Addendum 2 -Key Performance Indicators

STRATEGY FOR CULTURE AND THE ARTS
2022 REPORT CARD



Key Performance Indicators for Cairns State of the Arts 2022 Report

Audience, Producers and Grant Recipients Online Survey Results

Report to Cairns Regional Council

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report has focused on the intrinsic and instrumental measures, of the Cairns Regional Council's five-year *Strategy for Culture and the Arts 2022*. Surveys were completed by producers, audience members and grant recipients of selected art and culture events and exhibitions from 2018 to 2023. Overall, the intrinsic and instrumental measures of the three key priorities have been met.

The **three key priorities** for the five-year *Strategy for Culture and the Arts 2022* were:

<u>Priority 1:</u> Infrastructure, resources and skills that support and stimulate the cultural and creative life of our community.

Intrinsically, audience members and the wider community indicated very high levels of community satisfaction and appreciation. In terms of professional and practical skills, producers and artists in the arts and culture events and exhibitions strongly agreed that their involvement increased their interest in furthering the development of creative and cultural practice, developed a personal connectivity to the arts and cultural sector and have a desire to participate in future projects.

Instrumentally, the Council venues were considered accessible and affordable with the sound, lighting and customer service all rating highly. For the local arts and culture sector, it was highly agreed that new artistic relationships, collaborations and partnerships had been developed and these networks have contributed to an increase in the arts and culture sector capacity and capability.

<u>Priority 2:</u> Culture, heritage and place are valued, shared, celebrated and promoted.

The various Cairns Regional Council art and culture events strengthened an appreciation and connection to Cairns and our cultural and creative identity for both producers and audience members. Similarly, a connection to the region's Indigenous cultural heritage and shared multicultural history was strong on a personal level for the audience.

For the local arts and culture sector, the events and exhibitions increased cross-cultural and cross artform exchanges and for the local community, there was culture-led revitalisation of urban spaces and places. There were higher levels of agreement that the arts and culture events increased the protection of the region's significant heritage assets and historical and contemporary collections, less so for the promotion of these assets.

<u>Priority 3:</u> A robust cultural economy fuelled by an international reputation as a tropical, cultural and creative hub.

The Council's *Strategy for Culture and the Arts 2022* strongly supported creative excellence, innovation and provided enrichment on a personal level and benefitted the arts and culture sector. The arts and culture sector agreed the strategy has increased cultural and creative export from the region. Overall, the strategy has strengthened community expectations for the arts, cultural programs and products across the region.

1. INTRODUCTION

The Cairns Regional Council (CRC) aims to support and stimulate the creative vitality of the region and promote and perpetuate the broad artistic and cultural heritage of the people (Cairns Regional Council, 2018).

The Cairns Regional Council (CRC) endorsed the new *Strategy for Culture and the Arts 2022* in March 2018. The *Strategy for Culture and the Arts 2022* aims to "efficiently enhance, promote and develop our cultural programs and facilities, and join with our partners and the community in leveraging our collective cultural assets to build a vibrant and sustainable region" (p. 10).

The **objectives** of the *Strategy for Culture and the Arts 2022* for community and cultural development are:

- 1. Support a rich and diverse culture through accessible public facilities and community initiatives.
- 2. Be recognised as the Arts and Cultural Capital of Northern Australia.
- 3. Build vibrancy through community events and activities.
- 4. Support social and community groups.
- 5. Culture, heritage and place are valued, shared and celebrated.

The **three key priorities** for the five-year *Strategy for Culture and the Arts 2022* are:

- Priority 1: Infrastructure, resources and skills that support and stimulate the cultural and creative life of our community.
- Priority 2: Culture, heritage and place are valued, shared, celebrated and promoted.
- Priority 3: A robust cultural economy fuelled by an international reputation as a tropical, cultural and creative hub.

Before finalising *The Strategy for Culture and the Arts 2022*, the CRC through a consultative process found that the following factors are important to the performing arts sector:

- ✓ Building and sustaining the capacity and capability of the sector;
- ✓ Collaboration, co-operation and alliance building better partnerships with state and federal bodies:
- ✓ Youth community engagement innovative and creative educational pathways and developing the next generation of theatre audiences;
- ✓ Professional development and capacity building; and
- ✓ Diversification from reef and rainforest celebrating our uniqueness

This report contributes to the overall assessment of the three key priorities, specifically intrinsic and instrumental measures, of the five-year *Strategy for Culture and the Arts 2022*.

2. METHODOLOGY

The following survey datasets were used to report on the key performance indicators for the *Strategy for Culture and the Arts.*

Qualitative data collected via 14 of the 16 surveys administered by the Cairns Regional Council to selected events, art and culture exhibitions from 2018 to 2023 have been analysed overall for the intrinsic and instrumental measure of the three priorities of 1) Infrastructure, resources and skills; 2) Culture, heritage and place; and 3) A robust cultural economy. A summary of the survey statements used and the surveys these were included in, is provided at Appendix A.

The two surveys not included in the analysis were:

- 1. Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Producers) survey had only three respondents.
- 2. Vibrance Magazine 2023 (Audience) survey statements were not provided as scale questions and therefore not compatible with all other datasets.

All surveys requested agreement with a question asking consent which provided access to the survey. All responses remained anonymous.

Audience survey	Number of Respondents
Beginnings – A musical story of Cairns (2018)	281
Cairns Festival (2018)	43
Wicked (2019)	543
Covid Live Recovery (2020)	43
Understory Film Festival (2020)	40
Cairns Children's Festival (2021)	59
	1009
Producer survey	
Beginnings – A musical story of Cairns (2018)	61
Cairns Festival (2018)	9
Beyond the Waves (2020)	6
Cairns Children's Festival (2021)	4
Tank 4 Exhibition (2021)	9
Court House Gallery (2023)	31
	120
Participant survey	
RADF Program (2021)	17
	17
Grant Recipient survey	
Flame Arts (2023)	45
	45
Total surveys collected	1191

3. OVERALL RESULTS

Demographic Profile - Audience and Producers

The age of online survey respondents age groups is provided in Figure 1. Overall, producers (10.6%) involved in, and audience members (89.4%) who enjoyed attending arts and culture events, performances and exhibitions were mostly aged 26-35 years (30.1%) and 46-55 years (21.0%).

Two surveys are not included in the overall results for age group. The RADF Program 2021 (grant recipients) survey did not include age groups and different age groups were used for the Flame.Arts 2023 (participant) surveys.

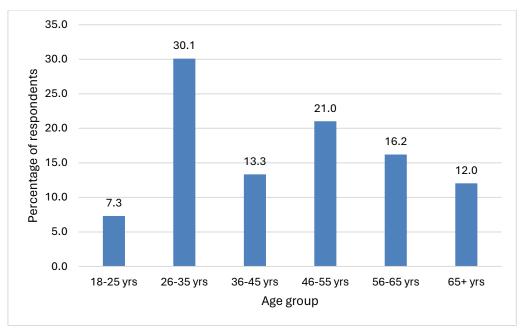


Figure 1: Percentage of respondents by age group overall

Respondents identified themselves as a person with a disability (11.7%), non-English speaking (4.9%) or Aboriginal/ Torres Strait Islander (2.9%). The majority did not identify as any of these (80.5%).

Table 1: Identity of respondents

Identify as	Frequency	Percent
None of these	720	80.5
Person with a disability	105	11.7
Non-English speaking	44	4.9
Aboriginal/ Torres Strait Islander	26	2.9
Total	895	100.0%

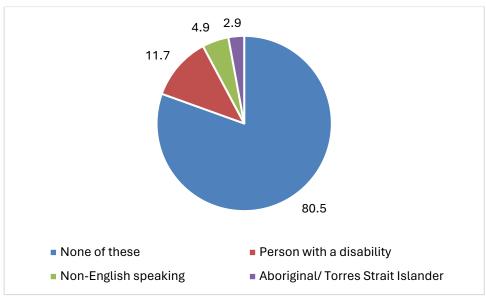


Figure 2: Percentage of respondents by identity

Figure 4 illustrates the producers' involvement in the art and culture industry. There were slightly more professional artists (54) than emerging artists (42) that completed a survey.

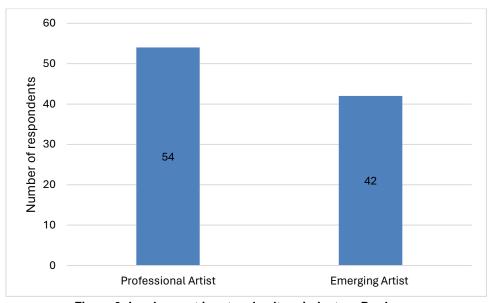


Figure 3: Involvement in art and culture industry - Producers

Audience - Satisfaction with the Venue

The level of satisfaction with four aspects of the venue was measured on a scale of 1=very dissatisfied to 5=very satisfied. Overall, Munro Martin Parklands, had high satisfaction levels with affordability (4.64) and sound and lighting (4.29). Similarly, levels of satisfaction were highest with affordability (4.75) and sound and lighting (4.60) at the Tanks Art Centre. The Cairns Performing Arts Centre (CPAC) received the highest levels of satisfaction with customer service (4.16). The lowest levels of satisfaction were with the carparking at all four venues.

