

Annual Report

Arts Access Victoria 2022



We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land, the people of the Kulin Nation. We pay our respects to their elders past and present. We acknowledge and uphold their continuing relationship to this land and waterways.



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Arts Access Victoria Annual Report 2022

2022 in Numbers



Cover image: Hugh McNab as The Crow, as part of Thrive Creative Grants, City of Port Philip and St Kilda Film Festival, South Melbourne, 2022. Photograph by Kate Disher - Quill.
Acknowledgement page: RaceRage performing at Snug Rock as part of ALWAYS LIVE, December 2022. Photograph by Laura Du Ve.

About AAV

Arts Access Victoria (AAV) is the state's peak body for arts and disability. Since 1974, AAV has been a leader in disability arts practice, access and cultural equity. AAV is disability-led. AAV produces and platforms the work of Deaf and Disabled artists. AAV's goals are to:

- Define and build cultural equity for Deaf and Disabled people.
- Target and shift the barriers and conditions that maintain cultural inequity.
- Position AAV as a resilient and dynamic powerhouse to extend its role and impact.

We want everyone represented in all areas of the arts, screen and creative industries. Art is a tool for change. We celebrate the aesthetic potential of disability and access. We share authentic stories that are ours to tell. We produce and platform excellence in disability arts and culture.

AAV shares unique and untold stories that challenge the issues that frame the lives of Deaf and Disabled people. It places Deaf and Disabled artists, not at the margins, but centre stage. Recognising them instead as significant and invaluable contributors to the Australian cultural landscape.

Digital Transformation Strategy

We are committed to ensuring no one is left behind. In 2022, all our programming included digital or hybrid access. We were supported by the Australia Council for the Arts through their CEO Digital Mentoring Program to continue to increase our digital capacity. Creative Victoria provided funding for AAV's Digital Transformation Strategy currently underway. We are proud to be working at the forefront in accessible digital arts.

What is Plain English?

This Annual Report is in Plain English. The Plain English Campaign started in the UK in 1974 by Chrissie Maher OBE. Chrissie staged a protest where she shredded hundreds of official documents in Parliament Square, London. She was outraged because people were not receiving government money they were owed. The forms and paperwork to receive their money were too difficult to understand. Chrissie Maher wants us to make information accessible for all.





Chair Report

Throughout 2022, and now into 2023, it feels like time has flown by quickly. As our Board and organisation continue to grow into new and exciting times, I'd like to thank all of our Board members for their support and collaboration. And thank our staff for continuing to lead by example.

Alter State was an incredible success. We would like to acknowledge everyone who not only supported this event, but also thank all who participated and made it such an enjoyable experience. It was an amazing opportunity to showcase so many talented artists. It engaged and immersed the community in the disabled arts sector.

The leadership of AAV from Caroline Bowditch is one of true passion, knowledge and expertise. We thank her for not only steering AAV into new heights, but also playing a crucial role in the success of Alter State. Our Deputy CEO/ General Manager Nikki Zerella continues to provide sincere and valuable guidance to our organisation. I offer my appreciation and thanks to her dedication, time and efforts.

Our funders play an integral part of what we do. I would like to extend my gratitude to them, particularly the Australia Council for the Arts, Creative Victoria, City of Melbourne, and the City of Port Phillip.

Our artists that we work with throughout the year is what drives us to do what we do. We thank them for enriching our lives with their creativity and passion

Amanda Lawrie- Jones
(Chair)



Caroline Bowditch
(CEO/Artistic Director)

CEO report

I am so proud of the work we did in 2022. We fully embraced a digital transformation. Our events were online and hybrid. And we presented more programming by Deaf and Disabled artists at Victoria's major arts institutions than ever before.

I was honoured to be the Creative Lead of the first Alter State festival. It was a privilege to be part of the creation of the festival at Arts Centre Melbourne. This was in addition to my role as CEO/Artistic Director of Arts Access Victoria.

Alter State was an important moment for the arts in Australia. We demonstrated that audiences want to see more work by Deaf and Disabled artists. We showed how events can be hybrid, and accessible. We lit up the streets, and screens, with celebrations of disability pride and culture.

With our ten-year partnership with Arts Centre Melbourne, we are transforming the sector in our drive for cultural equity. The Other Film Festival, as part of Alter State Festival, presented Flaunt, which brought new audiences to the Australian Centre for the Moving Image and demonstrated best practice digital access.

Radical Access, our ten-year partnership with Melbourne Fringe, is being discussed around the world. I recently presented at the International Society for the Performing Arts conference in New York and our work on Radical Access created a wave of interest. I hope we have seeded future programs like this across the globe.

This year we welcomed a Youth Advisory Committee and have expanded our programs for young people. We have presented music events and supported more and more musicians. The growth of these programs is exciting.

More than ever, I want to thank the staff for their work this past year. We undertook a bold year of programming, and they supported me as I worked across two organisations. And my thanks to the AAV Board, who continue to support me and the team as we develop and grow this wonderful organisation.

Alter State

Alter State 2022 was a major festival by Arts Access Victoria and Arts Centre Melbourne. It was a celebration of disability, creativity and culture. Alter State was a slow festival experience held over four weeks. Alter State presented;

- 28 performances,
- 8 workshops,
- 14 conversations,
- 10 films,
- and employed over 100 Deaf and Disabled artists.

Alter State is a ten-year partnership between Arts Access Victoria and Arts Centre Melbourne. Throughout this partnership we will present Alter State every two years.

The Alter State Digital Launch was in 2021 to preview the festival for audiences. 2022 was the first full festival experience.

We ran professional development and training for Arts Centre Melbourne staff. This training helped staff understand accessibility better.

We produced two major streams of the festival:

1. CheckPoint: a public arts and performance space. held in Nebula, our portable art space. Nebula was on the Arts Centre Melbourne Forecourt.
2. Flaunt: an online film festival. We presented Flaunt in partnership with ACMI.

We were proud to support the programming of Meremere by Rodney Bell Ngāti Maniapoto to the festival. Meremere was staged in the Fairfax Theatre and available for free on demand viewing after the festival.

The festival exceeded all expectations for audience numbers. The digital program of Alter State attracted triple the amount of in-person attendance. 35% of the full Alter State program was available online. The online programming included the events at CheckPoint and The Other Film Festival Flaunt program.



Rodney Bell Ngāti Maniapoto performing in Meremere at Alter State. Photograph by Kate Disher – Quill.

CheckPoint

We were proud to present CheckPoint as part of Alter State.

CheckPoint was our pop-up art space, on the forecourt of Arts Centre Melbourne.

Audiences could MEET, MAKE, MOVE and CHILL at CheckPoint during the festival.

CheckPoint programming included artist talks, performance and visual arts workshops, performances, and a space for people to hang out. We hosted an epic Closing Night Party.

CheckPoint events were livestreamed and available on demand. The streaming included Auslan interpretation and live captions. Many events were audio described. The pop up space was a welcoming space for people to sit and relax between performances.

CheckPoint was a highly visible showcase for disability arts in the centre of Melbourne.

CheckPoint platformed local Deaf and Disabled artists. It situated disability arts at the heart of Melbourne. We centred accessible arts practice under the eaves of the Arts Centre Melbourne spire.

Nebula on the Arts Centre
Melbourne Forecourt for
CheckPoint in Alter State, 2022.
Photograph by Laura Hook.

“I’m so proud and happy about how the performance went and now I get paid”

- Stefano, Alter State Festival Performer.



