

## South Gippsland COVID-19 Creative and Cultural Arts Program

Council's COVID-19 Creative and Cultural Arts Program is well underway. The program features ten unique initiatives that aim to raise the profile of arts and culture in South Gippsland through a diverse array of events, workshops and activities. The program is part of Council's \$2M COVID-19 Community Support Package.

The COVID-19 Creative and Cultural Arts Program will involve a range of artists, musicians, visual artists, writers, filmmakers, musicians, designers, arts workers (to help facilitate and deliver community arts and music projects), and a photographer/filmmaker to document the program, to work on a diverse range of creative projects. This week, Council is putting a call out for anyone interested in working on these projects to register their creative capacities and contact details via an online Expression of Interest:

<https://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/covid19creativeandculturalarts>

(click on the *Call Out for Creatives* link).

The first project to roll out is called *I wrote a postcard*. This is a collaborative, creative activity that allows locals artists to express their personal COVID-19 experience through old fashioned postcards. This month, sets of three blank postcards will be distributed throughout the Shire, each with one of three themes; isolation, emergence and connection. Local artists are invited to respond to the three themes by making an artwork in the medium of their choice on the front side of the card, and then to post the cards (reply paid) back to Council for a collective exhibition.

South Gippsland Shire Council's Chair Administrator, Julie Eisenbise is excited about the different projects and the support that will be provided to South Gippsland creatives.

"The COVID-19 Creative and Cultural Arts Program has been one of the most interesting initiatives in Council's COVID-19 Community Support Package. All ten projects are very different and all have been carefully developed to promote our amazingly diverse creative industry as

well as providing direct financial and employment benefits.

“We recognise that COVID-19 has been particularly stressful for local creatives. We hope that the \$252,000 Creative and Cultural Arts Program will help to provide a much-needed boost for the South

Gippsland creative community,” said Ms. Eisenbise.

To find out more about the COVID-19 Creative and Cultural Arts Program, please visit:

<https://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/covid19creativeandculturalarts>

To register your interest to participate in *I wrote a postcard*, please contact Mary Sullivan on 5662 9200 or [mary.sullivan@southgippsland.vic.gov.au](mailto:mary.sullivan@southgippsland.vic.gov.au)

The timeline for the Creative and Cultural Arts Program will be determined according to COVID-19 restrictions.

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