

2026-2035 Maranoa Arts & Culture

Strategy

The Maranoa Arts and Culture Strategy provides a collaborative framework designed to nurture arts, culture, and creativity as vital contributors to regional identity, social cohesion and liveability. Arts and culture encompass a broad spectrum of creative expression - including visual arts, performance, literature, digital media, heritage, and community storytelling, extending far beyond traditional art forms.

Developed through extensive engagement with key stakeholders, local artists, and cultural organisations, the framework reflects the unique needs, aspirations, and opportunities identified by those who live and create in the Maranoa region.

Aligned with Local, State and Federal planning frameworks, the strategy supports the development of a thriving arts and culture sector that celebrates local stories, links to cultural tourism outcomes and contributes to a connected and resilient community.

Maranoa Regional Council will support the strategy through four key roles: delivering initiatives, building partnerships, facilitating collaboration, and advocating for investment. Detailed action plans will guide the implementation of strategic priority initiatives.



VISION

The Maranoa will be recognised as a connected, creative and vibrant region where arts, culture, and heritage are embraced in community life.

STRATEGIC THEMES



COLLABORATIONS & PARTNERSHIPS



INFRASTRUCTURE & CREATIVE SPACES



CREATIVE GROWTH & CAPACITY BUILDING



HERITAGE & IDENTITY



INCLUSIVE PARTICIPATION

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

1.1 Regional Collaboration: Foster collaboration between regional creative community groups and galleries, enabling artists to reach wider audiences and ensuring diverse programming across towns.

1.2 Expanding Touring and Performance Opportunities: Collaborate with regional, state and federal organisations to bring high-quality cultural experiences and events to the Maranoa region.

1.3 Enhancing Public and Private Partnerships: Strengthen partnerships with local, state, and federal governments, private enterprises, and community organisations to secure funding and resources (e.g RADF).

1.4 Promoting Local Talent and Resources: Develop a centralised platform to promote and support connections and collaboration within the creative community.

1.5 Integrating Arts with Broader Community Goals: Support opportunities to showcase local talent and cultural identity within wider regional and national contexts (e.g. 2032 Olympics).

2.1 Integrated Creative Spaces and Facility Enhancement: Strengthen the region's creative infrastructure by developing integrated, flexible arts spaces and continuing to enhance and maintain existing galleries and facilities.

2.2 Community Access and Utilisation: Encourage the use of community spaces to support a wide range of creative activities and improve accessibility for diverse audiences- e.g local parks, schools and libraries.

2.3 Cultural Development and Placemaking: Support initiatives that activate public spaces and create vibrant, welcoming environments that foster arts, culture and community connection.

2.4 Public Art and Cultural Identity: Foster creative expression and reinforce regional identity through the development, promotion, and integration of public art across the community.

3.1 Skill Development and Capacity Building: Support opportunities for skill development and capacity building across the creative community.

3.2 Enhanced Access to Resources and Shared Spaces: Support improved access to shared spaces and resources to enable creative activities across communities.

3.3 Support for Artists and Local Groups: Support local artists and community groups in accessing funding and resources- ensuring long term sustainability.

3.4 Mentoring and Networking Opportunities: Foster skills development, knowledge sharing, and industry connections through structured mentoring and networking initiatives.

3.5 Creative Growth through Libraries and Learning Spaces: Leverage regional library services as accessible community hubs to support creative growth, through programs, resources, and creative opportunities.

4.1 Heritage and Culture: Encourage the recognition and celebration of local heritage and cultural identity through community-focused cultural initiatives.

4.2 Preserving and Showcasing Local Heritage: Continue supporting local museums and galleries to preserve and share the region's rich history and cultural identity.

4.3 Capturing and Sharing Community Stories: Support the collection and sharing of local stories and culturally significant objects to safeguard community knowledge and history for future generations.

4.4 Promoting Local Artists and Cultural Figures: Support the recognition and sharing of local creative contributions to strengthen cultural identity.

5.1 Enhance Visibility and Promotion: Enhance public promotions of all art forms in the region.

5.2 Expanding Access and Reducing Barriers: Ensure all members of the community have equitable access to arts and cultural opportunities.

5.3 Encouraging Participation and Building Confidence: Support inclusive opportunities that encourage participation, build confidence, and foster a positive environment for learning and creative expression.

5.4 Supporting Volunteers: Support and expand the volunteer base to ensure sustainability of arts and cultural programs.

5.5 Social Wellbeing: Build on the therapeutic and social benefits of arts participation, such as mental health support and fostering community connections.