

Undercover Artist Festival 2023

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)



CONTENTS

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)	1
What is Undercover Artist Festival?	3
Who can be in Undercover Artist Festival?	3
How do you define 'disability'?.....	5
What kind of shows are you looking for?	5
Does my show have to be about disability to be part of the Festival?	5
Will I need to talk about my disability if I am programmed?	6
What is Disability-Led?.....	6
What is Undercover Artist Development Program?.....	6
When does Undercover Artist Development Program take place?	6
When is the Festival?	6
What happens after I submit?	7
How can I apply?.....	7
Can a Visual Artist apply?.....	7
What language can I submit my application in?.....	7
How can I apply?.....	7
What if I can't make my requested interview?.....	8
What do the venues look like?	8
Useful Links:	12

What is Undercover Artist Festival?

Undercover Artist Festival (UAF) is a disability-led performing arts Festival. There are three Tracks to the Festival Program – these Tracks help show the different types of events we present at Undercover Artist Festival.

Creative Track:

Disability-led, professional performing arts work. The Creative Track typically programs performances. For our team, ‘professional’ means that the performances are of a high quality, and the artists involved are paid as professional artists.

Community Track:

This track includes performances from community arts groups (choirs, theatre and dance ensembles) and interactive art projects for the community. The community track is for artists who enjoy and participate in art and who are not performing at a professional level. This can include hobby artists and artists who wish to pursue professional practice in the future.

Career Track:

Workshops, panel talks, and professional development opportunities. We know that most professional development is inaccessible to many people. Undercover Artist listens to disabled and d/Deaf artists to identify unmet needs in our sector and program accessible opportunities to develop the skills you want and need for your career.

Who can be in Undercover Artist Festival?

Undercover Artist Festival exists to provide a platform for artists with disability and/or who are d/Deaf to present their work.

We know that disabled artists are often denied the opportunity to lead their own work and tell their stories truthfully. As such, we prioritise disability-led performing arts projects to support artists to embrace their power and share their creative work on their own terms.

Can I apply to perform or present at UAF?	
I am a disabled artist*	Yes
I am a d/Deaf artist	Yes
We are a group of artists with disability or who are d/Deaf	Yes
We are a group of artists both with and without disability and/or Deafness	Yes – if your work is disability-led, or you are working towards disability-led
I am a support person helping an artist with disability with their application and project	Yes – as long as the artist has creative control
I am a non-disabled relative or friend of a person/people with disability telling my story	No

How do you define 'disability'?

We know that disability identity can be broad and can change over time. How we refer to ourselves privately and publicly can differ. Some people prefer Person-First Language – 'people with disability' – and some people prefer Identity-First Language - 'disabled people'. We support and use the language our artists use to identify themselves.

When we talk about artists with disability, we include:

- physical impairment
- learning disability
- sensory sensitivity
- chronic illness
- neurodivergence
- mental illness
- deafness*

*We understand many Deaf artists do not identify with the term, 'disability', and that Deaf culture and community has its own rich history. While Deaf artists may not personally identify with 'disability' as such, we strongly encourage and welcome Deaf artists to participate in Undercover Artist Festival as valued members of the broader disability arts community.

Undercover Artist Festival will never ask for a specific diagnosis or details about your disability experience. You are welcome to share as much or as little as you like. We will ask for your access requirements so we know how we can make your Festival experience as accessible as possible.

What kind of shows are you looking for?

Projects must be performing arts projects. Music, theatre, cabaret, dance, comedy, spoken word/poetry, physical theatre, circus, performance art or any combination of these art forms is eligible.

The theme for Undercover Artist Festival 2023 is 'Our Power'. You can read more about this theme and how we will program across the Creative, Community and Career Tracks in the [Information Pack](#).

Does my show have to be about disability to be part of the Festival?

Not at all! We strongly encourage applications for projects which do not focus on disability as the main storyline.

We know that there isn't a lot of room in the arts sector for disabled and d/Deaf artists to create and present work unless we tell our own stories. Undercover Artist Festival wants to address this by giving artists a platform to share their work – fact or fiction, both are welcome.

Will I need to talk about my disability if I am programmed?

No. Undercover Artist Festival will never ask you to share more than you are comfortable sharing. You will never be asked to tell your personal story in your biography, in your show description, on our website or in any form of media. You can tell us what you're comfortable sharing and we will respect that.

If you are programmed in Undercover Artist Festival, you may be asked to participate in media interviews or events where you may be identified generally as an artist with disability. It is important that you are comfortable with this before you apply.

What is Disability-Led?

