



# First Nations Digital Initiatives Augmented Reality Masterclass Guidelines

## Introduction

In February 2022, Arts South Australia launched its first Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts and Culture Strategy. Its main objective is to 'champion Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts and culture whilst creating awareness and support to artists and art workers to create a culturally safe environment for all to thrive and achieve'.

A cohesive and holistic approach and a comprehensive implementation plan sits alongside the Strategy to ensure the government can be timely and responsive to the changing needs of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts and cultures sector and communities.

Building the digital capabilities for South Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander creatives is an important action item from the implementation plan to fulfill.

## Purpose

Arts South Australia is providing up to 30 South Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander visual artists interested in or actively engaging with digital tools and technologies in their creative practice to participate in a three day in-person Augmented Reality (AR) Masterclass.

Arts South Australia is excited to offer this Masterclass to support the growth of emerging First Nations creatives. Investing in digital capabilities and exploration will enable the pathways for more First Nations led content and innovation within the digital and technological landscape in South Australia and nationally.

The Masterclass will be facilitated by MOD. at the University of South Australia. MOD. is a futuristic museum of discovery. It's a place to be and be inspired by ideas at the intersection of science, art, and innovation.

Augmented Reality (AR) refers to a technology that combines computer-generated information or visuals with the real-world environment. As the technology continues to evolve it has presented some exciting applications in the realm of the arts, ultimately offering new ways for artists to express themselves and engage with audiences. AR technology is one of the most accessible forms of so-called extended reality (XR) which most people can access through a smart device. AR provides new capabilities for creative expression and storytelling, and building skill capability in understanding the opportunities AR can offer.

## Workshop Details

The Masterclass will take place over three full (consecutive) days at MOD. at the University of South Australia (located on North Terrace in Adelaide).

The Masterclass program will explore AR techniques and applications. It will feature a series of presenters who are leading specialists with unique perspectives on AR. Exploring various perspectives will provide a well-rounded understanding of AR and how this can be applied to a visual arts practice.

Themes and opportunities within the Masterclass will include:

- improved confidence and knowledge of AR techniques and applications
- opportunity to experiment with AR tools
- networking with researchers and artists working in AR
- exploring AR through a cultural and commercial lens, as well as highlighting the current research of extended reality (XR), which includes augmented reality as well as virtual reality.

## Desirable Attributes

Expressions of Interest (EOIs) are being sought from South Australian based Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander visual based artists who:

- are actively engaging in a visual arts-based practice (at any stage of their career)
- are actively engaging in leveraging digital tools and technologies in their visual arts practice - this may include digital art, graphic design, animation, virtual reality experiences, interactive installations etc.
- are curious about emerging technologies and have a desire to explore how these can enhance and intersect with traditional visual art mediums
- have an existing idea of an artwork/illustrations or who are willing to devise an idea to bring to the workshop to translate into the augmented reality space.

## Compulsory Requirements of Participation

Participants must:

- be South Australian based Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander creatives
- have access to a smart device and laptop/tablet, including basic computer literacy on how to operate their devices independently
- be willing and able to attend the duration of the workshop (in-person) across three full days in Adelaide.

## Key Program Dates

Date	Application and Assessment Timeline
EOI opens	8 April 2024
EOI closes	29 April 2024
All applicants notified of outcomes	17 May 2024
Masterclass dates	Wednesday 5 June – Friday 7 June 2024

## Eligibility and How to Apply

Arts South Australia welcomes Expressions of Interest (EOIs) from South Australian based Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander emerging and/or established creatives to participate in the Augmented Reality Masterclass.

EOIs must include:

- Full name and Nation group/s
- CV/Resume – a summary of expertise, skills and achievements
- A supporting statement addressing one of the following (approx. 200 words):
  - How you are currently engaging with digital tools and/or technologies within your practice and how this opportunity will further your practice **OR**
  - How the opportunity to engage with digital tools such as AR will develop and/or enhance your existing practice.

Expressions of interests are invited from creatives currently exploring or working within the digital space who are interested in strengthening and diversifying their skills. Creatives with little to no experience with emerging technologies are also encouraged to apply.

As part of the masterclass evaluation, successful applicants will participate in an informal feedback process. Exact details will be confirmed at a later date.

Applications for EOIs will be open for three weeks.

**To discuss your EOI or eligibility please contact:**

**E atsiarts@sa.gov.au**

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Arts South Australia, Department of the  
Premier and Cabinet