The Other Film Festival

The Other Film Festival (TOFF) is a ground-breaking disability-led program that places Deaf and Disabled people at the centre of the Australian screen industry. Founded in 2004, TOFF is Australia's first international disability film festival and a leader in the global disability screen advocacy movement. We champion and present the breadth of disability-led screen work – film, television, immersive and art. Hosting hybrid programs of virtual and in-person attendances in Melbourne each year. We offer Deaf and Disabled makers and audiences an accessible place for high quality and compelling events including screenings, talks, industry panels, professional development opportunities, commissions, and digital takeovers to capture the now and evoke future possibilities. As a major artistic project of Arts Access Victoria, The Other Film Festival reflects the organisation's vision: Cultural equity for Deaf and Disabled people. The Other Film Festival is proudly supported City of Melbourne and Screen Australia.



Flaunt

If you've got it- flaunt it!

Flaunt is a flamboyant reclamation of disability cinema. Flaunt wants to challenge and transport you through the power and authenticity of disability-led storytelling.

The Other Film Festival presented Flaunt. Flaunt was part of Alter State. Guest Curator Kath Duncan introduced films by Deaf and Disabled creators. Not everyone wants to Flaunt- but these films showed Deaf and Disabled people who do. All films were free and audio described. All films were captioned or subtitled. Flaunt ran on the ACMI Cinema 3 website from Thursday 29 September – Thursday 6 October.

Flaunt was a hit with audiences and generated huge results for the ACMI Cinema 3 platform. We know audiences are hungry for more content by Deaf and Disabled people. Flaunt proved this.

Kath Duncan introduces Flaunt- The Other Film Festival as part of Alter State festival, 2022. Photograph by Andy Chappell.



The Other Film Festival
with Alter State goes Flaunt!

By My Bed

We presented By My Bed with the Emerging Writers' Festival. We asked 9 artists, 'What are the objects that make up your world?' Artists involved were Jase Cordova, Mali Hermans, Jessica Knight, Tori Hobbs, Elena Macdonald, Jo Newman, N.S. Sibanda, Michelle Roger and Hannah Turner. The artists each sent a piece of writing, and an image of the view by their bedside. The exhibition was in person at No Vacancy Gallery from Wednesday 15 June-Saturday 25 June. It was also online. There is audio description for the photographs and artist texts.

By My Bed was an innovative in person and online exhibition. We held an online tour of the exhibition. This gave the artists who could not attend in person an opportunity to view the exhibition before it opened to the public and meet the other artists.



AAV X St Kilda Film Festival

We presented a jam-packed day of live music, performance, poetry, panel discussions and film as part of the St Kilda Film Festival. The events took place at Nebula, outside the South Melbourne Town Hall, and JMC Academy, on 28 May 2022. The day was a hybrid event available online and in person.

We hosted live music performances by Anni Neptune, and Gerry Smith, and a bespoke roving performance by Hugh McNabb. Michael Crane gave a walking tour of South Melbourne.

At JMC Academy, we presented a Round Table on Disability Led Screen Consultation. How can the screen sector embrace access? This was an important disability-led conversation hosted by Fiona Tuomy, Artistic Director of The Other Film Festival.

We presented Into the Limelight: Making Authentic Movies. This was a screening program featuring a short film by playwright Neil Cole and a screening of the film Thomas Rides in an Ambulance. We had a short panel discussion.

Anni Neptune performing on the Nebula stage as part of AAV at the St Kilda Film Festival. Photograph by Kate Disher – Quill.

Snug Rock

Snug Rock was an all ages, accessible music festival presented by ALWAYS LIVE and Arts Access Victoria. Over 150 music fans attended in person and another 80 online on the day, with hundreds more enjoying the livestream since. Acts on the day were June Jones, Rudely Interrupted, RaceRage, Huntly and Half N Half. The festival was MC'd by Artemis Munoz and Rosie Roulette.

Snug Rock was a welcoming environment for people of all ages to enjoy live music. We used the knowledge we gathered from our Music Makers research to create an accessible music festival. We held pre-event social meetups and venue tours to allow people to feel comfortable. We didn't use strobe lighting. We had a safe, quiet space with comfort items. We had a livestream for those who couldn't attend in person. The livestream was viewable in the courtyard area for people who wanted their own space, without missing out on the music.

We were so proud to present Snug Rock and look forward to more Snug Rock in future.

'Thanks for putting this on...Live entertainment was amazing!'



Izzy from Half N Half on drums at Snug Rock. Photograph by Laura Du Ve.

Youth Programs

Future Reset codesign
workshop drawing, 2022.

VicHealth Future Reset

Future Reset is a program by VicHealth. It aims to increase social connection among Victoria's young people. VicHealth have funded nine arts organisations to host events and programs to explore art and creativity, led by young people.

We started a Youth Advisory Committee in 2022. This was a paid opportunity for 8 Deaf and Disabled people under 26. This committee includes a member of the AAV Board. The Committee meet every six weeks and their work is informing future AAV programs.

Our Future Reset program also held six codesign workshops with 12 young people. These workshops were hybrid (online and in person). We ran this program with the Advisory Committee members and other young artists. Each workshop started with a guest industry speaker who gave insights and taught skills. The professional development sessions and codesign process helped shape three new arts programs. The programs will start in 2023.



Capturing the City

What is your experience of the city?

Every year we run Capturing the City. Young artists across Melbourne meet at SIGNAL to explore creativity and public space. Artists are students from Ashwood School, Berendale School, Yarrabah School, and Victoria University Polytechnic's Western Futures and Transition Education programs. In 2022 the artists created a sixpanelled mural on the banks of the Birrarung (Yarra River). The artwork is inspired by Melbourne's public transport maps and highlights what the artists' love about the city. We held an official opening event and livestreamed it so people could watch online.

Capturing the City is supported by Engage! Funding with thanks to SIGNAL.

Nexus

Nexus is a professional development program for young Deaf and Disabled people interested in a career in the arts. This online program runs over 8 sessions, and young people can choose to attend sessions that interest them, or the whole program.

Sessions include;

- Marketing your art practice
- Writing and applying for grants
- Finance and Budgeting
- Advocating for yourself and your practice



Studios

Art Day South

Art Day South continued to celebrate their 30 years as a studio program. Current studio artists showed recent work at G3 Gallery, Parkdale. This was in partnership with Kingston Arts and strengthened a long-standing relationship.

These works drew in the local community who told us how joyous the works were and how delightful it was to walk through the exhibition.



Solo show

Katina Anapaikos had her debut solo exhibition at Seventh Gallery. Katina has been working in visual arts for over two decades. This exhibition was much anticipated by all! The large-scale, abstract works connected strongly with Melbourne's visual arts audiences.



Artstop

The Merribek Council (formerly Moreland Council) invited Artstop to create a new public artwork. Artstop worked with the Little Projection Company to create a short work for the screen. We projected the video over summer in Sydney Road, Brunswick.

Members of Artstop presented at the prestigious Counihan Summer Show at Counihan Gallery.

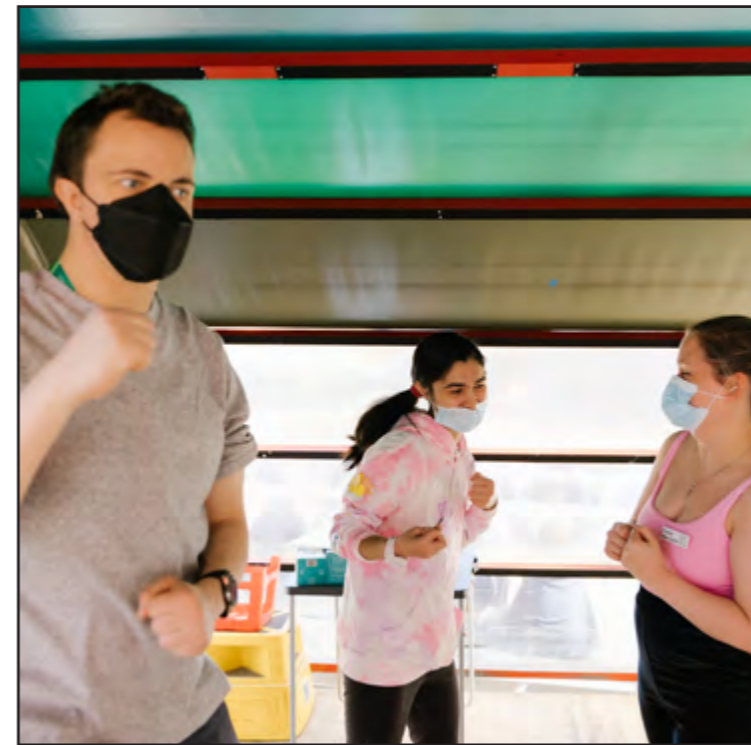
One Artstop artist, Teague Leigh, applied for the Yarra Sculpture Summer Residency and was successful. This was a milestone in Teague Leigh's practice.