Please refer to the 'What is Disability-Led' guide in the [Information Pack](#) and on our [website](#).

What is Undercover Artist Development Program?

Undercover Artist Development Program will support creative projects in early or mid-stage creative development. This refers to either shows that exist only as an idea and needs more creative input, or perhaps a project you've started that still has a while to go. These projects can be theatre, music, dance, physical theatre, comedy, circus, poetry, or any combination of these artforms. For more information, go to [Undercover Artist Development Program 2023 - Undercover Artist \(undercoverartistfest.com\)](#)

When does Undercover Artist Development Program take place?

Projects should be undertaken in January and February 2023, with all activities completed by February 3 2023 if you wish to be considered for the Undercover Artist Festival 2023 program.

When is the Festival?

Undercover Artist Festival returns in September 2023. Exact dates are to be announced.

What happens after I submit?

Once submitted if the team need any more information, they will contact you directly.

- **Undercover Artist Development Program (UADP)** applicant responses will be sent on 24 Nov 2022. Successful UADP applicants will be contacted after this date to discuss detail of the development program, sign contracts and commence.
- **Undercover Artist Festival (UAF)** application outcomes will be sent on 1 Dec 2022. If you have been shortlisted for Stage 2, you will be requested to submit additional detail about your work after this date. Progressing to Stage 2 does not guarantee a program slot in the festival.

How can I apply?

Please refer to the How To Apply section in the Expressions of Interest Info Pack on our website [Expressions of Interest 2023 | Undercover Artist Festival](#).

Can a Visual Artist apply?

The purpose of UAF and the UADP is to promote the performing arts but that does not exclude hybrid works. If you feel there is a performative aspect to your visual art project idea, then please submit or contact us to discuss your idea before submitting.

What language can I submit my application in?

All applications must be submitted using English or Auslan. Video and Audio recordings must be of sufficient recording quality that the person communicating can be clearly seen or understood. Generally, a smartphone will provide ample quality.

How can I apply?

Undercover Artist applications can be submitted via our webform, email, video, audio or interview in English and /or Auslan. Interviews must be requested no later than November 1 2022 with the first round of interviews taking place on November 9 2022. For further details please refer to [Information Pack](#) on our website.

If you have missed this deadline due to special circumstances, please contact us.

What if I can't make my requested interview?

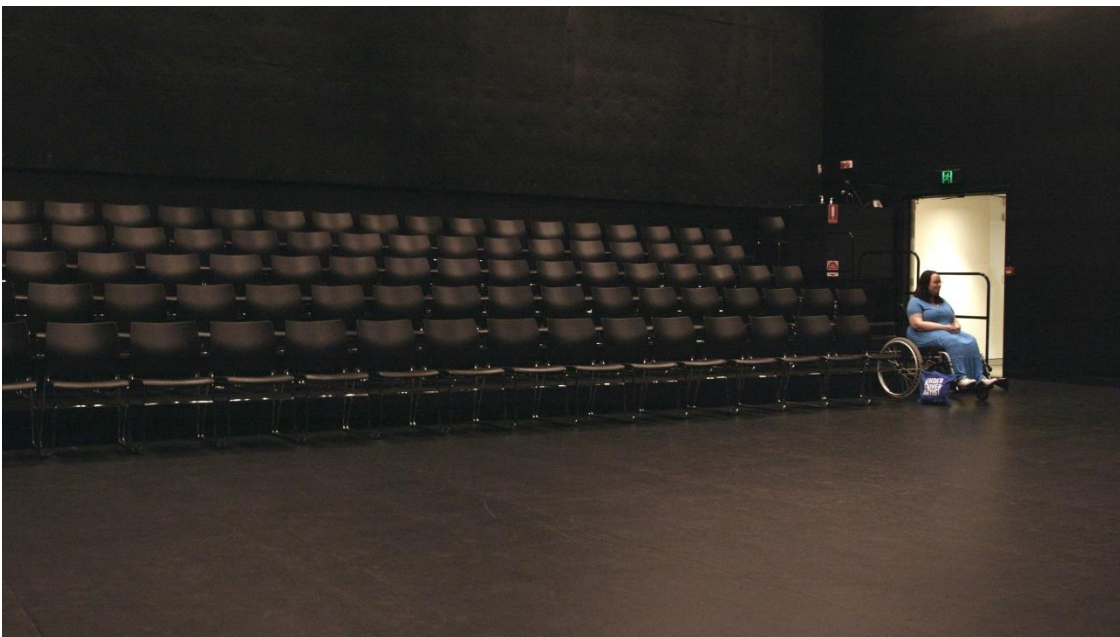
The UAF team will be as flexible as possible to accommodate changing access requirements. As the UAF team only work Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday each week, consideration must be made to availability.

