported 29 emerging and established Queensland artists reach their professional goals with more than \$185,000 in funding.

"Artists and artworkers realised projects across the arts spectrum," Minister Enoch said.

Award-winning Queensland writer Dr Jacqueline Ryan received \$4750 last year to expand the audience for her *Burger Force* graphic novel series, with over 500 social media engagements, ricocheting the project through its extensive networks of performers, bringing new attention to Burger Force and to its cast.

Dr Ryan said, "This funding isn't just a stepping-stone for my career as an arts practitioner – it's also a unique opportunity for new audiences to connect with my work. Thanks to Arts Queensland, new readers can discover my *Burger Force* comics and enjoy their showcase of iconic Brisbane landmarks."

Cambodian-Australian storyteller Mr Egan Sun-Bin received \$3777 in 2021 to support the development of his new play *Blue Iris* aimed at engaging young people.

Mr Sun-Bin said, "This funding will help elevate and showcase emerging theatre creatives and the stories we wish to tell. We don't see many contemporary characters or actors my age on the Brisbane stages so I'm thankful to see that Arts Queensland believes not only in the project but also in the next generation of storytellers."

Minister Enoch said the Individuals Fund supported the rollout of [Creative Together 2020-2030](#), the Palaszczuk Government's 10-year roadmap for arts culture and creativity, and the development of Queensland's arts and cultural sector as we emerge from COVID-19 and prepare for the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The Individuals Fund is open until 4 March for projects commencing 30 May 2022.

For more information: <https://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/arts/funding/individuals/fund>

Applications are also currently open for Round 6 of the Queensland Government's Queensland Arts Showcase Program, with more information available at www.arts.qld.gov.au.