

Volunteering at Artspace

Mackay's Regional Art Gallery





Artspace Mackay, Mackay Regional Council

Providing residents and visitors to Mackay with an impressive window to the world of contemporary art, Artspace is the regional art gallery owned and operated by Mackay Regional Council. The gallery includes three impressive exhibition spaces, Foodspace Cafe overlooking the green spaces of the Civic Precinct, The Gallery Shop for creative gifts and souvenirs, and the Tate Adams Reading Pod, a quiet space for visitors to access the gallery's significant collection of artists' books.

The award-winning purpose-built gallery, designed by Queensland architects Cox Rayner, is an integral part of Mackay Regional Council's Cultural Precinct. Situated at 61 Gordon Street the gallery provides residents and visitors to Mackay with the opportunity to see art exhibitions by significant local, international, Australian artists and touring exhibitions presented by Australia's largest art galleries and museums.

Exhibitions are complemented by innovative educational and community focused activities for all ages, abilities and backgrounds. Programs include artists' talks, guided tours, practical art workshops for adults and children as well as professional development opportunities for local artists, teachers and students. *Rock Paper Scissors Art and Design Market* is a highlight in the gallery's calendar and the event provides a platform for local artists and designers to showcase their work. The biennial *Libris Awards: Australian Artists' Book Prize* is the gallery's nationally recognized competition that attracts entries by Australian tertiary students, emerging and established artists who compete in four categories.

Volunteers play a vital role in the running of Artspace Mackay, assisting with front of house duties ensuring every visitor feels welcome, providing information, and processing payments for workshops and merchandise in the *Gallery Shop*. Their passion and love for the arts and creative industries helps to spread the word throughout the community about the wonderful exhibitions, activities and events that Artspace offers month after month. Our volunteers also provide valuable assistance at special events and workshops in a great variety of ways. We aim to make volunteer's time at the gallery a fun, positive, and mutually rewarding experience to help them consider themselves valuable stakeholders in this excellent community facility.

VOLUNTEER ROLES AT THE GALLERY

Visitor Services Volunteers

Visitors services volunteers are the face of Artspace. They are the ones visitors first see when they walk through the doors. Visitor services consists of greeting visitors, helping with queries, answering phones and general admin duties. They also supervise the galleries to ensure artworks are safe and the space is tidy. They assist with running The Gallery Shop by taking sales, offering excellent customer service. They also take bookings for workshops and events. Visitor services volunteers play an important role in ensuring the success of Artspace.

Project Volunteers

Project Volunteers are specially trained in handling and presenting artists' books from the Mackay Regional Council Art Collection. They present artists' books to the public, either through being available for bookings in the Tate Adams Reading Pod (TARP) or participating in Speed Date the Collection.

The TARP is a specially designed space in Artspace where people can book in with a volunteer to view two to three books from the MRC Art Collection in a one on one situation.

Speed Date the Collection is an event run on the last Thursday of every second month. The project volunteers are given a book prior to each event and prepare a ten-minute talk to present to those who attend. Speed Date the Collection is a free event for anyone who wishes to attend. It is a wonderful way to experience the MRC Art Collection in a relaxed and casual setting.

Project volunteers are required to meet on a regular basis and take part in different training activities. They also need basic research skills so they can prepare and present informative and engaging talks.





Special Events Volunteers

Artspace often holds special events, such as exhibition opening nights. At these events, volunteers play a crucial role in making sure the event runs smoothly. Volunteering at a special event involves working bar service, food service and supervising gallery entrances.

Workshop Volunteers

Artspace holds regular art classes and workshops throughout the year for a variety of age ranges. A workshop volunteer's job is to assist the teacher or tutor who is running the session. Duties may include helping the tutor with supervising children, assisting with room setup or simply cleaning and tidying up after the class or workshop.

Benefits of being a volunteer

Becoming a volunteer at Artspace offers a wide range of benefits and transferrable life skills. These include:

- Each volunteer role helps build specific skills such as administration, presenting and handling artists' books or working with children.
- Help the community engage with art in a fun and encouraging environment.
- Teachers and students can request a PD certificate confirming their volunteer hours.
- Being a volunteer entitles you to a 10% discount to the Gallery Shop.
- Invitation to volunteer only workshops and activities. This includes learning print making, afternoon teas and more.
- Meet and make new friends with other like-minded volunteers!

Become a volunteer today!

Fill out an application form and hand it in at the front desk or visit our website; www.artspacemackay.com.au to download and fill in an application, then email or post it back to the gallery.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Artspace Mackay, Mackay Regional Council

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WEB: www.artspacemackay.com.au

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/artspacemackay

INSTAGRAM: www.instagram.com/artspacemackay

GALLERY HOURS

10am – 5pm Tuesday to Friday

10am – 3pm Saturday and Sunday

(Closed Mondays)

FREE ENTRY