If an interview is scheduled and you cannot make it, we will need to schedule another interview before November 15. Please email the UAF team to let them know as soon as possible if you need to reschedule due to access requirements.

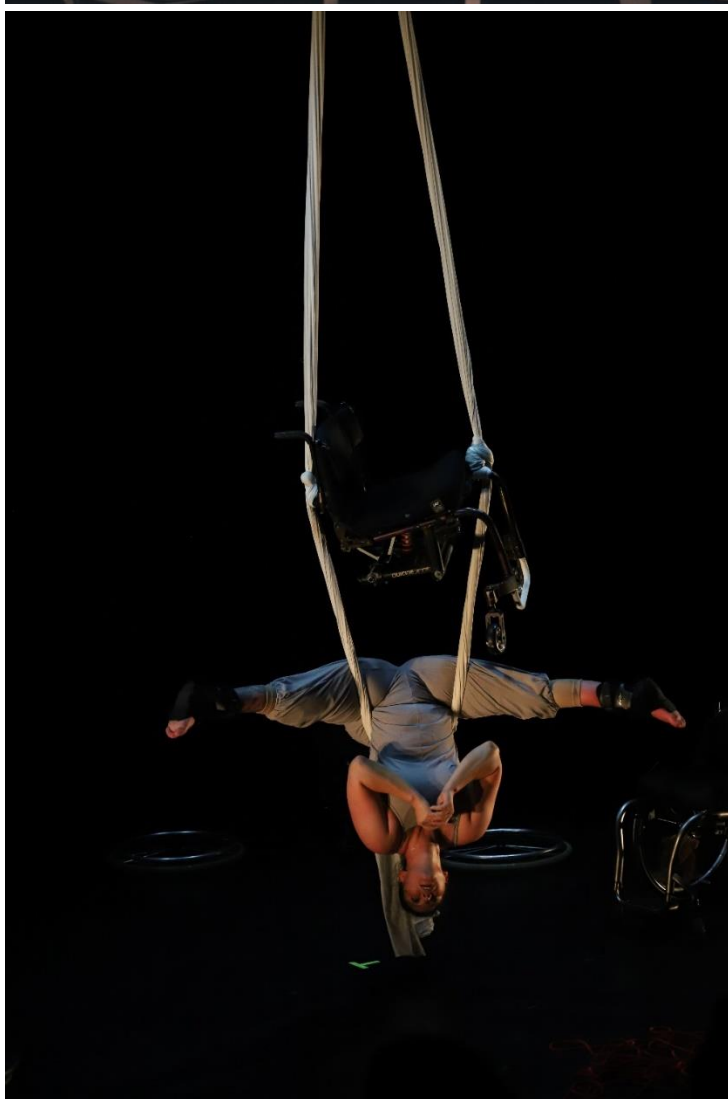
What do the venues look like?

UAF is held at Queensland Theatre with performances in the Diane Cilento Studio and the Bille Brown Theatre.

The **Diane Cilento Studio (DCS)** is a black box studio that is 12700mm x 12700mm squared. (All critical measurements should be confirmed onsite.) The studio seats 70 patrons (plus festival holds) in 'end on' seating mode (audience sits in same section looking straight onto the stage).



**UNDER
COVER
ARTIST**



Nerve by Lauren Watson Photograph by Cinnamon Smith



Comedy Club Photograph by Jade Ellis Photography



Brown Church by Naavikaran Photography by Cinnamon Smith

The **Billie Brown Theatre (BBT)** is a corner stage with access to the stage via three vomitoriums from under the seating and two access doors from the dock. The venue seats 317 patrons (plus Festival holds)



Happy-Go-Wrong by Andi Snelling Photograph by Jade Ellis Photography



The No Bang Theory by Oliver Hetherington-Page Photograph by Cinnamon Smith

Useful Links:

Undercover Artist Website: undercoverartistfest.com

UAF Expressions of Interest page: undercoverartistfest.com/expressions-of-interest

Expressions of Interest PDF: undercoverartistfest.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/23_UAF-EOI-Information-Pack_PDF_FINAL.pdf

Expressions of Interest Word Doc: undercoverartistfest.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/23_UAF-EOI-Information-Pack_Plain-Text_FINAL.docx

Undercover Artist Development Program: undercoverartistfest.com/development-program

Disability-Led Information: undercoverartistfest.com/news/what-is-disability-led