Table 2: Audience Satisfaction with venue factors

	Venue	Carparking	Sound & Lighting	Customer Service	Affordability
Beginnings – A Musical Story (2018)	Munro Martin	3.44	3.91	4.38	4.75
Cairns Festival (2018)	Parklands	3.63	4.67	4.72	4.53
Mean average	1 arkiarias	3.54	4.29	4.55	4.64
Cairns Festival (2018)	Tanks Art Centre	3.00	4.50	4.50	4.75
Covid Live Recovery (2020)		4.50	4.92	4.46	4.92
Cairns Childrens Festival (2021)		3.68	4.39	4.44	4.59
Mean average		3.73	4.60	4.47	4.75
Wicked (2019)		3.56	4.23	4.54	4.11
Covid Live Recovery (2020)	Cairns	3.90	4.12	4.19	4.15
Understory Film Festival (2020)	Performing	3.56	3.19	3.30	3.49
Cairns Childrens Festival (2021)	Arts Centre	4.24	4.59	4.61	4.37
Mean average		3.82	4.03	4.16	4.03
Cairns Childrens Festival (2021)	Court House	3.43	4.03	4.17	4.37
			1122		

All venue-specific open-ended responses provided by survey respondents are provided at:

- Attachment B: Munro Martin Parklands
- Attachment C: Tanks Art Centre
- Attachment D: Botanic Gardens Visitor Centre
- Attachment E: Cairns Performing Arts Centre
- Appendix F: Venue satisfaction

Audience - Personal enrichment

Statements related to whether the event effected a person's appreciation of Cairns art and culture were measured on a rating scale of 1=strongly disagree to 5=strongly agree. These statements were only provided once in the audience survey for *Beginnings – A Musical Story* (2018).

Respondents agreed that the event "created visible, engaging, accessible and vibrant spaces and places" (4.22) and it "strengthened their appreciation and connection to Cairns and our cultural and creative identity" (4.18).

Table 3: Attending an event enriched personal experience - Audience

Personal enrichment	Mean
Appreciation of Indigenous cultural knowledge	3.96
Appreciation of creative excellence	3.86
Strengthened expectation of arts and culture	3.96
Created engaging spaces and places	4.22
Strengthened appreciation of Cairns cultural and creativity identity	4.18

Cairns Regional Council Art and Culture Management Services

The Cairns Regional Council provides management services for art and culture projects in the region. These services include communication and promotion of the event, venue coordination and venue management.

The satisfaction with council's overall management of the project (customer service, professionalism of staff, communication, promotion, acknowledgement of your skills and time, etc) was measured on a scale of 1=Very dissatisfied to 5=Very satisfied.

The importance of council's management services to the overall outcomes of the project were measured on a scale of 1=Very unimportant to 5=Very important.

Across the producer's surveys, the importance of councils management services rated very high with a mean of 4.48, although there were slightly lower levels of satisfaction with the Council's overall management of the project (4.28).

All open-ended responses provided by survey respondents are provided at:

- Appendix G: About Council's service delivery
- Appendix H: Suggested improvements to CRC management services

Table 4: Council art and culture sector management

Statement	Mean
Satisfaction with Council's overall management of the project (customer	
service, professionalism of staff, communication, promotion,	4.28
acknowledgement of your skills and time, etc).	
Importance of Council's management services to the overall outcome of the project	4.48

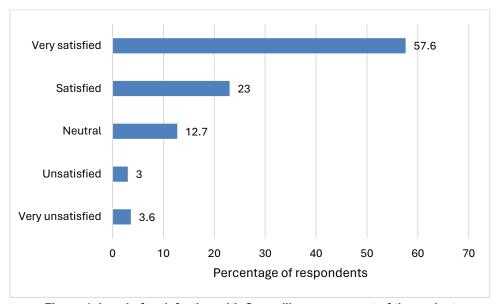


Figure 4: Level of satisfaction with Council's management of the project

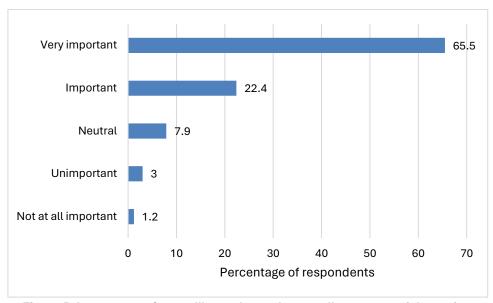


Figure 5: Importance of council's service to the overall outcomes of the project

Personal experience

A series of statements were provided to understand the personal experience gained by being involved in a project. The statements were measured on a Likert scale of 1=Strongly disagree to 5=Strongly agree.

From a personal experience overall, there was strong agreement that being involved in the Cairns art and cultural sector provided "an appreciation and connection to Cairns and our cultural and creative identity" (4.48), "emotional development, enrichment and connectivity to the arts and cultural sector" (4.34) and "personal wellbeing" (4.22).

From a producer's perspective, being involved in an event provided an "appreciation of the region's Indigenous cultural heritage and/or shared multicultural history" (4.37). Grant recipients strongly agreed their involvement personally provided an "appreciation of creative excellence, innovation, new knowledge and/or experience" (4.94).

Table 5: Aspects of personal experience

Personal enrichment	Overall Mean	Producers	Audience	Grant recipient	Participant
Your personal wellbeing	4.22	4.11	-	4.38	4.50
Your emotional development, enrichment and connectivity to the arts and cultural sector	4.34	4.15	-	4.70	4.71
Your appreciation of the region's Indigenous cultural heritage and/or shared multicultural history	3.82	4.37	3.27	4.58	4.71
Your appreciation of creative excellence, innovation, new knowledge and/or experience	3.98	4.31	3.55	4.94	4.68
Your appreciation and connection to Cairns and our cultural and creative identity	4.48	4.33	-	4.88	4.75
Strengthened your appetite and expectation for the arts and cultural program or products	3.65	-	3.65	-	-

All open-ended responses about positive and negative experiences by survey respondents are provided at:

- Appendix I: Positive and negative experiences
- Appendix J: Inspiration to attend again
- Appendix K: Unanticipated impacts
- Appendix L: Suggestions for information delivery and advertising

Professional development

On a scale of 1=Very low to 5=Very high, ten statements were provided to measure whether involvement enhanced a survey participant's professional and practical skills.

Overall, respondents agreed the opportunity "increased their enthusiasm to participate in future projects" (4.38), "developed new artistic relationships, collaborations and networks" (4.26) and "increased their ability to work as part of a team and collaborate on a project" (4.20). Grant recipients particularly "developed new artistic relationships, collaborations and networks" (4.71) and "increased their ability to consult with the community and/or key project stakeholders" (4.60).

For producers, there were low levels of agreement with "skills in promotion, marketing and/or publicity" and "skills in project management, planning and/or business planning" being enhanced. This may be reflective of the Council providing management services for art and culture projects.

Table 6: Enhanced professional and practical skills

	Overall Mean	Producer	Grant recipient
Increased my enthusiasm to participate in future projects.	4.38	4.31	4.38
Developed new artistic relationships, collaborations and networks	4.26	4.17	4.71
Increased my ability to work as part of a team and collaborate on a project.	4.20	4.12	4.56
Increased my interest in furthering the development of creative or cultural practice.	4.10	3.92	4.10
Increased my ability to consult with the community and/or key project stakeholders.	3.66	3.47	4.60
Developed my mentoring skills.	3.63	3.64	3.54
Developed my research skills.	3.56	3.49	3.92
Developed my presentation skills.	3.52	3.40	4.21
Developed my skills in project management, planning and/or business planning.	2.94	2.50	4.88
Developed my skills in promotion, marketing and/or publicity.	2.50	2.11	4.47

On a scale of 1=Not at all valuable to 5=Extremely valuable, being involved in an art or culture event or project was considered an extremely valuable experience (4.20).

Table 7: Value of experience for professional development

	Mean	Producer	Grant recipient
Overall value of this experience to your professional development	4.20	4.14	4.69

On a scale of 1=Very insignificantly to 5=Very significantly, the opportunities for future employment by being involved in a production was considered insignificant (2.63). However, there was slightly more recognition that being involved in a production increased the employment opportunities for other cultural or creative services and contractors (3.19).

Table 8: Future employment opportunities

Employment opportunities	Overall Mean	Producer	Grant recipient
Increased your opportunities for future employment	2.63	2.38	4.19
Increased the employment opportunities for other cultural or creative services and contractors	3.19	3.00	4.69

All open-ended responses about the value of the experience to a respondent's professional development is provided at:

• Appendix M: Professional development

Local arts and culture sector benefits

Statements asked respondents their level of agreement of the production or event having on the local art and culture industry of Cairns on a scale of 1=Strongly disagree to 5=Strongly agree.

The strongest benefit to the local art and culture industry was the "increased cross-cultural and cross-artform exchange" (4.31), "increased arts and cultural sector collaborations, partnerships and networking" (4.30) and an "increased arts and cultural sector capacity and capability" (4.18).

Table 9: Benefits to local art and culture industry

Local art and culture benefit	Overall Mean	Producer	Grant recipient	Participant
Increased arts and cultural sector collaborations, partnerships and networking	4.30	4.24	4.69	4.31
Increased arts and cultural sector capacity and capability	4.18	4.00	4.69	4.48
Increased cross-cultural, and cross-artform exchange	4.31	4.12	4.85	4.68
Increased cultural and creative export flowing from our region	3.97	3.92	4.36	4.00
Increased employment during or post COVID19 lockdown measures*	2.50	2.50	-	-

^{*} Only included in Beyond the Waves 2020 (Producers) and Covid Live recovery 2020 (Producers) surveys

Audience or wider community benefits

Benefits to the audience or wider community were measured on a scale of 1-strongly disagree to 5=strongly agree. Overall, the highest levels of agreement were for "increased community well-being" (4.48), "increased protection of the regions significant heritage assets and/or historical and contemporary collections" (4.18), "developed new audiences for our cultural venues" (4.08) and "an appreciation of creative excellence, innovation, new knowledge and/or experience" (4.03).

Table 10: Benefits to the audience or wider community

Audience or wider community benefit	Overall Mean	Producer	Audience	Grant recipient	Participant
Increased community well-being	4.48	4.69	-	4.58	4.31
An appreciation of the regions indigenous cultural heritage and/ or shared multicultural history	3.92	3.36	-	4.41	4.15
An appreciation of creative excellence, innovation, new knowledge and/ or experience	4.03	3.60	-	4.77	4.08
Strengthened community expectations for the arts and cultural programs and/ or products	3.88	3.68	-	4.69	3.64
Strengthened our national and or international identity as a city of the arts and culture	3.55	3.21	3.44	4.36	4.20
Created visible, engaging, accessible and vibrant spaces and places	3.81	3.42	3.67	4.75	4.56
Strengthened appreciation and connection to Cairns and our cultural and creative identity	3.83	3.48	3.67	4.83	4.72
Increased protection of the region's significant heritage assets and/ or historical and contemporary collections	4.18	3.39	-	4.58	4.69
Promoted the region's significant heritage assets and/ or historical and contemporary collections	3.93	3.48	-	-	4.41
Developed new audiences for our cultural venues	4.08	3.72	-	4.78	-

Project objectives

Specific project aims and objectives were measured on either a scale of 1=very low to 5=very high or 1=strongly disagree to 5=strongly agree.