Artists had time to develop new creative skills. The collaborations with new partners and venues resulted in new audiences for Artstop. It is exciting to build on these in 2023.

Echo Collective

Spoilt for Choice was a new work by Echo Collective, presented at the Alter State Festival. Echo Collective performed at the Arts Centre Melbourne CheckPoint space over two weeks. Echo Collective brought improvisation and performance to the people! Passers-by loved it.

Echo Collective are proud to show disability leadership. Former Echo Member, David Baker, is now an ongoing Echo Collective facilitator. This is a fantastic model for the collective moving forward. Echo Collective welcome new members to join them on this journey.



Left to right.
Untitled, Edward Treloar, Art Day Smackdown, 2022.
Untitled, Katina Anapaikos, 2022
EndangeRED, Fiona Taylor, 2022
Echo Collective, Alter State, 2022. Photo by Kate DiserQuill
Pavlova In Your Dreams, Mum, Get Out!, 2022.



Get Out!

Get Out! created and performed Pavlova, in your dreams Mum, a one-off performance at Arts Centre Melbourne for Alter State Festival. The performance grew out of soft sculptures the studio made earlier in the year. The sculptures represented what makes them happy. Get Out! used the sculptures as set design and some were used during performances. The group designed and created the set, costumes, props, and music for the show. All performances, choreography and scripts were new creations by the artists.

The variety style format gave the artists the opportunity to express and explore their individual interests.

Get Out! had a year full of curiosity and exploration and can't wait to take the next steps on their journey next year.

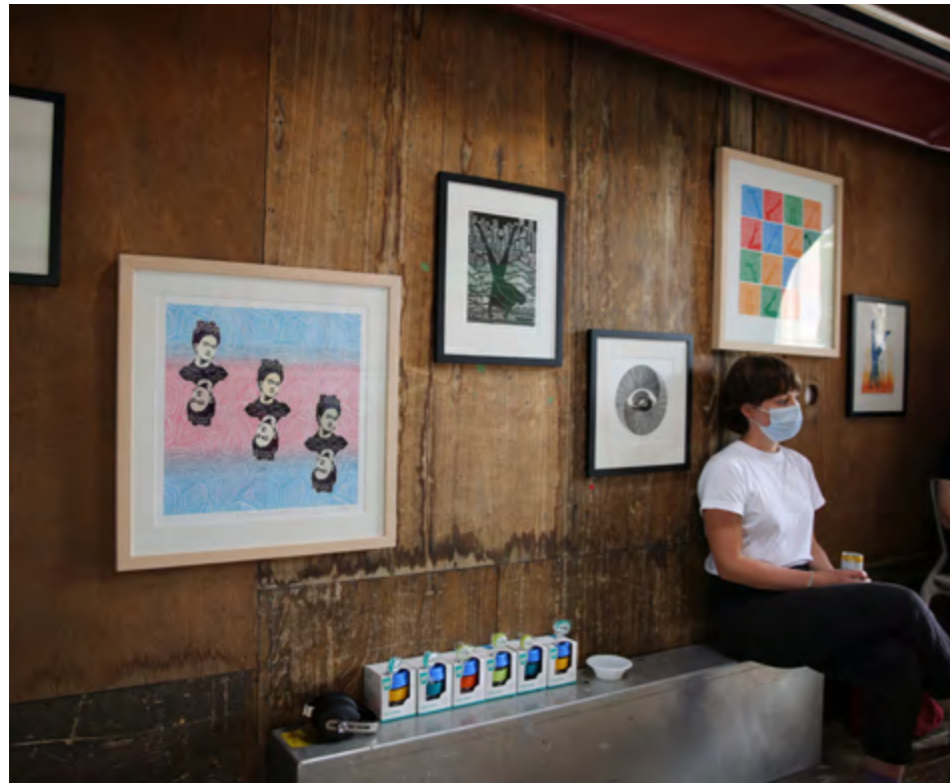
"I like Get Out! because I make a lot of friends and get along with everyone. It makes me happy. One thing I like to do the most is this."

- Linda - Get Out! Studio.

Nimbus

Nimbus developed and presented an exhibition at Seventh Gallery in June 2023. Spill explored the idea and act of spilling. 'Spill' asks, what are real and imagined boundaries? And how are these boundaries subverted or transformed? Eleven Nimbus artists presented works in painting, photography, dry point etching and sculpture. Seventh Gallery is a notable artist run initiative and this exhibition was a high-profile event.

Alter State Festival hosted four, one-hour workshops by Nimbus. Artists from Nimbus presented workshops in grid drawing, online and in person.



Queer Voices

Queer Voices was an exhibition of artworks celebrating LGBTQIA+ Disabled artists. Artists Larissa MacFarlane, Aleshanee Feary, and Marnie Woods from Nimbus presented their work. We presented Queer Voices at AAV's Nebula portable arts space, during a stay in front of the South Melbourne Town Hall. It ran Thursday 10 March until Saturday 19 March 2022.

"Art group is good because we can do our own things"

- Mel McNair, SRS Studio Melton Willows



SRS Studios

We run eight arts studios in Supported Residential Services (SRS) across Melbourne. These studios offer the opportunity for people from SRSs to develop their artistic skills across many art forms.

The studios have enjoyed getting back to regular studio time after recent years of disruption. The SRS studios are working towards a major exhibition in May 2023.



Way Out West

Way Out West (WOW) Studio created the collaborative project Happy Place. Artists went through a multimodal process. They combined drawing, animation, music making and performance.

The presentation at Alter State Festival gave the artists strong motivation. While this was stressful for some, it also allowed the studio to complete a creative project after two years of interruptions.

WOW presented Happy Place at the Be Bold Festival in Brimbank to great success. The artists felt more confident and engaged many younger audience members.



Left to right.

Larissa MacFarkane's work at Queer Voices exhibition, 2022.

Work from Bring it Together, at CheckPoint, Alter State, 2022.

Pavlova In Your Dreams, Mum, Get Out!, 2022.

Happy Place at the Be Bold Festival, 2022.

Mentorships

"You've given me so much motivation! Everyday feels better now with this." - Andrzej Z.



Arts Access Victoria connects Deaf and Disabled artists with mentors to achieve individual artistic goals. Mentoring is a one-on-one relationship to support career development at all levels and across all artforms.

Many participating artists have had great professional development through the program. This has led to great public outcomes including exhibition, performance and screen.

Around a third of mentorships entirely online. some take a hybrid approach, depending upon the situation for the mentor or mentee at the time.

Mentorship: Anna Madden and Chris Barry

Anna Madden's photographic exhibition *Iron Women: Equality Isn't Going to Forge Itself* opened in October 2022 at the Gallery at Library at The Dock. Anna Presented an Abridged version of the exhibition at the Centre for Contemporary Photography. The series was a landmark for both the artist and for documenting proud feminists within regional communities. Anna worked with renowned photographer Chris Barry.

