



2026 Grants & Philanthropic Funding

Collections

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About this resource

Museums & Galleries Queensland has compiled a listing of grant and philanthropic funding opportunities of interest to museums, galleries and other collecting institutions in Queensland.

Funds for 'Collections' could include the following:

- Acquisition/purchase of significant objects
- Conservation and preservation
- Interpretation
- Collection documentation and storage
- Significance assessment
- Collection research

Disclaimer

This resource, created by Museums & Galleries Queensland, is intended as a starting point only and does not necessarily represent all levels or sources of funding available to any particular group. This information is also subject to change. Grant seekers should check the funding body's website and speak to a funding body representative before applying. This listing does not include: funding for film, television or radio projects; sponsorship opportunities; or funding for commercial/for-profit arts businesses.

ATTINGHAM SCHOLARSHIPS

Copland Foundation

Funds: Variable

Closes: 2026 round to be published mid-October 2026

Purpose: The Attingham Scholarship offers three programs that explore historic residences, their collections and landscapes to provide scholarships for Australians to attend Attingham Trust courses:

- Attingham Summer School (study of the English country house)
- Royal Collection Studies
- Attingham Study Program

Eligible applicants: An Australian citizen, resident in Australia, and at the time of application and if selected as the recipient, the applicant must be employed within Australia in:

- The field of art, including art restoration
- A fine art or decorative art public gallery
- A historic house museum, or
- Any other museum which is significantly involved in the acquisition and conservation of fine or decorative art, or furniture
- The field of heritage architecture

Contact: Phone: 0413 458 885

Website: coplandfoundation.com.au/scholarships

COPLAND FOUNDATION GRANTS

Funds: Up to \$50,000

Closes: Acquisition grants: accepted at any time

Conservation or Interpretation grants: Check website for next rounds

Purpose: To support the study, management, conservation, acquisition, and interpretation of collections.

Eligible applicants: Must be a public museum and be recognised as a recipient institution under the Commonwealth Government's Cultural Gifts Program or as an endorsed Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR).

Eligible projects:

- The study, management, conservation, acquisition and interpretation of relevant historic architecture
- The provision of education programs, whether for staff of such museums, institutions, societies, organisations or for the general public
- The purchase of art works and/or other artefacts, to be identified on public display by the purchaser as a gift from the Copland Foundation.

Contact: Phone: 0413 458 885

Website: coplandfoundation.com.au/grants

COMMUNITY HERITAGE GRANTS

National Library of Australia

Funds: Up to \$20,000

Closes: 7 May 2026 (new applicants), 2 June 2026 (repeat recipients & training projects)

Purpose: To assist with the preservation of locally owned, but nationally significant collections of materials that are publicly accessible including artefacts, letters, diaries, maps, photographs, and audiovisual material.

Eligible applicants: A not-for-profit, incorporated organisation that owns or manages a collection of nationally significant material and is accessible to the general public. Organisations that are encouraged to apply include: archives, art galleries, community groups, genealogical societies, historical societies, Indigenous groups, migrant community groups, museums, professional associations, public libraries, and religious groups. Other organisations, such as public libraries and independent museums located within universities, may also be eligible to apply.

Eligible projects: Significance assessments of collections; preservation needs assessments of collections; conservation activities; collection management software; and training workshops.

Ineligible projects: In-house salaries and volunteer labour costs, publishing projects, exhibition research and signage, collecting projects, oral histories, memorials and plaques, interpretive signage or heritage trails, capital works, repairs and improvements to existing buildings, digitisation of newspapers or magazines, family history research, emergency activities, activities that are in progress or have been completed, and private collections, labour costs to carry out rehousing, software development and website development.

Contact: Phone: 02 6262 1147 Email: chg@nla.gov.au

Website: <https://www.nla.gov.au/about/fellowships-scholarships-and-grants/community-heritage-grants>

GORDON DARLING FOUNDATION

Funds: Variable

Closes: 29 May 2026, 30 September 2026

Purpose: The Foundation provides funding for a range of visual arts projects Australia-wide.

Eligible applicants: Public Institutions in Australia. Individuals wishing to apply for funding for projects are required to partner with a Public Institution which then takes responsibility for the project.

Eligible projects: Funding may be provided for:

- Catalogues and publications
- Marketing or promotional costs, if they aim to reach new audiences
- Professional education initiatives, including individual professional development
- Collection management initiatives, including database development and conservation
- Research projects leading to the recognition and publication of material of significance
- Internationally known speakers for symposia

Ineligible projects: Capital works, general or core activities, retrospective funding, recurrent funding of a project.

Contact: Phone: 03 9820 3168, Email: gdarling@bigpond.net.au

Website: gordondarlingfoundation.org.au/guidelines.php

HISTORICAL ORGANISATION ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM

Brisbane City Council

Funds: \$2,000 – \$10,000

Closes: Check website for next round

Purpose: Provides multi-year funding to build sustainability and capacity of cultural heritage and historical organisations in delivering history and heritage activities in Brisbane.

Eligible applicants: Not-for-profit organisation based in the Brisbane local government area that operates as a facility that is linked to Brisbane’s history and/or heritage that is accessible to the public.

Eligible projects: Telephone and internet costs, website development, utility bills, stationery, photocopying, audit fees, management systems, strategic and operational planning, marketing and communication plans, policy and procedure development, collections care and product development, improving access to collections, significance assessments and preservation needs assessments, conservation activities and collection management, staff professional development including lectures, education, training and workshops.