Beginnings – A Musical Story (2018)

For producers, the project objective of 'showcasing our community's performing and non-performing artists' was considered very high and high by 88.4% of the respondents (4.55). Similarly, the objective of 'leaving a lasting legacy through development of a local story' was rated very high and high by 86.7% of the respondents (4.55).

Table 11: Aims and objectives of Beginnings – A Musical Story (2018)

Project aims and objectives	Mean
Left a lasting legacy through development of a local story	4.55
Showcased our community's performing and non-performing artists	4.55
Fostered performing arts mentorships and collaborations	4.44

^{*} Statements were rated on a scale of 1=Very low to 5=Very high

Cairns Festival (2018)

For producers, the project objectives were highly met with the project was considered to 'deliver a vibrant, progressive and collaborative community and arts festival' (4.67) and 'provide an annual forum that engages the community and explores our unique sense of place, diverse heritage, and distinct tropical lifestyle' (4.67).

Table 12: Aims and objectives of the Cairns Festival (2018)

Project aims and objectives	Mean
Deliver a vibrant, progressive and collaborative community and arts festival	4.67
Provide an annual forum that engages the community and explores our unique sense of place, diverse heritage, and distinct tropical lifestyle.	4.67
Support artists and their creative process, grow venue audiences, and engage and entertain the people of the Cairns Region	Data not available

^{*} Statements were rated on a scale of 1=Very low to 5=Very high

Beyond the Waves (2020)

For producers, the objective to 'provide an original arts and cultural experience for young persons living with a disability' was well achieved (5.00), as was the objective to 'develop new work that was engaging, appealing to children audiences and their families' (mean=5.00). With the performance cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions, the outcome for regional children and their families was least achieved.

Table 13: Aims and objectives of Beyond the Waves (2020)

Project aims and objectives	Mean
Provide an original arts and cultural experience for young persons with a	
disability residing in a regional area through the process of collaboration, skills	5.00
development and networking opportunities garnered during this important	5.00
process.	
The development of a new work that is engaging, appealing to children's	
audiences and their families, potentially tour-able, creating and enabling	5.00
viable work and career pathways for regional young people with a disability.	
Provide and original and exciting outcome for regional children and their	
families, establishing the next generation of performing arts audiences in	4.89
regional locations.	

^{*} Statements were rated on a scale of 1=Very low to 5=Very high

Cairns Children's Festival (2021)

For producers, there was a very high level of agreement with all the aims and objectives being achieved.

Table 14: Aims and objectives of the Cairns Children's Festival (2021)

Project aims and objectives	Mean
Deliver events and/or projects that connect cultural and creative diversity, and promote the region's shared heritage, assets and collections to new audiences.	5.00
Develop a program that provides opportunities to local artists and performers to innovate, collaborate and deliver new ideas.	5.00
Deliver a festival of national reputation and establish a local development program that will create children's content to be premiered at the festival and toured nationally.	4.50
Develop and deliver programming where children are in the spotlight, in charge of their creative journeys and where their ideas and views are celebrated.	4.00

^{*} Statements were rated on a scale of 1=Very low to 5=Very high

Tank 4 Exhibition (2021)

For producers, the program "interpreted and amplified the significance of the Tanks and Botanic Gardens precinct" (4.11) and "encouraged broad participation and built new audiences for the arts" (4.00). There was least agreement with the project achieving "equitable, accessible and affordable infrastructure, resources and cultural experiences" (3.78).

Table 15: Aims and objectives of the Tank 4 Exhibition (2021)

Project aims and objectives	Mean
Interpret and amplify the significance of the Tanks and Botanic Gardens	
precinct, the city of Cairns and the people who live here, our cultures, our	4.11
environment, and our place in the region.	
Partner and support community driven festivals and events that encourage	4.00
broad participation and build new audiences for the arts.	4.00
Connect people and communities to the region's diverse history and cultures	3.89
through engagement and participatory experiences.	3.09
Provide equitable, accessible and affordable infrastructure, resources and	3.78
cultural experiences.	3.70

^{*} Statements were rated on a scale of 1=Strongly disagree to 5=Strongly agree

Court House Gallery (2023)

For producers, the program "celebrated our city's unique environment and the art and culture created in Cairns" (4.33) and "connected people and communities to the region's diverse history and cultures through engagement and participatory experiences" (4.31). There was less agreement with the outcome of "partnering and supporting community driven festivals and events that encourage broad participation and build new audiences for the arts" (3.75) being achieved.

Table 16: Aims and objectives of the Court House Gallery Program (2023)

Project aims and objectives	Mean
Celebrate our city's unique environment and celebrates the art and culture created in Cairns.	4.33
Connect people and communities to the region's diverse history and cultures	4.31
through engagement and participatory experiences.	4.01
Focus specifically but not exclusively, on celebrating and supporting	4.21
contemporary Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts.	4.21
Provide equitable, accessible and affordable infrastructure, resources and	3.94
cultural experiences.	3.94
Partner and support community driven festivals and events that encourage	3.75
broad participation and build new audiences for the arts.	3.75

^{*} Statements were rated on a scale of 1=Strongly disagree to 5=Strongly agree

Regional Arts Development Fund Program (RADF) (2021)

The surveys targeted grant recipients. All project outcomes for the Major Grants for Public Projects and Activities were highly achieved. There was strong agreement that the program built "local cultural capacity, cultural innovation and community pride" (mean=4.77). There was slightly less agreement that the program outcomes delivered on Queensland Government objectives for the community (mean=4.62).

PCD Grant recipients thought the program most achieved on "delivering Queensland Government objectives for the community" (3.75). Providing public value for Queensland communities was the least achieved outcome (3.00).

Table 17: Aims and objectives of the RADF Program outcomes - Major Grants for Public Projects and Activities

	Major Grants for Public Projects and Activities	Professional Career Development Grants
Project aims and objectives	Mean	Mean
Build local cultural capacity, cultural innovation and community pride	4.77	3.50
Provide public value for Queensland communities	4.69	3.00
Deliver Queensland Government objectives for the community	4.62	3.75

^{*} Statements were rated on a scale of 1=Very low to 5=Very high

Flame.Arts (2023)

Participants in Flame. Arts strongly agreed the program "grew their appetite to initiate creative projects" (4.68) and "increased their art/creative industry knowledge" (4.52). Least agreement was indicated in the program developing skills in "exhibition and curatorial programming" (3.94) and "skills in stage production – sound, lighting, staging (4.00).

Table 18: Aims and objectives of the Flame. Arts Program (2023)

Mean
4.68
4.52
4.48
4.31
7.01
4.30
4.00
3.94

^{*} Statements were rated on a scale of 1=Strongly disagree to 5=Strongly agree

4. SUMMARY - MEASURES FOR SUCCESS

Priority 1 - Infrastructure, resources and skills.

Intrinsic measures

Community satisfaction and appreciation

Personal experience	Your personal wellbeing	4.22
Audience or wider community benefit	Increased community well-being	4.48

Exposure to new knowledge, skills and experiences

Professional and practical skills	Developed my mentoring skills.	3.63
Professional and practical skills	Developed my research skills.	3.56
Professional and practical skills	Developed my presentation skills.	3.52
Professional and practical skills	Developed my skills in project	2.94
	management, planning and/or business	
	planning.	
Professional and practical skills	Developed my skills in promotion,	2.50
	marketing and/or publicity.	

Sector confidence, resource-sharing, networking and connectivity

Professional and practical skills	Increased my ability to consult with the community and/or key project stakeholders.	3.66
Professional and practical skills	Increased my interest in furthering the development of creative or cultural practice.	4.10
Professional and practical skills	Increased my enthusiasm to participate in future projects.	4.38
Personal experience	Your emotional development, enrichment and connectivity to the arts and cultural sector	4.34

Instrumental measures

Accessible and affordable facilities commensurate with the needs and expected growth of the Cairns community

Carparking	MMP, Tanks, CPAC, Court House	3.63
Sound & lighting	MMP, Tanks, CPAC, Court House	4.24
Customer service	MMP, Tanks, CPAC, Court House	4.34
Affordability	MMP, Tanks, CPAC, Court House	4.45

Increased collaborations, partnerships and networking across the arts and cultural sector

Professional and practical skills	Developed new artistic relationships, collaborations and networks	4.26
Professional and practical skills	Increased my ability to work as part of a team and collaborate on a project.	4.20
Local arts and culture sector benefit	Increased arts and cultural sector collaborations, partnerships and networking	4.30

Increased sector sustainability, capacity and capability.