Mentorship: Andrzej Z. and Geoffrey Thorsen

Andrzej began his mentorship around two years ago. Through working with his mentor Geoffrey, Andrzej became focused on mime and began to develop short, theatrical tableaux.

Andrzej reported an increase in his daily energy levels since he began his weekly sessions with Geoffrey. Andrzej also spoke of how being able to work on his passion each week increased his overall wellbeing and confidence.

Andrzej performed at CheckPoint in the Alter State Festival at Arts Centre Melbourne. He performed four of his self-devised tableaux. The audience reception was overwhelmingly positive.

Now Andrzej has begun to explore new tableaux with his mentor. He has also joined community theatre groups, gaining new social and community connections.

Equality is not going to forge itself by Anna Madden. Exhibition presented at Library at the Dock, November 2022. Photograph by Anna Madden.

The Gathering

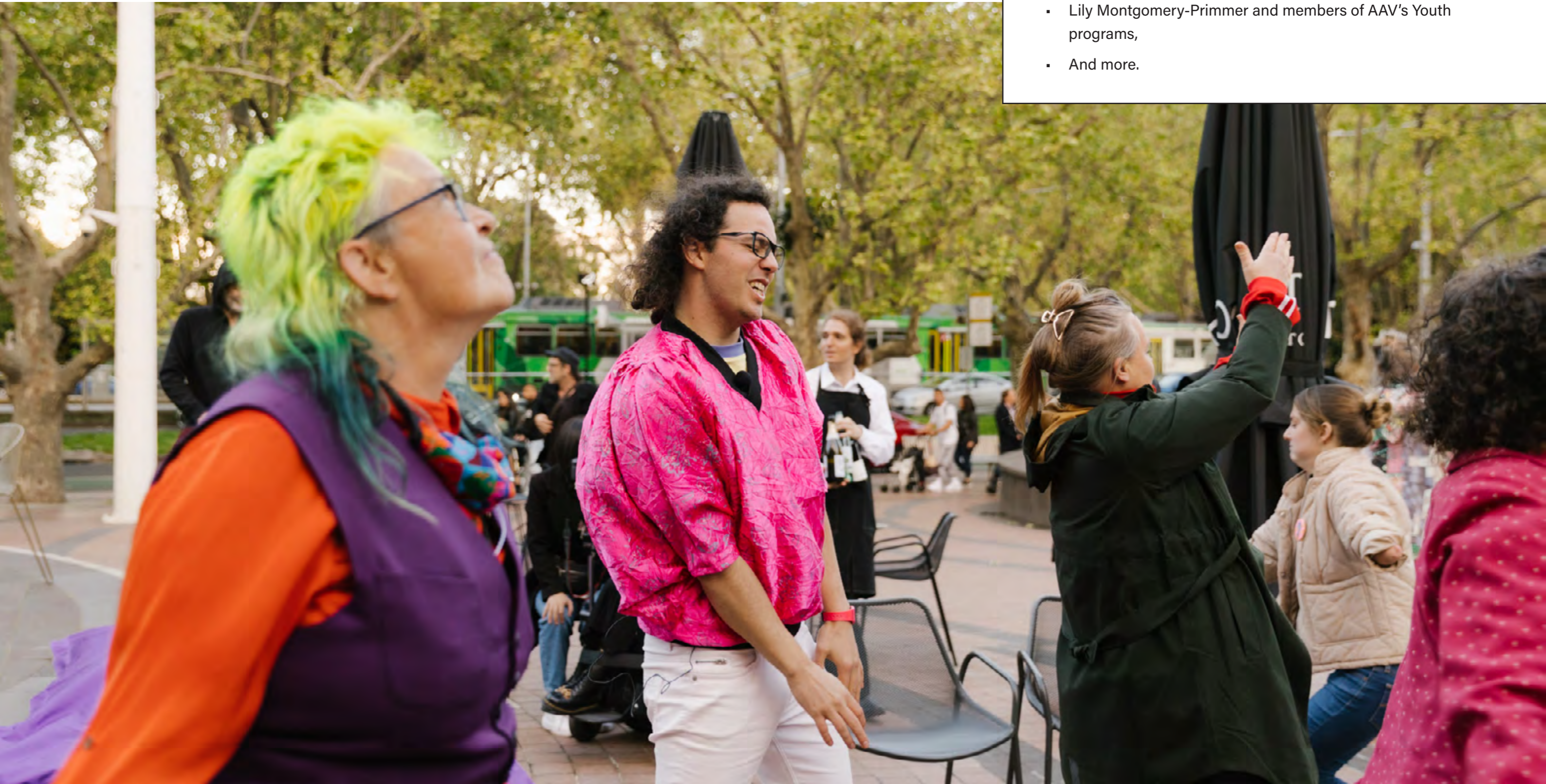
The Gathering is an online forum for Deaf and Disabled artists. The Gathering is on the last Wednesday of every month (except January and December). Caroline Bowditch hosts the Gathering on Zoom, with a range of industry guests.

The Gathering is a disability-held space, using a self-determination framework. It started as a way of connecting during the COVID-19 lockdowns. It has continued as a vital, accessible space to share information and network.

Crowds enjoy the closing night party of Alter State. Photograph by Kate Disher – Quill.

In 2022 we welcomed;

- International choreographer Marc Brew,
- Students from our Capturing the City program,
- City of Melbourne representatives,
- Alter State Festival artist Rodney Bell/ Ngāti Maniapoto,
- Echo Collective,
- Lesley Hall Scholarship nominees and winner announcement,
- Lily Montgomery-Primmer and members of AAV's Youth programs,
- And more.



Auspicing and Grant Support

We supported 112 artists applying for grants in 2022. We help with skills development including project development, budgeting, and collating support material.

We auspiced (managed the administration and budget) 40 successful grants for Deaf and Disabled artists.

We worked with partner organisations and funders to hold grant information sessions. Key partners are Creative Victoria, the City of Melbourne and Arts House.

Grant support we provide includes:

- Auslan and captioning of information sessions
- Responsive to Communication preferences (phone, email, zoom)
- Transcription, audio recording support for submission
- Plain English documents

Auspiced Artist: Yousef Alreemawi

Yousef Alreemawi applied for a music grant with Creative Victoria. Yousef's band Tarab Ensemble, toured six regional Victorian towns as part of the funding. AAV provided support across the project. The grant led to invitations to perform at four more venues. These included the Arts Centre Melbourne and the Melbourne Recital Centre. Sustained grant support over 2022 developed Yousef's grant writing expertise. Yousef recently received the Australia Council Arts and Disability initiative 2022- 2024.



"Your advice and feedback have been invaluable.. I nearly gave up – a few times – but your coaching was deeply empowering."

- Grant applicant.

Actually Autistic hero image, Rhianna Thomas and Hael Smith, 2022.

Accelerate

Accelerate was our grants program funded by Creative Victoria. We designed an accessible grants program for Deaf and Disabled people. There were two grant streams, Nurture grants, and Create grants. We distributed funding in 2021 and in early 2022.

264 applicants requesting \$2,955,000 showed a high need for targeted funding (8% success rate)

We distributed \$240,000 in funds.

22 Deaf and Disabled artists received funding.

These funds helped address issues such as:

- access to funding
- low incomes
- structural barriers
- poor access to professional development/training
- lack of access to transport/support workers/interpreters
- discriminatory attitudes.

Accelerate artist: Jess Knight

Jess applied as a recorded phone conversation. She had applied for grants before but without success.

