

POSITION TITLE: Staff Artist – Specialist (Professional Practice Program)

POSITION TERMS: Permanent part time

EBA CLASSIFICATION: Level C, Grade 1, 2 and 3

LOCATION: Level 1, Collingwood Yards, 35 Johnston St, Collingwood and 24 High Street Northcote, Victoria on the lands of the Wurundjeri woi-wurrung with regular off-site field trips (and other locations for special events as directed from time to time)

HOURS: 7.5 hours per week (Wednesday)

REPORTS TO: Studio Manager

STAFF SUPERVISED: Some volunteers

BUDGET RESPONSIBILITY: Up to \$10,000

SALARY RANGE: \$47.12 – \$49.41 per hour + superannuation and option of salary sacrificing



ABOUT ARTS PROJECT AUSTRALIA:

Arts Project Australia is an internationally leading visual arts organisation that champions neurodivergent artists and artists with intellectual disability. Our vision is to see neurodivergent artists boldly shaping the future of contemporary art.

Through our studio program, exhibition opportunities, and professional development pathways, we empower Arts Project artists to develop their practice and build meaningful careers in the contemporary arts sector. Currently, we work with more than 150 emerging, mid-career and established artists, encouraging meaningful artistic exchange between Arts Project and external artists and supporting participation in the contemporary art sector.

APA offers a unique, creative, and stimulating work environment for both staff and studio artists, fostering inclusivity and artistic innovation.

ABOUT THE ROLE:

Arts Project Australia is seeking a highly motivated and collaborative arts professional for the role of Staff Artist – Specialist (Professional Practice Program).

The APA studio is the engine room of the organisation—a vibrant, inclusive, and artist-centred space where over 150 neurodivergent artists and artists with intellectual disabilities work across mediums including drawing, painting, ceramics, photography, digital media, animation, printmaking, sculpture and zines. This role leads the delivery of The Northcote Penguins, APA's specialist Professional Practice program designed for artists who are interested in exploring their artistic identity and role within contemporary art.

Working as part of a small, dedicated team, the Staff Artist – Specialist is responsible for shaping and delivering a dynamic program that supports eight artists to critically engage with their practice, deepen their understanding of the sector, and expand their professional opportunities. The role includes leading open critique sessions, facilitating group discussions about contemporary practice, coordinating field trips and gallery visits, and mentoring artists as they prepare for exhibitions, residencies, and other presentation outcomes.

The position also involves conducting regular folio reviews, overseeing individual and group goal-setting, and driving opportunities for meaningful engagement with curators, artists, and institutions across the broader arts community.

As a registered NDIS provider, APA is seeking someone who is not only passionate about contemporary art and creative practice, but also willing to support artists in broader ways when needed.

The APA studio is a vibrant, inclusive and artist-centred environment, where collaboration, respect, and artistic ambition are at the heart of everything we do.

ABOUT YOU:

We're looking for a passionate and experienced arts professional with a strong background in contemporary art and demonstrated experience in artist development and program delivery.

You will bring in-depth knowledge of contemporary art theory, practice and discourse, and have experience leading group critique, mentoring artists, and facilitating discussion in a supportive and intellectually rigorous way. You are confident shaping content, identifying opportunities, and building connections that elevate artist practice and sector engagement.

You'll be a skilled communicator with excellent interpersonal and organisational abilities, and a collaborative, artist-centred mindset.

Experience working with neurodivergent people or those with intellectual disabilities is highly desirable. A genuine passion for art, and a commitment to inclusivity, diversity and care within the arts, are essential.

ARTS PROJECT STAKEHOLDERS:

Internal: APA artists, their families and support workers, staff, and volunteers

External: Contemporary art sector (artists, galleries, collectors), disability service providers, peer studios, commercial collaborators

SELECTION CRITERIA:

Essential Knowledge, Skills & Abilities

- Tertiary qualifications in visual arts or equivalent
- An in-depth knowledge of the relevant specialist field
- High level technical and artistic skills in relevant specialist field
- Experience working in either the arts, disability or community development sector
- Ability to work effectively in a collaborative team environment
- Excellent organisation skills and experience managing program budgets
- Outstanding interpersonal and communication skills
- The ability to lead, support, mentor and motivate individuals in the creative process
- Capacity to communicate effectively with neurodivergent individuals
- A commitment to engaging meaningfully with Arts Project artists, their families and the broader APA community
- Demonstrated positive OH&S practices.

Desirable Knowledge, Skills & Abilities

- Proficiency in Salesforce
- Current Victorian driver's license.

Successful applicants will require a:

- Current Working with Children Check.

- NDIS Workers Screen Check (clearance on the disability workers exclusion scheme database).

APPLICATION PROCESS:

For more details, please visit APA's website: artsproject.org.au/get-involved/work-with-us/

Applications should be sent to James McDonald, Studio Manager at james.mcdonald@artsproject.org.au by **Tuesday 5 August 2025**.

Interviews will be held on **Thursday 14 August 2025**. If you are unavailable on these dates, please note your alternate availability in your cover letter.

If you have further questions about the role, please contact James McDonald, Studio Manager at james.mcdonald@artsproject.org.au.

Applications must consist of

- A cover letter (maximum two-pages) responding to the selection criteria
- Your CV (maximum three pages)
- Name and contact details of three professional referees

APA values diversity in the workplace. People with disability, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, LGBTIQ+ people and culturally and linguistically diverse applicants are strongly encouraged to apply for this position.

APA encourages anyone who needs specific access services, support or would like to discuss how they can fully engage with the application or interview process to contact James McDonald, Studio Manager at james.mcdonald@artsproject.org.au. We accept alternative submission formats, that may include video (less than 10 mins), audio (less than 10 mins) or Auslan video (we can arrange interpretation of your video if needed – please contact us). If you are unwell or experience an unexpected interruption that means you will not be able to meet the closing deadline, please get in touch to discuss an extension. You do not need to disclose the reason for the extension.