Local arts and culture sector benefit	Increased arts and cultural sector capacity	4.40	l
	and capability	4.18	l

Priority 2 - Culture, Heritage and Place

Intrinsic measures:

Appreciation of the region's Indigenous cultural heritage and shared multicultural history

Personal experience	Your appreciation of the region's	
	Indigenous cultural heritage and/or	3.82
	shared multicultural history	
Audience or wider community benefit	An appreciation of the region's	
	indigenous cultural heritage and/or	3.92
	shared multicultural history	

Connection to place and strong cultural identity

Personal experience	Your appreciation and connection to Cairns and our cultural and creative identity	4.48
Audience or wider community benefit	Strengthened appreciation and connection to Cairns and our cultural and creative identity	3.83

Visible, engaging, accessible and vibrant spaces and places

Audience or wider community benefit	Created visible engaging accessible and	3.81	
	vibrant spaces and places	3.01	

Instrumental measures:

Increased protection, conservation and promotion of the region's significant heritage assets and historical and contemporary collections

Audience or wider community benefit	Increased protection of the region's	
	significant heritage assets and/or	4.18
	historical and contemporary collections	
Audience or wider community benefit	Promoted the region's significant heritage	
	assets and/or historical and	3.93
	contemporary collections	

Reinvigorated culture-led revitalisation of urban spaces and places

Audience or wider community benefit	Developed new audiences for our cultural	4.08
	venues	4.00

Increased cross-cultural and cross-art form exchange

Local arts and culture sector benefit	Increased cross-cultural, and cross-	4.31	ı
	artform exchange	4.31	ì

Priority 3 - A robust cultural economy

Intrinsic measures:

Creative excellence, innovation and enrichment

Personal experience	Your appreciation of creative excellence, innovation, new knowledge and/or experience	3.98
Audience or wider community benefit	An appreciation of creative excellence innovation, new knowledge and/or experience	4.03

Growing appetite and expectation for quality contemporary works, programs and products

Personal experience	Strengthened your appetite and	
	expectation for the arts and cultural	3.65
	program or products	

Ability to project our arts and cultural brand nationally and internationally

Audience or wider community benefit	Strengthened our national and or	
	international identity as a city of the arts	3.55
	and culture	

Instrumental measures:

Increased cultural and creative export flowing from the region

Local arts and culture sector benefit	Increased cultural and creative export	3.97
	flowing from our region	3.97

Increased profile as a city of the arts, growth in audience numbers, and employment opportunities for local artists and cultural industry sector

Local arts and culture sector benefit	Increased employment during or post	2.50
	COVID19 lockdown measures	2.50
Employment	Increased your opportunities for future	2.63
	employment	2.03
Employment	Increased the employment opportunities	
	for other cultural or creative services and	3.19
	contractors	

Increased demand for creative product unique to Cairns

Audience or wider community benefit	Strengthened community expectations for	
	the arts and cultural programs and/or	3.88
	products	

APPENDIX A: STATEMENTS AND SURVEYS

Has the project enhanced your professional and practical skills

Statement	Survey
Developed new artistic relationships, collaborations and networks	Beyond the Waves 2020 (Producers) Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Producers) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Producers) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Producers) Tank 4 Exhibition 2021 (Producers) Court House Gallery 2023 (Producers) Beginnings 2018 (Producers) Cairns Festival 2018 (Producers) RADF Program 2021 (Grant recipients)
Developed my mentoring skills.	Beyond the Waves 2020 (Producers) Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Producers) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Producers) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Producers) Tank 4 Exhibition 2021 (Producers) Court House Gallery 2023 (Producers) Beginnings 2018 (Producers) Cairns Festival 2018 (Producers) RADF Program 2021 (Grant recipients)
Developed my research skills.	Beyond the Waves 2020 (Producers) Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Producers) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Producers) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Producers) Tank 4 Exhibition 2021 (Producers) Court House Gallery 2023 (Producers) Beginnings 2018 (Producers) Cairns Festival 2018 (Producers) RADF Program 2021 (Grant recipients)
Increased my ability to work as part of a team and collaborate on a project.	Beyond the Waves 2020 (Producers) Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Producers) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Producers) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Producers) Tank 4 Exhibition 2021 (Producers) Court House Gallery 2023 (Producers) Beginnings 2018 (Producers) Cairns Festival 2018 (Producers) RADF Program 2021 (Grant recipients) Flame Arts 2023 (Participant)
Increased my ability to consult with the community and/or key project stakeholders.	Beyond the Waves 2020 (Producers) Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Producers) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Producers) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Producers) Tank 4 Exhibition 2021 (Producers) Court House Gallery 2023 (Producers) Beginnings 2018 (Producers) Cairns Festival 2018 (Producers) RADF Program 2021 (Grant recipients) Flame Arts 2023 (Participant)

Developed my presentation skills.	Beyond the Waves 2020 (Producers) Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Producers) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Producers) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Producers) Tank 4 Exhibition 2021 (Producers) Court House Gallery 2023 (Producers) Beginnings 2018 (Producers) Cairns Festival 2018 (Producers) RADF Program 2021 (Grant recipients) Flame Arts 2023 (Participant)
Developed my skills in project management, planning and/or business planning.	Beyond the Waves 2020 (Producers) Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Producers) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Producers) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Producers) Tank 4 Exhibition 2021 (Producers) Court House Gallery 2023 (Producers) Beginnings 2018 (Producers) Cairns Festival 2018 (Producers) RADF Program 2021 (Grant recipients) Flame Arts 2023 (Participant)
Developed my skills in promotion, marketing and/or publicity.	Beyond the Waves 2020 (Producers) Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Producers) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Producers) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Producers) Tank 4 Exhibition 2021 (Producers) Court House Gallery 2023 (Producers) Beginnings 2018 (Producers) Cairns Festival 2018 (Producers) RADF Program 2021 (Grant recipients) Flame Arts 2023 (Participant)
Increased my interest in furthering the development of creative or cultural practice.	Beyond the Waves 2020 (Producers) Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Producers) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Producers) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Producers) Tank 4 Exhibition 2021 (Producers) Court House Gallery 2023 (Producers) Beginnings 2018 (Producers) Cairns Festival 2018 (Producers) RADF Program 2021 (Grant recipients) Flame Arts 2023 (Participant)
Increased my enthusiasm to participate in future projects.	Beyond the Waves 2020 (Producers) Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Producers) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Producers) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Producers) Tank 4 Exhibition 2021 (Producers) Court House Gallery 2023 (Producers) Beginnings 2018 (Producers) Cairns Festival 2018 (Producers) RADF Program 2021 (Grant recipients) Flame Arts 2023 (Participant)

Develop new connections with other creatives	Flame Arts 2023 (Participant)
and or created new artistic collaborations and	
networks	

To what extent did the project

Statement	Survey
Increase your opportunities for future employment?	Beyond the Waves 2020 (Producers) Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Producers) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Producers) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Producers) Tank 4 Exhibition 2021 (Producers) Court House Gallery 2023 (Producers) Beginnings 2018 (Producers) Cairns Festival 2018 (Producers) RADF Program 2021 (Grant recipients) Flame Arts 2023 (Participant)
Increase the employment opportunities for other cultural or creative services and contractors	Beyond the Waves 2020 (Producers) Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Producers) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Producers) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Producers) Tank 4 Exhibition 2021 (Producers) Court House Gallery 2023 (Producers) Beginnings 2018 (Producers) Cairns Festival 2018 (Producers) RADF Program 2021 (Grant recipients) Flame Arts 2023 (Participant)

Value of experience to professional development

Statement	Survey
Overall, how would you rate the value of this experience to your professional development?	Beyond the Waves 2020 (Producers) Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Producers) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Producers) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Producers) Tank 4 Exhibition 2021 (Producers) Court House Gallery 2023 (Producers) Beginnings 2018 (Producers) RADF Program 2021 (Grant recipients)
	Court House Gallery 2023 (Producers)

Personal experience

Statement	Survey
Your personal well-being	Beyond the Waves 2020 (Producers) Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Producers) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Producers) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Producers) Tank 4 Exhibition 2021 (Producers) Court House Gallery 2023 (Producers) Beginnings 2018 (Producers) Cairns Festival 2018 (Producers) RADF Program 2021 (Grant recipients) Flame Arts 2023 (Participants)
Your emotional development, enrichment and connectivity to the arts and cultural sector	Beyond the Waves 2020 (Producers) Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Producers) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Producers) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Producers) Tank 4 Exhibition 2021 (Producers) Court House Gallery 2023 (Producers) Beginnings 2018 (Producers) Cairns Festival 2018 (Producers) RADF Program 2021 (Grant recipients) Flame Arts 2023 (Participants)
Your appreciation of the regions Indigenous cultural heritage and/or shared multicultural history	Beyond the Waves 2020 (Producers) Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Producers) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Producers) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Producers) Tank 4 Exhibition 2021 (Producers) Court House Gallery 2023 (Producers) Beginnings 2018 (Producers) Cairns Festival 2018 (Producers) RADF Program 2021 (Grant recipients) Flame Arts 2023 (Participants)
Your appreciation of creative excellence, innovation, new knowledge and/or experience	Beyond the Waves 2020 (Producers) Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Producers) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Producers) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Producers) Tank 4 Exhibition 2021 (Producers) Court House Gallery 2023 (Producers) Beginnings 2018 (Producers) Cairns Festival 2018 (Producers) RADF Program 2021 (Grant recipients) Flame Arts 2023 (Participants)
Your appreciation and connection to Cairns and our cultural and creative identity	Beyond the Waves 2020 (Producers) Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Producers) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Producers) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Producers) Tank 4 Exhibition 2021 (Producers) Court House Gallery 2023 (Producers) Beginnings 2018 (Producers) Cairns Festival 2018 (Producers) RADF Program 2021 (Grant recipients)
Strengthened your appetite and expectation for the arts and cultural program and or products	Cairns Festival 2018 (Audience) Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Audience)

Understory Film Festival 2020 (Audience)
Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Audience)

Has local arts and culture sector benefitted

Statement	Survey
Increased arts and cultural sector collaborations, partnerships and networking	Beyond the Waves 2020 (Producers) Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Producers) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Producers) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Producers) Tank 4 Exhibition 2021 (Producers) Court House Gallery 2023 (Producers) Beginnings 2018 (Producers) Cairns Festival 2018 (Producers) RADF Program 2021 (Grant recipients)
Increased arts and cultural sector capacity and capability	Beyond the Waves 2020 (Producers) Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Producers) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Producers) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Producers) Tank 4 Exhibition 2021 (Producers) Court House Gallery 2023 (Producers) Beginnings 2018 (Producers) Cairns Festival 2018 (Producers) RADF Program 2021 (Grant recipients)
Increased cross-cultural, and cross-artform exchange	Beyond the Waves 2020 (Producers) Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Producers) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Producers) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Producers) Tank 4 Exhibition 2021 (Producers) Court House Gallery 2023 (Producers) Beginnings 2018 (Producers) Cairns Festival 2018 (Producers) RADF Program 2021 (Grant recipients)
Increased cultural and creative export flowing from our region	Beyond the Waves 2020 (Producers) Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Producers) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Producers) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Producers) Tank 4 Exhibition 2021 (Producers) Court House Gallery 2023 (Producers) Beginnings 2018 (Producers) Cairns Festival 2018 (Producers) RADF Program 2021 (Grant recipients)
Increased employment during or post COVID19 lockdown measures	Beyond the Waves 2020 (Producers) Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Producers)