Ineligible projects: Prizes and awards, private collections, memorials and plaques, capital works, salaries and wages, rent.

Contact: Phone: 07 3403 8888 and ask to speak to the Creative Development Officer.

Website: <https://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/community-support-and-safety/grants-and-sponsorship/applying-for-a-grant/creative-and-history-grants#historical>

JOHN OXLEY LIBRARY FELLOWSHIP

State Library of Queensland (SLQ)

Funds: One stipend of \$25,000

Closes: Check website for next round

Purpose: To support a research project that uses the rich resources of SLQ’s John Oxley Library and contributes to the creation of new knowledge of Queensland.

Eligible applicants: Researchers and writers of any discipline, historians, visual and performing artists, filmmakers, musicians and digital creatives are all welcome to apply.

Contact: Phone: 07 3840 7879 Email: Fellowships@slq.qld.gov.au

Website: <https://www.slq.qld.gov.au/get-involved/awards-and-fellowships/queensland-memory-awards/john-oxley-library-fellowship>

MONICA CLARE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

State Library of Queensland (SLQ)

Funds: One stipend of \$20,000

Closes: Check website for next round

Purpose: To support a research project that uses the rich resources of SLQ's John Oxley Library and contributes to the creation of new knowledge of Queensland's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories.

Eligible applicants: First Nations researchers and writers of any discipline, historians, visual and performing artists, filmmakers, musicians and digital creatives are all welcome to apply.

Contact: Phone: 07 3840 7879 Email: Fellowships@slq.qld.gov.au

Website: <https://www.slq.qld.gov.au/get-involved/awards-and-fellowships/queensland-memory-awards/monica-clare-research-fellowship>

MARITIME MUSEUMS OF AUSTRALIA PROJECT SUPPORT SCHEME (MMAPSS)

Australian National Maritime Museum

The Maritime Museums of Australia Project Support Scheme is funded by the Australian Government

Funds: Up to \$15,000

Closes: Check website for next round

Purpose: Provides grants to regional museums and organisations to help preserve or display objects of national and historical maritime significance.

Eligible applicants: All regional museums and organisations legally incorporated as non-profit-making bodies, which preserve and display significant maritime material, are eligible, whether they are privately or Government funded.

Eligible projects: Collection management (registration and storage); conservation (preservation, conservation work/treatments); presentation (research, development of exhibitions, interpretive displays workshops); development of relevant education or public programs that make collections more accessible to audiences; museological training (for staff/volunteers), internship funding (up to \$3,000).

Contact: Phone: 02 9298 3743 Email: mmapss@sea.museum

Website: <https://www.sea.museum/en/about/grants-and-awards/mmapss>

NATIONAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ACCOUNT

Australian Government – Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

Funds: A total of \$500,000 is available each year

Closes: Open year-round

Purpose: The National Cultural Heritage Account helps Australian public organisations buy significant objects that they could not otherwise afford.

Eligible applicants: Australian cultural institutions such as: museums, art galleries, libraries, archives, historic buildings, national trusts and local history museums and galleries, and Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander keeping places for sacred/secret material.

Eligible projects: The following Australian protected objects are priorities for funding:

- Class A objects in Australia and overseas
- Class B objects that have been denied an export permit
- Class B objects that have been granted an export permit on condition that they be available at fair market value cultural organisation
- Class B objects that are overseas

Contact: Phone 1800 819 461 Email: movable.heritage@arts.gov.au

Website: arts.gov.au/funding-and-support/national-cultural-heritage-account

SALUTING THEIR SERVICE COMMEMORATIVE GRANTS

Australian Government – Department of Veterans' Affairs

Funds: Up to \$10,000 for community grants and up to \$150,000 for major grants

Closes: Open year-round

Purpose: Provides funding for community-based commemorative activities that commemorate the involvement, service and sacrifice of Australia's service personnel in wars, conflicts and peace operations.

Eligible applicants: Organisations only, such as: community and ex-service organisations, schools and other education institutions, museums and cultural institutions, historical associations, state/territory and local government authorities and other non-profit community organisations.

Eligible projects: Projects and activities relating to all wars, conflicts and peace operations are eligible.

Projects can include: restoration of an honour board, purchase of a cabinet to display military memorabilia, development of a digital honour roll, construction of an interactive memorial walking track; the publication of wartime histories.

Contact: Phone: 1800 020 283 Email: support@communitygrants.gov.au

Website: <https://www.dva.gov.au/about-us/grants-and-bursaries/community-grants-hub/saluting-their-service-commemorative-grants-program>

INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL DIPLOMACY ARTS FUND (ICDAF)

Australian Government – Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

Funds: Variable

Closes: Open year-round

Purpose: The International Cultural Diplomacy Arts Fund (ICDAF) supports activities in Australia and around the world that promote the Australian Government’s international arts and cultural engagement and cultural diplomacy priorities, and assist the Government in meeting Australia’s international commitments relating to arts and culture.

Eligible applicants: Open to individuals and organisations with projects across all art forms and cultural expressions.

Eligible projects: ICDAF will support, but is not limited to, the development, production, presentation, exhibition, and/or performance of arts and cultural activities that meet its objectives. It is open to activities that support the whole of the arts sector and industry-wide initiatives, including research activities.

Contact: Email: culturaldiplomacy@arts.gov.au

Website: <https://www.grants.gov.au/Go/Show?GoUuid=a6cda4a0-f268-4e11-900c-f15d219c6545>