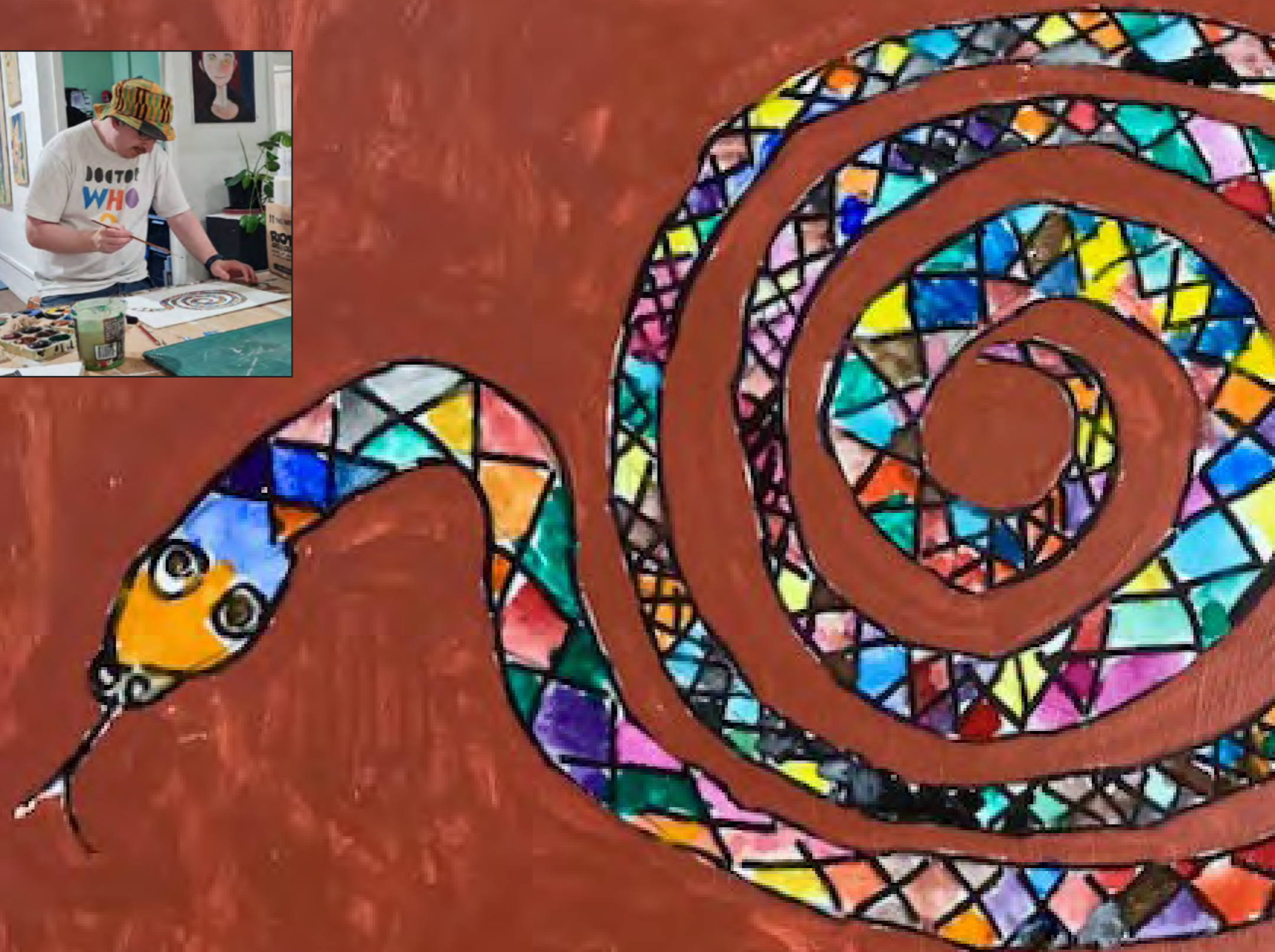
Jess used her funding to develop a first draft manuscript (30,000-50,000 words). The funding continued to sustain the development of her manuscript for publishing.

The funding took a lot of financial stress out of Jess's life. This helped create a less stressful headspace. The grant gave her the encouragement to sit down and work, the incentive to get it done, as well as positive reinforcement/validation.

Jess attended an industry event at the Wheeler Centre, where she received a highly commended award. Having a draft manuscript meant she had new collateral to follow up her networking and gained interest from a publisher.

Strange Little Girl will be published June 2023.

Tim Sedgwick working on Snake for his book Amazing Animal Alphabet and the finished work. Amazing Animal Alphabet was published in 2022.



“The beauty of these AAV grants were that they were both extraordinarily broad in scope, and incredibly accessible. This was the (first) time I’ve ever managed to get through a grants process to even apply!”

- Nurture applicant.

Awards

Lesley Hall Scholarship

The 2022 winner of the Lesley Hall Scholarship is Elvin Lam! We were proud to present Elvin Lam with the award at The Gathering in May. The Lesley Hall Scholarship is an annual program for Victorian Deaf and Disabled artists and advocates.

Stella Young Award

In 2022 we did not run the Stella Young Award. We did this to move the award to a new timeline. There are new exciting projects currently underway to honour Stella Young. A statue was created in Stella's hometown of Stawell. There is also a documentary on Stella's life in post-production by the filmmaker Sarah Barton. We can't wait to celebrate Stella Young with the award in 2023.

AAV and Music Victoria's Amplify Award

Evelyn Ida Morris was the 2022 Amplify Award winner!

The award is part of the Music Victoria Awards held every year to celebrate Victorian musicians. The nominees for this year's award included Batts, Between Mirrors, Nat Bartsch and Saint Ergo.

We presented the award at a ceremony at BMW Edge, Federation Square on Tuesday 13 December.

This is the second year of the Arts Access Victoria Amplify Award. We love celebrating Deaf and Disabled Victorian musicians.

Elvin Lam, winner of the 2022 Lesley Hall Award, pictured in performance. Image supplied.