Has audience or wider community benefitted

Statement	Survey
Increased community well-being	Beyond the Waves 2020 (Producers) Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Producers) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Producers) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Producers) Tank 4 Exhibition 2021 (Producers) Cairns Festival 2018 (Producers) RADF Program 2021 (Grant recipients)
An appreciation of the regions indigenous cultural heritage and or shared multicultural history	Beyond the Waves 2020 (Producers) Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Producers) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Producers) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Producers) Tank 4 Exhibition 2021 (Producers) Cairns Festival 2018 (Producers) RADF Program 2021 (Grant recipients)
An appreciation of creative excellence innovation new knowledge and or experience	Beyond the Waves 2020 (Producers) Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Producers) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Producers) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Producers) Tank 4 Exhibition 2021 (Producers) Cairns Festival 2018 (Producers) RADF Program 2021 (Grant recipients)
Strengthened community expectations for the arts and cultural programs and or products	Beyond the Waves 2020 (Producers) Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Producers) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Producers) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Producers) Tank 4 Exhibition 2021 (Producers) Cairns Festival 2018 (Producers) RADF Program 2021 (Grant recipients)
Strengthened our national and or international identity as a city of the arts and culture	Beyond the Waves 2020 (Producers) Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Producers) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Producers) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Producers) Tank 4 Exhibition 2021 (Producers) Cairns Festival 2018 (Producers) RADF Program 2021 (Grant recipients)
Created visible engaging accessible and vibrant spaces and places	Beyond the Waves 2020 (Producers) Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Producers) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Producers) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Producers) Tank 4 Exhibition 2021 (Producers) Cairns Festival 2018 (Producers) RADF Program 2021 (Grant recipients)
Strengthened appreciation and connection to Cairns and our cultural and creative identity	Beyond the Waves 2020 (Producers) Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Producers) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Producers) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Producers) Tank 4 Exhibition 2021 (Producers) Cairns Festival 2018 (Producers) RADF Program 2021 (Grant recipients)

Increased protection of the regions significant heritage assets and or historical and contemporary collections	Beyond the Waves 2020 (Producers) Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Producers) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Producers) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Producers) Tank 4 Exhibition 2021 (Producers) Cairns Festival 2018 (Producers) RADF Program 2021 (Grant recipients)
Promoted the regions significant heritage assets and or historical and contemporary collections	Beyond the Waves 2020 (Producers) Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Producers) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Producers) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Producers) Tank 4 Exhibition 2021 (Producers)
Developed new audiences for our cultural venues	Beyond the Waves 2020 (Producers) Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Producers) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Producers) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Producers) Tank 4 Exhibition 2021 (Producers) Cairns Festival 2018 (Producers) RADF Program 2021 (Grant recipients)

Has event enriched your personal experience

Statement	Survey
Enhanced your appreciation of the regions Indigenous cultural heritage and or shared multicultural history	Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Audience) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Audience) Cairns Festival 2018 (Audience) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Audience)
Enhanced your appreciation of creative excellence, innovation, new knowledge and or experience	Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Audience) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Audience) Cairns Festival 2018 (Audience) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Audience)
Strengthened your appetite and expectation for the arts and cultural programs and or products	Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Audience) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Audience) Cairns Festival 2018 (Audience) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Audience)
Created visible, engaging, accessible and vibrant spaces and places	Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Audience) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Audience) Cairns Festival 2018 (Audience) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Audience)
Strengthened your appreciation and connection to Cairns and our cultural and creative identity	Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Audience) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Audience) Cairns Festival 2018 (Audience) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Audience)
Strengthened Cairns national and or international profile as a city of the arts and culture	Covid Live Recovery 2020 (Audience) Understory Film Festival 2019 (Audience) Cairns Festival 2018 (Audience) Cairns Childrens Festival 2021 (Audience)

APPENDIX B: MUNRO MARTIN PARKLANDS

Beginnings (2018) - Audience

Positive Comments - Munro Martin Parklands

Pleasantly surprised at how beautiful the venue it

The time it took to get through the gates was great with all of the bag searches going on I thought it would have taken longer.

Positive - filtered water, meals were available, well lit

Layout. Tree area for kids to run around. Food vans. Lighting - all great.

Fast entry process. Good use of 'over 18' wrist bands

We love the Munro Park venue - we think that the Council has done a great job in making arts and events accessible for everyone - the park stimulates socialising, it makes it easy for families to bring young children.

The bar staff were very efficient and quick to serve customers.

Gate staff were very friendly and helpful which makes a difference.

Beautiful Venue thankyou

The Venue is one of our most favourite in the world

Not too overcrowded and easy to find a spot to sit.

Very smooth, fast entry and bag check, even with lots of people

Positive - it is a nice new outdoor complex and easy to get to

Gardens are wonderful

The surroundings are just beautiful. I love the fact that everyone brought their own chairs

I appreciate the fact that no chairs were placed 'amongst' the 'picnic rugs" so the view for people was much better then previous experience.

Positive. I went on my own and the greeting I received at the entrance was excellent.

Laid back atmosphere.

What a beautiful venue! It's stunning.

I think you could see the performance from anywhere which is good

The groundskeeper deserves a medal for the grass

Central, clean,

The grass was very well maintained. The stage and the set-up seamless. Very well run. The guards were very friendly and supportive.

Beautiful natural environment. Love BYO chairs/food/drink. Love that children have a place to run around. Good toilet access too. Great visibility all areas. Fantastic venue.

Really enjoyed being outside, surprised by sound quality, a couple of times car noise from Sheridan St was intrusive

There was quite a bit of space and it had a beautiful feel to it.

Beautiful setting. Sound not great

All attending staff were exceptionally friendly and welcoming.

Good outdoor venue

Love sitting under the stars watching performances. Love the venue

Great view of stage from wide variety of places in the park. Good drainage after the rains - grass wasn't soggy. Good sound and special effects

Excellent viewing from any position. Great, central location, easy parking

Plenty of room and comfort in our position. We could see the whole show without interruption.

It is a great venue. Car parking is a problem

Love being under the big sky

Should've turned the lights out! And need more female toilets!

Venue beautiful, lighting was fantastic, great atmosphere.

Beautiful gardens, grass is in perfect condition.

Suggest having a define area for chairs and one for picnic rugs. Could always use more female toilets.

Lighting and greenery

good sound and lighting

Beautiful space! Some issues with sound travelling to the back audience. May need speakers at the back

Visibility is possible from any area

staff at the gate were very pleasant and polite and gave good directions and information

Very clean facilities, lots of friendly staff, well organised

Good central open air location, family friendly, good lighting and acoustics

Lovely gardens, nice green grass to sit on

The venue is beautiful! The bins were well located and visible. No idea where the toilets are if there are any. No visible indication and no mention by any customer service. Food vans were horribly overpriced and the food was terrible (pizza raw on top and burnt on the bottom) and hardly any choice. Would be good to open it up to more variety and reasonable prices. The lighting was fantastic, but there was a problem with the sound....

Loved the open air atmosphere- just beautiful. The stage was very effectively used

LOVED the plant climbing wall and the way they utilised it as a movie screen! Brilliant!

Love the outdoor venue, feel safe inside

It's a beautiful venue and environment

Getting better as it grows

The gardens and the amphitheatre were amazing and so well groomed. I would love more music gigs there.

Amazing well-kept grass, friendly ushers. Wonderful. Love coming to MMP

Good venue

Great atmosphere, great venue. A few problems with sound at the start of the performance.

Love the outdoor vibe

Lighting

Such friendly folks!

Very good visibility of the stage, excellent acoustics. Good access to male toilets (but not so with women's -very long queues)

Just a beautiful venue, an asset to Cairns

Visually a lovely setting and very family friendly

Location

Very attractive venue. Well laid out. There were a few sound issues this time

Great for accommodating everyone and being able to see.

It was much appreciated that people with chairs had a definitive line, nothing worse than being on a picnic rug and someone puts a chair up in front of you. thank you

Beautiful venue for this performance, very fitting

Lots of space and very open

The venue is beautiful as a whole

I love the open theatre

Picnic lawn family atmosphere

Nice atmosphere - fairy lights in trees, good landscaping

Beautiful venue

It was clean, well organized and the security was excellent. A well behaved crowd of 3,000 made for an enjoyable evening.

The different spaces for seating enable good vision and sound everywhere

The grass was plush and cushy

Love the lights on the trees and watching the bats fly over at dusk

Venue is spectacular

Beautiful outdoor venue

Well ordered and organised - in future where people are bringing their own chairs maybe some white lines could be considered to ensure access kept clear

The landscaping and setting of the park is amazing and provides a serene setting for live performances.

Stage was positioned great for all to see

Beautiful Venue, comfortable and gorgeous surrounds

Beautiful open parkland with great lighting and sound.

Queues to get in were guick.

Easy to get a good view

Venue was fine.

Very positive experience, great venue for this outdoor performance

The garden atmosphere, openness and beautiful evening.

Beautiful surroundings

Great venue

The gardens are gorgeous, and it is a nicely maintained space

Plenty of room

Gardens are magnificent but need attention.

Terrific venue - gorgeous setting :)

Appreciate being able to bring own food, makes it easier and more affordable with young children

The perfect spot for an event like this ...

Venue is great.

Great venue

Safe place for the kids to run around and have fun without worrying about them, good security. Beautiful setting, clean, wonderful asset to the Cairns community.

The beauty of the venue and space

Sat alongside music and light tent. Great position

The venue is absolutely beautiful for these types of events in Cairns. It looks so pretty at night with all the trees lit up and the grounds are maintained perfectly. More ladies toilets are really needed for large events.

Great venue. So lovely to have a beautiful outdoor venue. There is always a nice feel in the atmosphere at any of the shows I have attended.

