Lesley Hall Scholarship 2025 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

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# What is the scholarship?

The Lesley Hall Scholarship supports Deaf and Disabled artists, arts workers and creatives who use art a tool for change. This can be by:

* Challenging preconceptions about disability
* Advocating for the rights of Deaf and Disabled people
* and Deaf or Disability advocacy

# Who can apply?

You can apply if you:

* identify as Deaf and/or Disabled
* live in Victoria
* have an active arts practice
* Be able to show past works that se art as a tool for change.

Before applying ask yourself:

* Do I have a project I want to work on?
* What do I need to complete my project?
* What would help/ support my practice?
* How am I going to express these ideas?

# Key Dates

Applications Open: Monday 2 June 2025.

Applications closes: Monday 21 July 2025 at 5 pm.

# How can I apply?

You can apply by:

* Filling in the application form online
* Downloading a word version and emailing it to us.

You can apply in other formats if you would like, such as Auslan Video, Video or Audio.

# Application form

Lesley Hall Scholarship Application Form: Online

Lesley Hall Scholarship Application Form: Word Document

If you fill in a Word version, please email it to: aguiry@artsaccess.com.au

# What Support Material can I submit?

Support material can be:

* Word and or text documents (DOC, DOCX, TXT, ODT, PPT, PPTX files)
* Images (JPG, PNG, SVG, TIFF files)
* video (MP4, MOV files)
* audio (MP3 M4A files)
* weblink

**Please note:** If you would like to submit a PDF, you will have to email it to us. We cannot accept PDFs via the website.

If you need help with your support material files, reach out, we are happy to help.

# What happens if I get the scholarships?

If you are the successful, you will receive:

1. A $5000 scholarship; and
2. Ongoing support through conversations with AAV and its staff members

# What can I do with the Scholarship?

You can use the scholarship money for:

* creative development
* presenting a new artwork project
* sustaining yourself and your practice

## What does sustaining yourself and your practice mean?

The Lesley Hall scholarship aims to support as an artist. This means you can use the funds to in any way that can help you continue working as a professional artist. Examples include:

* Professional development
* Equipment and Software
* Paying yourself
* And much more

# What is a ‘Project’ mean?

The development of an artwork or creative work that challenge assumptions about disability.

Please note: This definition of project is for the Lesley Hall Scholarship. A project may mean something else in other contexts.

# What is ’further development of your practice’?

We understand the challenges of having an arts or creative practice. We know Deaf and Disabled people can experience more challenges than non-disabled people.

The Lesley Hall Scholarship supports Deaf and Disabled artists, arts workers and creatives. To support their practice and development. We understand support looks different for everyone. And have ensured that you can use this scholarship in lots of ways to support your needs. There are examples above in "[What can I do with the Scholarship?](#_What_can_I)" If you would like to know more, [please contacts us](#_Contact_Us).

# Are there specific timelines for undertaking the scholarship?

The funding is for 2026. You can negotiate a project extension of up to one year.

# Does the project have to be individual, or can you work with others?

You can do your project on your own or you may choose to work with others to produce the artwork.

# Can I get feedback on my application before I apply?

No, this is to make sure the process is fair for everyone who applies.

# Will I get feedback on my application after I find out the results?

Yes, we aim to give all applicates feedback. If you would like feedback, please let us know.

# Who decides which applications is successful?

The Selection panel has four community representatives connected to:

* Lesley Hall
* Arts and Disability

Deaf and Disabled people are on the panel.

# When will I know the outcome of my application?

We will let you know the outcome by the last week of November 2024.

We will announce the winner on our website, social media and at The Gathering.

# Who is AAV?

We started in 1974 and are the peak body for arts and disability in Victoria. We are a disability-led organisation helps to shape state, national and international discourse. We are the leading force behind a more accessible arts and cultural sector.

At Arts Access Victoria we:

* Produce and platform the work of Deaf and Disabled artists, arts workers and creatives.
* Raise the profile and participation of Deaf and Disabled people in the creative industries.
* Ensure Deaf and Disabled people are in all creative industries as participants, audiences, artists, cultural innovators, influencers and leaders.
* Transform the way the creative industries engages with Deaf and Disabled people.

# Who was Lesley Hall?

Lesley Hall was a proud Disabled woman, disability advocate, arts administrator, writer and activist. She was a founder of the Women with Disabilities Australia (Formally Women with Disabilities Feminist Collective). The CEO of Australian Federation of Disability Organisations (AFDO). She was a co-founder of the Disability Resource Centre.

Lesley Hall left her mark. Always fighting for the rights of Deaf and Disabled people, particularly Disabled women. In 1981 Hall made headline news across Australia for her now famous protest at the Miss Australia Quest. She took the stage to protest the objectification of women and idealisation of physical beauty. She became instrumental in shaping public policy on disability through her tireless advocacy.

As the CEO of the AFDO, Lesley was instrumental in influencing the formation of the NDIS, and much more. Lesley’s love of the arts came to the forefront in her work as director of the Melbourne Worker’s Theatre and work at Darebin Council. This helped shape Lesley’s passion for increasing Deaf and Disabled people participation ay all levels. Lesley used her experiences as a Board member and Chair of Arts Access Australia and Arts Access Victoria.

Lesley Hall was a quiet character who rarely wanted the spotlight. Lesley’s motivation came from her desire to instigate social change. To help people in society overlooked by the public. Time is finally catching up with what Lesley always knew to be true. Deaf and Disabled people vital members of society and their contributions are important. Exciting times are ahead, and Lesley legacy is finally being realised. Onward to the fray!

# What Do I Do If I Have More Questions?

Contact us, we are here to help you.

# Contact Us

You can contact us through reception: info@artsaccess.com.au

**Phone:** 03 9699 8299 (voice only)/ 0401 224 864 (text or voice)

You can contact Alanah Guiry. Alanah is managing the Lesley Hall Scholarship applications

**Phone:** 03 8640 6017 (voice only)

**Email:** aguiry@artsaccess.com.au