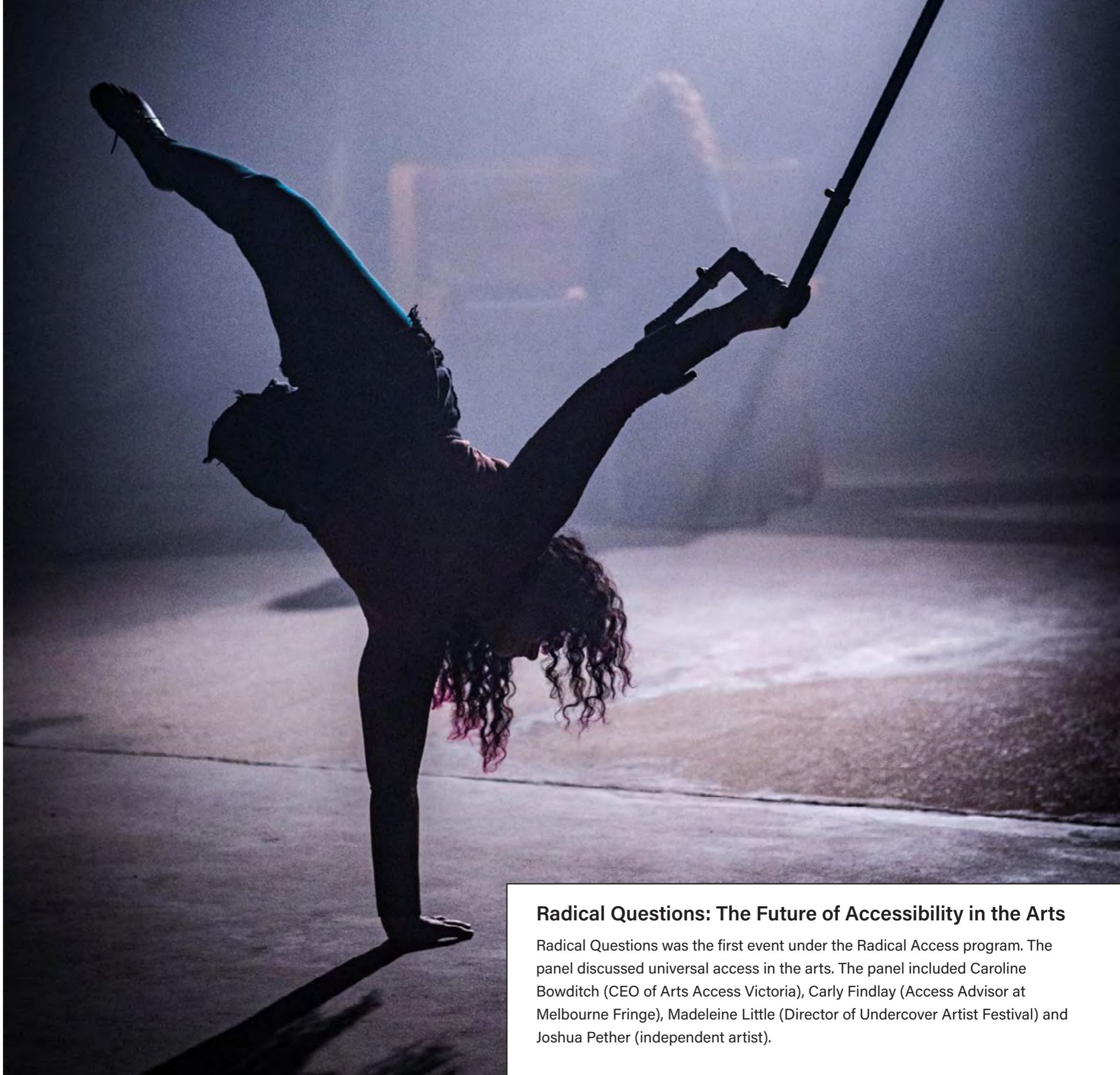


Radical Access

Arts Access Victoria signed a ten-year partnership with Melbourne Fringe called Radical Access. This program aims to radically shift accessibility in the independent arts sector. This year we copresented Radical Access Inner and Outer Circle networking events, these events were with Deaf and Disabled artists and industry. We supported Melbourne Fringe with advice and support. And we were proud to experience the first Radical Access commissions during Melbourne Fringe.

Roya the Destroyer and Eliza Hull performed 'If Our Bodies Could Talk' at National Gallery of Victoria as part of Melbourne Fringe. This was the first commission as part of Radical Access. Chunky Move are currently commissioning a new dance work by a Deaf and Disabled artist for 2023.

Roya the Destroyer in performance as part of If These Bodies Could Talk, by Roya the Destroyer and Eliza Hull. Image courtesy of the artists.



Radical Questions: The Future of Accessibility in the Arts

Radical Questions was the first event under the Radical Access program. The panel discussed universal access in the arts. The panel included Caroline Bowditch (CEO of Arts Access Victoria), Carly Findlay (Access Advisor at Melbourne Fringe), Madeleine Little (Director of Undercover Artist Festival) and Joshua Pether (independent artist).

Sector Development

Young Peoples co-design workshop at Signal, 2022.
Photograph by
Kate Disher – Quill

Training

We have five different training offerings that we tailor to each organisation we deliver to. We deliver training to every part of an organisation, from the frontline staff to CEO. In 2022 we supported 57 artists and organisations with training programs. Notable organisations we have trained this year are Australian Centre for the Moving Image, North Grampians Shire Council, Arts Centre Melbourne, Melbourne Jazz Festival, Footscray Community Arts.

Our current training offerings are;

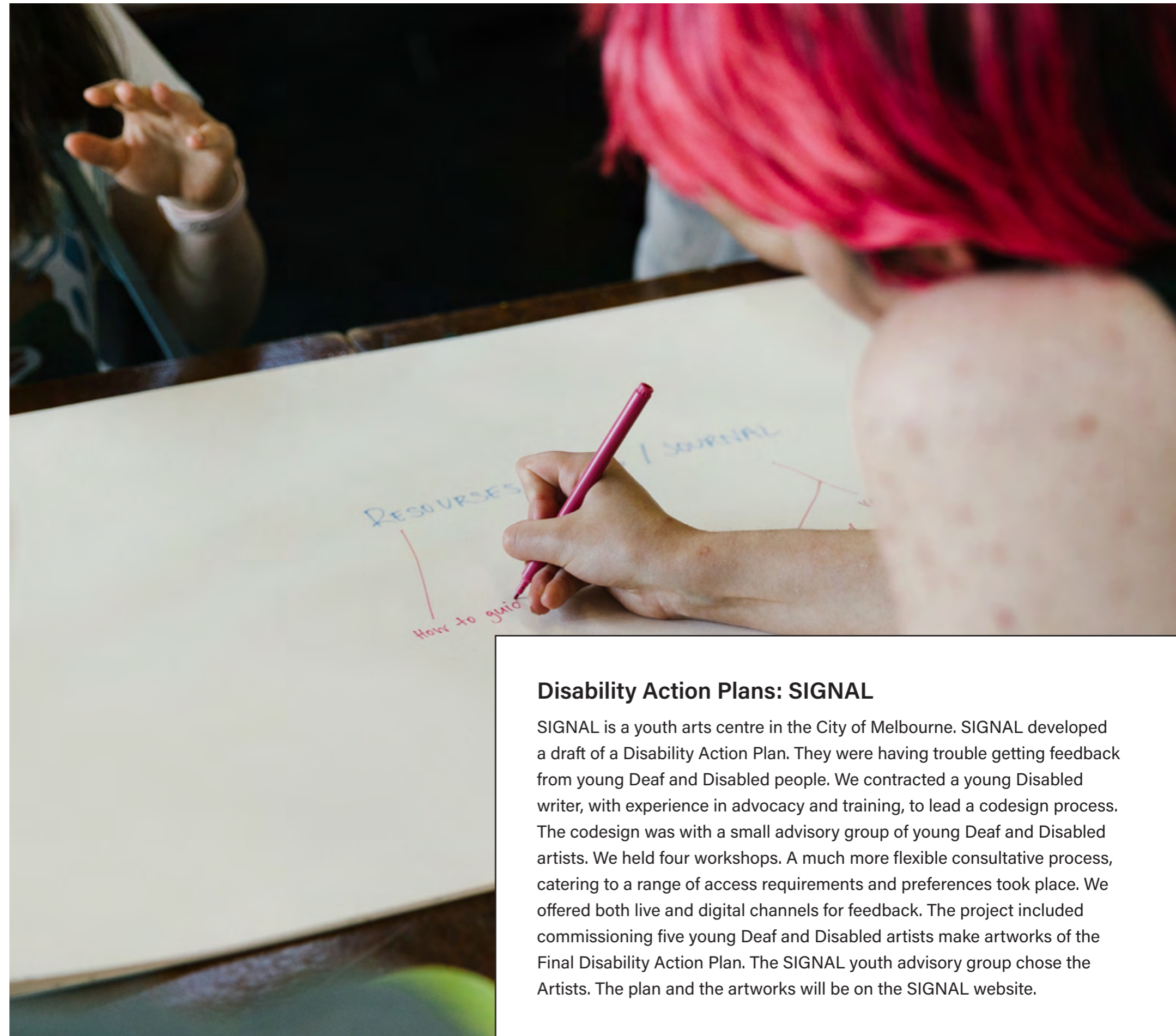
- The Water We Swim In
- Cultural Safety in a Disability Context Masterclass
- Creating welcoming environments
- Addressing Ableism in the Workplace: Recruiting and keeping Deaf and Disabled Staff
- Accessible Arts Practice

Consultation

We delivered intensive and innovative processes to create Disability Action Plans with prominent arts organisations. We worked with Australian Centre for the Moving Image (ACMI), City of Melbourne venues ArtsHouse, ArtPlay and SIGNAL, and Footscray Community Arts (formerly Footscray Community Arts Centre).