Clean, very well behaved crowd

The volunteers on the gate were polite efficient and informative with so many people attending the line was quick to get through. Inspection of bags was easy - you know the rules - no problem. One slight problem was the line to the ladies toilets - both blocks! The gardens looked amazing with the lights in the trees and it was nice to see children playing on the lawns

Beautiful surrounds trees and nature wonderful backdrop for stage

I love the lay out. It lends itself to being perfect for many types of performance.

The option to bring your own chairs, food and drink, picnic style is a definite positive. The gardens are beautiful, it creates a wonderful atmosphere.

Good view of stage for both adults and kids

Great venue

Well maintained

Beautiful venue, great layout

Positive comments - The performance

It was important to tell this story at Munro Martin park, with its significance to Indigenous culture, it felt like a healing process.

Story told without anger or blame. Learnt so much because of this.

Very entertaining and appreciated how many hours were put in by everybody concerned. A very professional show. Thankyou.

I thought that stage looked great with the vines to the side and the fake trees

The sound when people are speaking/singing on stage is often quite quiet in comparison to the music (we've noticed this at other performances too). But overall WOW! Beginnings was absolutely brilliant. I'd love to see

it's writers take the world by storm with an 5 version on all city stages. It was FANTASTIC. Wonderful to see such making talent from everyone involved:)

Spectacular presentation on a grand scale.

Brilliant show, just a bit long for the younger children

Getting the various community groups to come together and perform this locally produced outstanding piece of (reconciliation) work. My highest commendations go to the individuals who made this happen.

Loved the mix of all ages, young and old and the seemingly informal presentation. Such a lot of work went into it and the performers conveyed a feeling of joy. Music was superb.

I thought it was a fantastic show, lighting, special effects etc. were amazing. The highlight for me was the variety of sets, costumes and 1. The sound was at times a little patchy, it seemed like some performers didn't have microphones or that they weren't working properly. This didn't really affect my overall understanding/enjoyment of the performance but a lady who was hard of hearing sitting near to us had difficulty following some parts.

I found the show very well organised and the actors in the performance really professional. The performance was superb

Great performance!

The lighting was spot on!

Great show

The whole show was AMAZING

My heroes were the interpreters and their energy

Great open air event

Sound was great. The marquee for the choir and orchestra was appropriately placed.

Words from the stage often indistinguishable. Great sets and costumes. Wonderful dragon

Great! Should do more Cairns specific performances to educate the locals and tourists on our history

Artists

Very positive. Made the professional games opening ceremony look so amateurish. It was so enjoyable and the audience where enthralled. More more more. And the MM parklands are getting better as they grow. Well done. BRAVO Zulu

Was such a lovely evening and opportunity to connect as a community with a shared respect and understanding of our unique history.

The show was brilliant, perhaps a bit long

Fantastic event

Fantastic level of production values

The choir were amazing. The mics did drop out a lot

Positive comments - General

Just it was fresh

Overall everything excellent

All good

Positive

Cool clear evening and suitable refreshments available.

A really great night

Nice atmosphere, great weather

Love it

Nice

All round amazing!

Lovely atmosphere

Beautiful weather

Great

Overall fantastic

Perfect weather so great night

Ambience

Good

Very ambient, kids love it

Fantastic atmosphere

Negative Comments - Venue

Not enough toilets for women. Should be more than for men.

Toilet queues for ladies during the interval were horrendously long. Some port-a-loos during free sold out events would make a big difference. Everything else was fantastic.

Negative - ladies toilets had a HUGE queue during the intermission

The visibility of the stage from the front row was obstructed by the lighting equipment

Female toilet queue was very, very long with no queue for the men's toilets. More female toilets are needed.

It was awesome for my first time however, I would have thought for the size of the venue-there would have been more toilets.

Only one toilet and difficult to wend thru the seated crowd.

Need more female toilets

The number of toilets for females was definitely not enough for 3,000 people.

Toilet wait time. Not adequate amount for number of people

Lack of female toilets. Lack of defined access routes through the crowds and a distinct lack of food options for such a large crowd.

Queue for toilets at interval was horrendous. Would have liked a couple more choices of food stalls. Parking was ok but is only on street so may be more problematic when the new theatre is open.

Needs more toilets for the bigger shows

More toilets please

Sound was difficult to hear at times when some singers were performing. We found we couldn't always hear the words which then made us not quite gather all the information for the storyline. Overall, that was our only small matter arising, otherwise a great event!

Would have been good to mark out the walkways, designated sections for chairs/rugs /both would be nice. Great venue though and a huge improvement on what was there.

The sound was not good at all there were times when I could not hear the performers and others were so much louder than the others singing.

A big screen beside the stage would be good. Also, close the children's playground during performances - the noise was irritating and a distraction for the choir and stage members.

Car parking was the only issue, but other then that. The performances were okay, nothing that I was used to seeing in the Cairns festivals. Good vibes and friendly volunteers/staff who were welcoming from the beginning.

I think generally Munro Martin Parklands has a good feel as a venue. However, suggestions for improvements

- Consideration of a screen to the side of the stage to help people with impaired hearing to more fully enjoy a performance. At previous shows I have been able to better understand the songs/dialogue by seeing the face of the performer on a screen.
- For a full house at the parklands, I think the number of female toilets is inadequate, particularly when there are a lot of children in the audience.

We arrived close to 7 after having dinner in town beforehand so we were side on to the stage and our visibility wasn't the best. This was our fault and not the venues.

The sound on the show was terrible. The mics were not on when they should have been, the cast could obviously not hear the music properly.

Lighting was great. BUT sound was not. When sitting on the outer edges and at the back the sound is very low. (we moved to try to hear and see better). Maybe additional speakers needed at rear of seating area? The clarity of voices was very poor. I could not understand most of what was said, so unfortunately missed the story line.... When chatting to others they also had same concerns. One lady suggested could the parkland send audio via 1, like at the drive in!! This would be fantastic for those with hearing aids, those with some hearing loss like myself, and would not increase the sound level impact on surrounding properties and those seated in the front. The grounds are beautiful and something Cairns can be proud of. I think when the Civic Theatre is

finished it will be a fantastic entertainment area. Please ensure there is disabled parking/drive through drop off at the new theatre (not sure what have at the park now....). I have been to 3 shows at Munro Martin, first 2 it rained, the staff where great and supplying the rain ponchos greatly appreciated. The emails to remind what to take is also appreciated.

Sound was intermittently poor/good.

It was difficult to hear the words clearly from up the back so although we knew the story we didn't know what the actors were saying. We could hear the Narrator clearly though.

Would have liked to see a screen on side of stage, just so audience can see clearly whats going on.

Needs large screens to show close ups

The stage felt very low so it was difficult to see the performers when they did floor work

I felt that having chairs interspersed with people sitting on the ground made it difficult for those on the ground to see the stage.

Expensive onsite catering, should consider more community based orgs to help them raise \$

At previous events security directed those with high chairs to sit further back but at Beginnings there were people seated with high chairs closer to the front leaving little space for those with beach chairs, cushions and blankets. It would be good if areas could be demarkated - no high chairs past this point, pillows and blankets only, and security enforce it. We left at half time as our view was blocked and we were too crowded.

Venue is excellent, but maybe mark out particular areas for chairs, as many vantage points were wasted eg terraces, because people had chairs right in front.

Potential of rain

Attendants were not very friendly. Audio was poor.

I think the sound and lighting tent can be moved back to the last tier. It blocks many patrons' views and is in the way. At the back of the venue allows more people to see the show.

Beautiful parklands. Thank you! Although the sound system is excellent in parts, there are some areas of the park where the audience misses out on quality. Any chance of more speakers for those on the sides and near the back of the park?

Ladies toilet had a loooong line up, needs more facilities for ladies

Ground not suitable for sitting. View blocked in many places. Plantings in the garden exotic, some are weeds!

Lack of toilet facilities - badly need more toilets as queues ridiculous for females. even portaloos in discrete location. Entrance area is a shambles - needs to be designated with roped oped lanes and maybe also very difficult getting out of seat and getting to toilets as no designated pathways in main seating/grass area so have to step over people chairs blankets and some people get angry at you

Fabulous performance! Venue needs more food & drink outlets? The red wine served at the bar for \$8 a glass is undrinkable.

Food is a bit expensive. Will try to take my own snacks in the future

Female bathroom queues were long. Visibility of performance was obscured on sides and due to positioning of camera/special effects people

We were sitting up the back row and had difficulty hearing the words in some the songs. I feel the sound could be improved. Everything else was fantastic.

Toilets long queue need more variety of food stalls

We were high up at the back and it was very hard to hear the words.

Too crowded

More toilets very satisfied

With the new parking restrictions, getting there early (because parking will be scarce) meant you had a possibility of getting a fine. Also, meant you couldn't park and go to other events on the esplanade.

Lack of seating

Not enough female and disabled toilets

There was a few very elderly people that I felt should have been able to avoid lining up for an extended time to enter the event. It would be good to prioritise entry for these people

More food stands and maybe better distribution of them

Sound was very bad and we couldn't see from the back so we left early

More toilets for females when large events are on. Experienced 3 large events at Munro Martin now and each time some of us have had to run into the men's toilets or use the disabled toilets

Toilet queues were 1 mile long which means there are too few toilets in the venue. I didn't even bother to queue. Can't imagine how dirty it would be with so many people using it.

Other patrons were inconsiderate in terms of seating in front of us on the terraces

Not enough toilets

Cairns Festival (2018) - Audience

Positive Comments

Venue

It was a perfect venue for a symphony

The park looked very pretty

The park always looks magnificent

Beautiful setting - the park is a great venue.

Beautiful setting. Staff at gate were lovely.

Munro Martin stage and park is a beautiful venue, I would love to see more concerts etc there.

Family friendly

All ages could enjoy including small children. They could run and play or fall asleep on a rug. The orchestra's Superheroes was perfect for children's first experience of an orchestra.

Very family friendly and relaxed, perfect way to introduce children to classical music and concert going.

BYO food. Early start/finish. Price.

Overall

Good

It was great

Yes it was very well presented and was a very professional performance enjoyed it very much :)

The venue was lovely, the performances fantastic, and was very pleased that there was student pricing available.

Negative Comments

Food and Drinks

Perhaps a few more eatery options. Cheaper prices for food and drink.

The venue prohibits patrons bringing their own alcohol, but then allows a 3rd party to supply alcohol at outrageously high prices. A bottle of white wine for \$40; probably only pay \$12 -15 at most in a bottle shop.

Parking

Car parking is not provided and with the new council policy of charging till 6pm DAILY including weekends it is a lottery whether you find free parking for such an event

Entertainment

The sound in Munro Martin Parkland is always woeful.

The multiple acknowledgements of the Traditional Owners is ridiculous. It is a token, politically correct gesture that does not do the Aboriginal people any good. Let's give it a break - we are all Australians.

The local entertainment bought down the quality of the overall performance

APPENDIX C: TANKS ARTS CENTRE

Covid Live Recovery (2020) - Audience

Customer Service

The Security guard that attended at the performance was very brutal...his tactics went overboard and he certainly wasn't practicing social distancing...as soon as someone stood up from their seat he was onto them...this was at the Reggae concert.

COVID related

Would be nice to have COVID-19 safe bubbles organised in circles to allow for dancing.

Please be at ease with events going forward. All staff were on edge which put the audience on edge. Cairns is 1,500kms away from someone with the flu.

Seating

Have a covered area for wet weather dining next to the food vendor.

I have a degenerative spinal issue and the chairs were EXTREMELY uncomfortable to sit on and caused me back pain. Also, we were rushed out after the show and couldn't stay for an extra half an hour to chat and have another drink.

Other

Wish people would not drop their bottle in bins during performances!

RADF Program (2021) - Grant recipients

The Botanic Gardens Visitor Centre is a terrific venue

I can't think of anything really. There was a big issue with noise from gigs at adjacent buildings. But I would say if there are multiple musical gigs on at the Tanks, the programming should encourage audiences to experience them all by staggering the timing rather than putting them all on at the same time.

It all worked very well.

The acoustic properties of CPAC are not ideal for choirs, so the consideration of a sound shell to project sound into the auditorium would be welcome.

APPENDIX D: BOTANIC GARDENS VISITOR CENTRE

Cairns Children's Festival (2021) - Producers

A little more training for the FOH staff in ensuring that they ask questions first and assume less when 'enforcing' the COVID safe plans upon an artist who was following them. We had one very sour experience here, which dampened an otherwise faultless experience.

Sometime things were a bit last minute. As we need to get approval and having to write a media release overnight can be a bit daunting.

APPENDIX E: CAIRNS PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE

Wicked the Musical (2019) - Audience



Covid Live Recovery (2020) - Audience

Customer Service

Service lady with the drinks was very rude and no need for it

Friendlier front of theatre staff. Perhaps more signage explaining queuing, seating, purchasing.

Have more food available

Drinks prices are way over the top.

COVID related

Just check people arriving and keep a record of them.

As this was a COVID safe trial there were limited numbers of people and therefore difficult to judge how this whole situation will eventually look. There is no way the centre will manage (financially) with the number of people who attended that event.

Understory Film Festival (2020) – Audience

Sound and Lighting

Lighting in walkway into theatre seating is quite dark - esp. for older people with vision problems

Whilst music has an important role to play in any film/digital presentation, the aim is to enhance the storytelling and set a mood. We noticed at times the audio was far too loud and somewhat distorted - whether the distortion was from the filmmakers copy or the audio system in the Arts centre.

Check sound of each film as some were really loud, and were hard to listen to

Many of the film's audio were distorting, it was almost a joke as people around me were looking at each other and cringing. I understand this is a problem with the submitted film, but there should be some quality control to

stop this happening? It was really bad. An easy solution would be any selected films with clipped audio could be RE-submitted, maybe there's someone that could help people out with this?

For young children up the front the volume was too loud. And when the winners of the different awards are coming up to the stage please play a clip of the film.

Second time I've been to this theatre and the sound was incorrect. Film festival was so loud it was distracting

Venue Facilities

Lower the room temperature!!!

Clean the carpet.

Please use the Tanks again, better atmosphere, more personal for smaller audience!

Should have built the Cairns Entertainment Precinct instead, it would have been better located, better performance spaces and more future-proofed

Start on time

Customer Service

Provide more tills and staff serving at the bar

The line and length of wait to sort tickets (even when bought online) was too long, again. Suggest an extra person to help.

An extra person at the ticket office before the show.

Food and Beverage

Allow the purchase of bottles of champagne and wine

Better choice of white wines

More food options

Seating

Chairs in theatre are uncomfortable

Parking and transport

While I usually manage to arrive early and find a parking spot, some people have complained to me that they had trouble.

APPENDIX F: VENUE SATISFACTION

Cairns Festival (2018) - Producers

To clarify the above, the sound was good, but lighting not so good. There was a big hum from generator.

The event was developed to respond to the site as a significant cultural and aesthetic location. Council representatives shared the same vision about how the site might be transformed as a festival venue.

Community Hall:

The venue was adequate. I think the technical arrangement could have been refined.

Council Recreational Reserve:

The site has a lot of cultural potential. It is one of the few places near the city that does not have disputed claims over Indigenous sovereignty, therefore cross-cultural expression can be celebrated.

Tanks Arts Centre:

Perhaps a large sight map with details of specific areas.

Cairns Children's Festival (2021) - Audience

Venue specific - The Court House

The redone Courthouse is a wonderful venue for arts activities

Court House is a cold and odd feeling venue. The exhibitions could be curated to fit the space better. The space is not being used to its full potential

Venue specific - Tanks Art Centre

Tanks is a great venue.

More events around the Tanks to spread the crowd out. The lines were long!

Big gaps between performance and due to COVID restrictions we were unable to attend and participate in events due to long waits.

Ticketing & Seating

Having some pre-booked tickets for the free shows would cut down on some of the waiting times. Also more outside activities for the kids at Tanks as the line to get inside Tank 4 was quite long most of the day and my daughter lost patience. I know that covid-restrictions made things more complicated this year, hopefully next year will be easier!

Regarding the children's festival, where you have seated events, even if the tickets are free, my recommendation would be to still use a booking system so that patrons are aware prior to the gig whether they will be able to attend. We drove from Malanda to attend the regurgitator event and missed out as the venue had reached capacity.

Allocated a larger venue for Regurgitator's Pogogo show

Activities

I would probably suggest not hold an event where there is only origami to do, we didn't realise, drove in from Edmonton and even my kids said is this it, this is boring, so we walked straight back out and left. Unfortunately, we wouldn't have gone had I realised there wasn't anything else there to do. Good on the organisers though.

Parking

Free parking and/or easily accessible parking

Great venues. Perhaps have someone monitoring the loading/taxi zone at the tanks. I deliberately chose to be dropped off and picked up, but people decided to park in this bay. Made it impossible to get picked up at the end. Had to walk a considerable distance with 2 young kids for a safe spot.

I hate the lack of parking at the Tanks so much. It puts me off going to any event here. It was a shame more people couldn't go to the shows this year. We missed out on both because they were only allowed limited people.

More parking spaces. Free parking. 2-3hrs metered parking in CBD.

Positive comments without suggestions

All good

Nο

No! It was perfect!

No. Excellent.

APPENDIX G: ABOUT COUNCIL'S SERVICE DELIVERY

Cairns Festival (2018) - Producers

Positive standout of service

The Support was overwhelming

Good support & communication leading up to event.

We felt supported at all times

It all ran smoothly. People were happy

Positive

The council technical services were responsive and efficient, however, the operational and artistic model that the festival was organised under was not clearly articulated.

Beyond the Waves (2020) - Producers

Positive standout of service

Cairns regional council were so supportive through the entire development

I felt comfortable

I felt comfortable, friendly

I felt helpful and friendly

Incredible communication/professionalism, creative support from producer. Production team offered use of their venue for rehearsals so our artists with a disability could focus to meet our short project deadline, professionalism of project team, great promotion.

They were wonderful to work with. Everytime. Hayley did amazing expertise with her ideas/ The whole team was super helpful.

We always appreciate the support, collaboration and inclusion of our artists in projects with Cairns Regional Council

Negative standout of service

Coronavirus pandemic impact on delivery

Cairns Children's Festival (2021) - Producers

Positive standout of service

Excellent communications with the lead producer and artistic director of the festival. All communications with CPAC were clear, organized and effective.

The attention and positivity we received from the support crew Jas, Sam, Mick and Dave. Everyone did everything they could to support us.

There are no words to describe how amazing the cultural service team have been throughout the project! I have had a very positive experience and would love to work with them again in the near future.

Negative standout of service

Marketing was bombarded with green animal- took away from images.

RADF Program (2021) – Grant recipients

Fleur McMenamin was an incredible help throughout the entire process of the project and beyond. Her approachable nature and knowledge is very appreciated.

Fleur was exceptional in providing information and specifics to enable the application process and set out Council's expectations.

Great service and assistance.

Kindness and clarity: the team at RADF has helped me understanding the process. It was my first time applying for a grant.

The council staff have been fantastic. Tanks staff and RADF staff.

The delivery provided to us: Bernie Singleton and Simone Arnol as the project artist, through Cairns Art Gallery as the auspice body was very supportive.

The service from the RADF officers is very good.

There was great flexibility during the challenges I experienced in bringing this project to fruition, with support and suggestions given along the way.

We were grateful for an extension granted to our outcome report due date as we have experienced some turnover in development staff recently.

Court House Gallery (2023)

Positive

The staff at The Court House were exceptional in every way. And the venue wonderful.

Everything went as planned. I enjoyed the video of the show in Australia and the on-line meeting of the artists.

Positive

The staff were very nice/helpful

Very professional collaboration, giving us the chance to interact with the American artists was great. A beautiful building and professional assistance from the staff helped during the workshop's.

Personal support

Well organised good presentation at Court House

The room chosen was very suitable and every assistance was provided to ensure the exhibition was displayed authentically

The professionalism of the team - from installers to management and knowing that there was help available. Having cultural guidance was also important.