We reviewed the digital presence of organisations such as ACMI, Next Wave and Theatre Network Australia. This makes information and opportunities more accessible for Deaf and Disabled Artists, arts workers and audiences. We believe in equity of access to digital information and to all cultural opportunities offered to Victorian citizens.

Every day we give advice and information to a wide range of individual artists, producers and organisations. We employ Deaf and Disabled expert advisors to supply feedback to create accessible art experiences for all.



Disability Action Plans: SIGNAL

SIGNAL is a youth arts centre in the City of Melbourne. SIGNAL developed a draft of a Disability Action Plan. They were having trouble getting feedback from young Deaf and Disabled people. We contracted a young Disabled writer, with experience in advocacy and training, to lead a codesign process. The codesign was with a small advisory group of young Deaf and Disabled artists. We held four workshops. A much more flexible consultative process, catering to a range of access requirements and preferences took place. We offered both live and digital channels for feedback. The project included commissioning five young Deaf and Disabled artists make artworks of the Final Disability Action Plan. The SIGNAL youth advisory group chose the Artists. The plan and the artworks will be on the SIGNAL website.

Finances

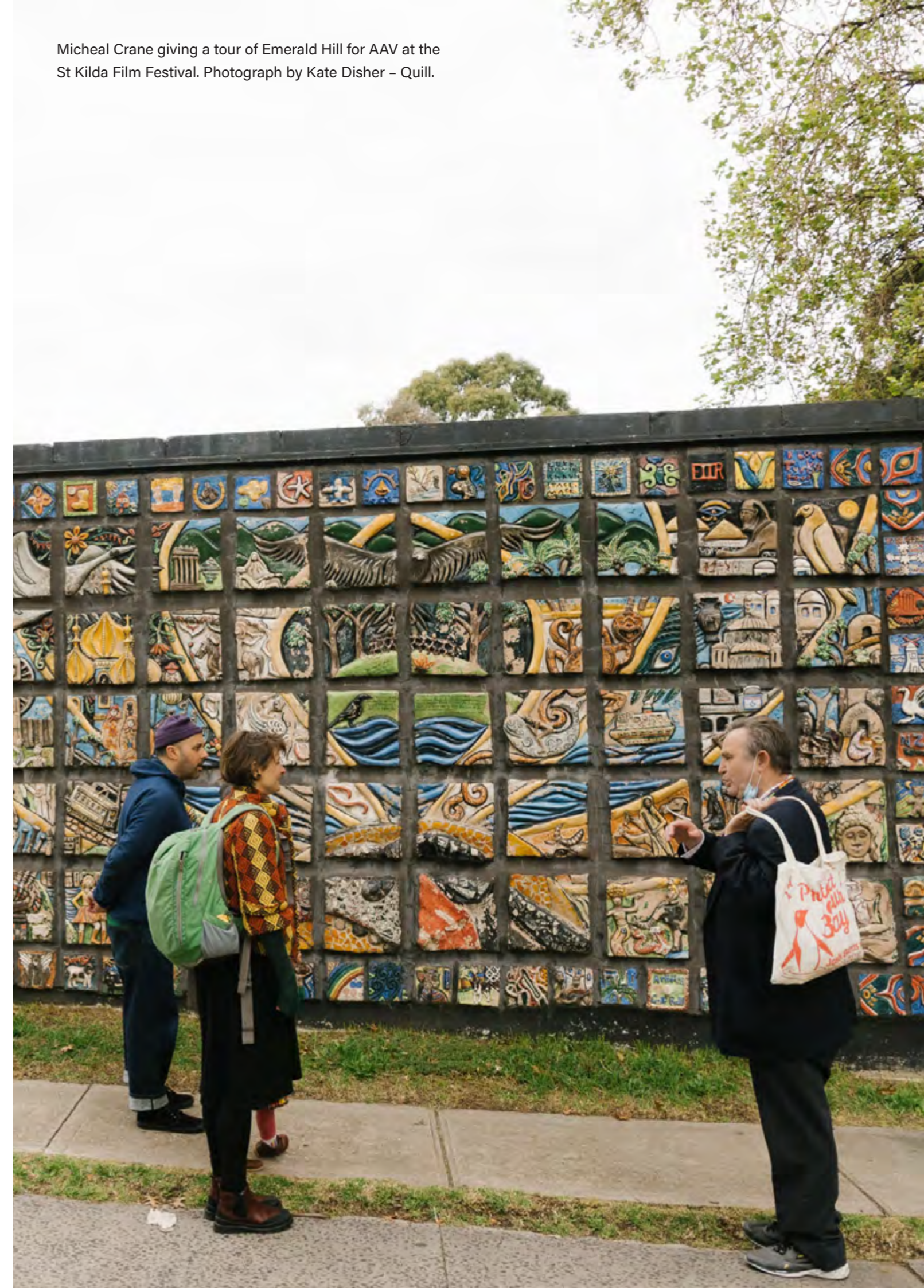
Micheal Crane giving a tour of Emerald Hill for AAV at the St Kilda Film Festival. Photograph by Kate Disher – Quill.

AAV completed the year with an operational surplus of \$280,496 and an overall surplus of \$230,889 due to an decrease in our trust fund by \$65,540. AAV successfully minimised the COVID-19 impact to our operations and maintained our financial position. Due the incredible work of our staff to transfer our programs to hybrid environment, programs numbers, and consequently NDIS income, increased. We received Federal and State government support that's allowed us to retain our workforce and to continue running our programs and expanding activities.

Statement of Profit or Loss

For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

	Notes	2022 \$	2021 \$
Revenue	5	3,193,326	2,562,723
Employee benefits expense		(1,729,558)	(1,749,379)
Depreciation and amortisation expense		(72,829)	(76,633)
Program cost		(787,471)	(496,082)
Marketing and communications		(20,090)	(22,801)
Infrastructure cost (Admin)		(302,069)	(278,345)
Interest expense - leases		(813)	-
Surplus from continuing operations		280,496	60,517
Investment activities:			
Interest & dividend income		15,933	43,216
Net gain/(loss) on financial assets - FVTPL		(65,540)	128,356
Gain/(loss) on investments		(49,607)	171,572
Surplus for the year		230,889	111,055
Other comprehensive income for the year		-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year		230,889	111,055



Statement of Financial Position

As At 31 December 2022

	Notes	2022 \$	2021 Restarted \$
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash And Cash Equivalents	7	1,377,490	1,265,872
Trade And Other Receivables	8	27,646	98,493
Other Assets	9	18,840	29,556
Total Current Assets		1,423,976	1,393,921
Non-Current Assets			
Other Financial Assets	10	1,030,350	1,077,352
Property, Plant And Equipment	11	38,450	60,633
Intangible Assets	12	76,197	113,945
Right-Of-Use Assets	13	59,249	-
Total Non-Current Assets		1,204,246	1,251,930
Total Assets		2,628,222	2,645,851
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Trade And Other Payables	14	232,747	143,537
Lease Liabilities	13	33,427	-
Employee Benefits	16	165,041	92,000
Income In Advance	15	421,190	875,984
Total Current Liabilities		852,405	1,111,521
Non-Current Liabilities			
Lease Liabilities	13	26,187	-
Employee Benefits	16	35,795	51,384
Total Non-Current Liabilities		61,982	51,384
Total Liabilities		914,387	1,162,905
Net Assets		1,713,835	1,482,946
Equity			
Reserves		460,000	385,000
Retained Earnings		1,253,835	1,097,946
		1,713,835	1,482,946
Total Equity		1,713,835	1,482,946

Katina Anapaikos at Seventh Gallery. Photograph by Lauren Dunn.



Our Board!



Amanda Lawrie-Jones — Chair

Amanda Lawrie-Jones has lived experience of disability and is a skilled Disability Inclusion Consultant with decades of organisational capability experience. She manages her own business and has successfully created impact and meaningful change in both government and non-government sectors.

In 2018, Amanda was a finalist in the National Awards for Disability Leadership in the category of 'Change Making'

Amanda joined the AAV board in 2018. She has been Chair since 2021.



Brad Sadler — Vice Chair

Brad has an extensive history of senior executive management in local government, community, aged and disability services. He is the Founding Director of Dana Consulting and Director of Illuminate Yoga Studio, where he currently teaches yoga and meditation.

Brad has been active in the arts as a musician, singer/chorister, performer and director in community-based theatre.

Brad joined the AAV Board in 2012.



Laura Purbrick — Treasurer

Laura Purbrick has significant experience advising Non-Profit organisations and Family Offices in the area of finance and investment strategy. Her industry experience includes working as a Director at PwC, ANZ Private Bank as well as JANA. Laura has strong interest in the arts and is passionate about giving back to the community and considering the positive social impact of our actions, both as individuals and our collective impact as a community.

Laura joined the AAV Board in 2022.



Brooke Daly

Brooke is a marketing, communications and strategy specialist with 17 years of leadership experience spanning the UK, Europe, Asia and US. She holds a Master of Arts (Communications) degree, and spent a decade working in the arts and screen, including the Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts (AACTA), Creative Partnerships Australia, Abbotsford Convent and Film Victoria. She has also worked in the mental health sector, and recently ran the Environmental Film Festival Australia.

Brooke joined the AAV Board in 2022.



Jodi Nicks

Jodie lives with disability and is a senior adviser for disability and accessibility with the Victorian government. She is driven to creating more inclusive communities for people with disability, particularly for those experiencing multiple, intersecting forms of systemic discrimination.

Jodie worked as a performing artist for many years. In 2016 she was awarded the inaugural Funds in Court Inspire award in recognition of her professional contribution to performing arts and for creating a more inclusive society through her work.

Jodie joined the AAV Board in 2022.



Kate Hood

Kate Hood became a wheelchair user over a decade ago and reinvented herself as a disabled actor and theatre maker.

She formed her disability-led theatre company, Raspberry Ripple Productions, as a response to the invisibility of disabled actors, writers and theatre makers across our stages and screens. Raspberry Ripple's remit is to tell stories of disabled and non-disabled people living in the world together.

Kate was appointed to the AAV Board in 2016.



Nic Vogelpoel

Nic has over 15 years experience leading strategy design, implementation and evaluation in public health, international development, sustainability and in disability services. He is co-Director of Day Four Projects, a specialist consultancy working internationally. Nic started his career with Access Arts in Queensland and has worked in the sector in Australia and the UK.

Nic joined the AAV Board in 2022.



Sam Martin

Sam Martin (he/him) is a Deaf Gay/Queer creative producer and director passionate about the many facets of identities, inclusivity, navigating English and Auslan, and empowering and encouraging Deaf and queer communities. He has worked and continues to work within theatre and film with a range of exciting projects. His award-winning short film "Deafying Gravity" was shown internationally and continues to tour nationally.

Sam joined the AAV Board in 2022.



Our Staff

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Aaron McMurray | Eva Sifis | Lindy Chadwick |
| Abigayle Tett | Evelyn Morris | Liz Bird |
| Adolfo Aranjuez | Fiona Tuomy | Louise Barbon-Elliott |
| Alister Karl | Gabriel Hutchings | Fury |
| Annalies Visser | Gabby New | Maddy Elrick |
| Andrea Hughes | Geoff Robinson | Margaret Mayhew |
| Angela Mirecki | Geoffrey Thorsen | Martin David |
| Arty Owens | Helen Graham | Mathew Wooden |
| Anthea Kemp | Holly Watson | Milly Cooper |
| Ara Dolatian | Jamie Rawls | Muhib Nabulsi |
| Artemis Munoz | Janice Florence | Myf Powell |
| Ayse Ayranci | Jessica Morris Payne | Pegs Marlow |
| Beau Windon | Jo Van Heek | PJ Noack |
| CB Mako | Joanna Pires | Rachel Edward |
| Caoife Power | John Englezos | Ranima Yasmin |
| Carl DiQuinzio | Jinghua Qian | Rhian Hinkley |
| Carlos Parraga | Julianne Nguyen | Sabina Knox |
| Caroline Bowditch | Julianne Ryan | Sarah Fiddaman |
| Christen Tynan | Juliet Rowe | Sarah Houbolt |
| Chris Barry | June Lamb | Sebastian Fowler |
| Dale Gorfinkel | Kate Stodart | Sophie McPike |
| David Baker | Kate Symons | Stefanus Gevers |
| David De Roach | Krystal Seigerman | Tania Smith |
| David Harris | Lainie Cann | Tara Kingston |
| David Maney | Laura Hook | Teri Steer |
| David Rosetzky | Lauren Snell | Timothy Burke |
| Dave Van De Leur | Lauren Spark | Timothy Woodward |
| Nikki Zerella | Leisa Shelton | Tim Reid |
| Ellie Purseglove | Liam Hancock | Victoria Fitzpatrick |
| Ellena Carapetis | Lily Montgomery-Primmer | Fina Po |
| Emil Freund | Lily Nguyen | Wairimu Mukii |
| Emily Rose | | Zahran Saheed |

Robert Brown's installation in Material Reverie. Photograph courtesy of Town Hall Gallery, Boroondara Arts.

Our Supporters and funders

We thank all our funders, partners and supporters for making possible AAV's artistic and outreach activities in 2022.



Australia Council for the Arts

Victorian Government

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ALWAYS LIVE
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APAM
APRA AMCOS
Arena Theatre Co
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Arts Access Australia
Arts Centre Melbourne
Arts House
Arts Industry Council of Victoria
Ashwood School
Association of Asia Pacific Performing
Arts Centres
Ausdance Victoria
Australian Ballet
Australian Film Television and Radio
School
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Berendale School
Bowery Theatre and St Albans
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Department of Health
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Diversity Arts Australia
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Express Media
Feral Arts
Flinders university
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Footscray House SRS
Greenhaven SRS
Griffin Theatre
Hobsons Bay City Council
Horsham Rural City Council
ISPA
Kaz Art'skool
Koorie Heritage Trust
La Mama Theatre
Linden Arts
Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre
Lucy Guerin inc
Maroondah City Council
Melbourne International Comedy Festival
Melbourne International Film Festival

Melbourne International Jazz Festival
Melbourne Fringe Festival
Melbourne Recital Centre
Melton City Council
Melton Willows SRS
Memo Music Hall
Merri-bek City Council
Midsumma
Moonee Valley Council
Moreland City Council
Multicultural Arts Victoria
National Communications Museum
National Gallery of Victoria
Music Victoria
Next Wave
No Vacancy Gallery
North Grampians Shire
Northern Terrace SRS
Orange Productions
Orchestra Victoria
Park Towers Management
Perth Festival
Polyglot Theatre
Post Gallery
Public Libraries Victoria
Queens Lodge SRS
Queensland University of Technology
Rawcus

Regional Arts Victoria
Rising Festival
Royal Ave SRS
Royal Botanic Gardens
Screen Australia
Services Australia
Seventh Gallery
SIGNAL
Songlines
Southwest TAFE
St Kilda Film Festival
State Library of Victoria
Stranger Gallery and Studio
Sydenham Grace SRS
Theatre Network Australia
The Push
Touch Compass
University of Melbourne
University of Queensland
VAPAC
Vic Health
Victoria University
Victorian Music Development Offices
White Night
Wild at Heart
Willows SRS
Writers Victoria
Yarra Sculpture Gallery