Everyone was very nice and lovely

Everything was positive, they were organised and kind and did an amazing job in display and handling artwork.

The placement of the sculptures was done well. The small podiums to put them on was effective so people could walk around them

Excellent organisation. Great opportunity for young budding artists in Cairns. Very encouraging.

Exhibition was free.

It was a great opportunity for the kids to see their artwork up in a gallery

Cairns Courthouse Gallery staff were friendly and helpful

Negative

Corrupt funding reporting program where items constantly dropped out and had to be reworked.

I don't know where my unsold picture is now. Were the unsold pictures ever returned from Arizona?

The Zoom exchange workshop lecture did not happen due on internet inability to connect; was not able to communicate with Cairns participants

The fact that you had to drop it off during school hours was hard to work around.

Improve engagement with the space, be more welcoming, show appreciation for being a host, be warmer. Your contract was substandard, but the art house accommodation was just lovely, very good.

Lack of food at the opening

There was a finger food service and drink station last year but this year seems less service.

Children were only able to submit one art piece. No prizes, no people's choice

Promotional activities to increase sales and participation. Few knew of it and no TV or radio.

Flame.Arts (2023) - Participants

AMAZING!

Beautiful venue. Inspiring people. Could have been an hour longer.

Breanna was great at keeping things running smoothly

Bringing together a wide range of locals and state reps to allow education of newbies.

Everything was at a high and professional standard. Some of the students said they could have done more performances on the day, at least another 1 or 2.

Extremely friendly

Great friendly hosts

Great initiatives to provide information, networking and performance opportunities for artists. Would have loved to get better pre-event communication in regards to timeslots. Sadly, the sound crew at Launchpad wasn't doing a top job to make young artists sound good. Having said all this, it's still a great project.

It was a very well organised production and enjoyable experience.

Overall it was both an informative and practical workshop. Thank you

Professional and informative. Friendly and thought provoking sessions. It is so important that services and grants are distributed to artists, to keep the very important Australian music industry alive.

Staff were very positive and interactive

The events were very well organised

The food was great. I love free food.

The presentations were very informative and the range of speakers was diverse and covered a lot of ground as far as the music industry landscape goes. Although I have been to one of these events a few years ago, I still wrote down some new information as well as got inspired by the passion and knowledge of the speakers of the panels.

The quality of the performance was professional.

The staff were amazing providing transparent communication and open to providing support throughout.

Very well managed, topics were relevant and activities interesting

Well done thank you all

APPENDIX H: SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS TO CRC MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Cairns Festival (2018) - Producers

Creative staging and lighting could have been improved.

Provide a strategic and artistic vision for the festival that empowers the implementation of events and projects that inspires the arts and cultural community to participate en masse and engage in a meaningful and mindful way with this place and its unique identity.

Perhaps a run down on a map of locations, e.g. pump house, red arrow, butterfly house etc. To help visitors find things.

Beyond the Waves (2020) - Producers

Only to meet at beginning of project to better clarify roles of the creatives to ensure everyone is on the same page from the beginning

I was 100 percent pleased with everything offered.

I'm happy and excited

Cairns Children's Festival (2021) - Producers

The team have done a splendid job, and I honestly cannot think of anything that requires improvement!

When working with people experiencing disability it would be useful to have a representative in the room whenever decision making is happening. We bring an understanding of how things will affect our people.

RADF Program (2021) – Grant recipients

As the Cairns Art Gallery were the auspice body for the RADF grant, we were very grateful that this was allowed.

I think RADF team is solid and appreciate the arts grants are available in rounds to support local artists.

Coordinate with Tanks Arts Centre to showcase all projects to public after completion.

More consultation with grant applicants to discuss whether they have wisely covered their bases in terms of planning their project. Provide larger amounts.

My difficulty was in my confidence in the writing. English is my second language and writing is not one of my core skills. Grant writing sessions will be an opportunity I'd take in the future.

This type of survey doesn't work well for an organisation that has applied for funds to enable it to work with creatives. These questions are largely aimed at individual artists, rather than for the organisational, strategic and engagement outcomes that come from organisations, rather than individuals, collaborating with artist.

RADF Program (2021) – Grant recipients

As an artist I would have appreciated more advice on this particular grant. In the meantime, I have noticed that the CRC is offering grant writing workshops, which I will attend.

For non-English speaking community groups and members, accessing and applying for CRC grants would be extremely challenging. Not all languages could be covered, but it would be appropriate to have the option of CRC grants information and application forms available in other languages.

Tank 4 Exhibition (2021) - Producers

Allow artists to use the space with less of a loss.

Cut costs.

Provide more exhibition spaces - affordable - for visual artists in the region and give more support to NFP arts association who leases the premises from council.

Court House Gallery (2023) - Producers

Promotion and communication

Better communications

Greater support to community groups for the use of such places, thanks

Advertise more

Be more engaged with the curator organiser and with the space and exhibition

Further outreach to multicultural community exhibitions.

Awards.

Additional events

More if you want to, can never get enough

Host more events to engage more young people.

Please fund the Cairns Children's Festival art exhibition so that it can continue well into the future

Opening times

Have the courthouse gallery open on Sundays.

As we were part of CIAF - to be open on Sunday during the Art Fair. Many visitors were unaware we would be closed and missed the exhibition.

Presentation

Maybe put the artist statements closer to the actual artworks. Some of the responding artworks did not have a statement next to it so it was hard to see which ones it was connected to.

I appreciate that my children's art is displayed on the wall in the art gallery. However, it would be even more special if you could call each child by their name in front of the audience and have a handshake. I understand that there are many people and time constraints, but parents would be happy to be there with their children for an additional moment.

Logistics

Make the application for funding and reporting program less complex and be sure it works.

Work out technical problems with internet connections with Scottsdale, AZ Sister City

Have food at the children's exhibition opening

Flame.Arts (2023) - Participants

6pm is roughly for most people dinner time

A collaboration speed date could be fun. In pairs, allow 2 mins to share your skills and goals with another creative, then switch pairs and repeat. Have sample questions on each table to help start the conversation.

As young artists I think we could've been given more stage practice time at the Tanks to improve performances and receive feedback from the industry professionals included.

Continue to the support the art sector and as we discussed in the workshops, put Cairns on the map as a music destination, not only rainforest and reef destination. Which means, supporting local artists expanding the industry through events like the one I went to. Continue the great work!

I felt everything was great

I'll let you know. I'm about to apply for a buskers licence.

Keep doing these days.

Maybe provided other opportunities for performance outside of the event day.

Not that comes to mind at the moment.

Offer noise cancelling headphones for small children and sensory sensitive people.

Turn the air conditioning down. It was too cold in the venue.

APPENDIX I: POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE EXPERIENCES

Beginnings (2018) - Audience

Positive Experiences

Positive - indigenous artist TSI dancers, female lead, narrator), negative = some of the solo singers were difficult to listen to as their singing needed work, however the chorus (side tent), were amazing. Great songs.

The musical brought the best out of our Cairns amateur artists. It was great to watch

I felt proud of Cairns and being part of the Cairns community

Some of the on-stage singing wasn't too impressive but the main singers were excellent.

Wonderful evening

A fantastic way to show us the history and learn more about the people that were here first, love the history and love to learn about the culture

No enjoyed the night greatly

Set, lighting (great). Show concept/story great idea, just wish had more info on it so could explain to the kids. Free access = accessible to all. Would have been fantastic with the HUGE amount of work for there to have been at least 2 performances. Would love to see it in the new Civic Theatre!! The final song would also make for a great 'theme' song for 1 commercials for Cairns & TNQ??

Narrator was exceptional

The narrator was amazing. The trees lit up with the children playing underneath them was great to see

Harmonious mixture of audience members

all Positive

Merindi Schrieber and the Mirriki dancers were phenomenal

Totally positive!

Loved the Kuranda train!

Being involved as a performer has had a profound effect on my feeling of connection to others in Cairns community.

The friendliness of people around me.

Indigenous perspectives.

All brilliant

Yes, watching the enjoyment of the performers.

As I mentioned in a similar question, the standouts were the combination of the venue, the company and the quality of the performance. It was an enjoyable evening out. A highlight of the venue, other than its aesthetics (the lighting around the gardens is lovely!), is the fact that you can bring a picnic and enjoy an event like this in a more relaxed and social way.

This is a monumental piece of work and thanks so much.

The storyline was strong. Amazing! This should be shown around Australia

The emotional journey was awesome experience to be a part of.

the story content, dancing and singing

Toilet issue, but besides that it was a great performance. One performer (she was in the Indigenous group), sing a solo and then she died suddenly and the another girl with a solo describing the segregation (stolen generation). Very powerful.

Fantastic to see such a high quality performance with so many people involved.

As an Aboriginal/Italian woman, this show was so tactfully written and made for a beautifully emotional experience.

Very well portrayed Stage setting excellent. Costumes could have altered a little. A plarge video

Colourful vibrant performance. Minor negative would be a few of the lead vocalists (particularly male) were off key...not sure if it was a sound problem but they were very flat sounding.

Including ARC disability performers. Excellent to see them included!

The dragon was fab!

The writers of this production has moved towards taking steps for reconciliation between Aboriginal and Torres Straits Islanders and other 5s.

The narrator was very good and held the performance together. The performance left me with a warm, fuzzy feeling. I liked the way all the people came together at the end.

The whole event was a fantastic experience.

all positive

Music, costumes, story, set design

Quality of performance, singing, music, dance, storytelling, costumes and the smooth way it was all integrated together.

Terrific venue, atmosphere is great. Outdoor venue is a definite winner

The young Indigenous poet soliloquy and the Indigenous woman's reflection on the gold rush

This production was more engaging and delivered the message of unity more than the recent Commonwealth Games Opening Ceremony - Well Done to all!

The enthusiasm of the cast

Loved it

Easy access and lots of security, which made the children safe and the adults could relax more.

The main narrator was incredible.

Impressed with local effort

Some good and not so good vocalists. The original music & lyrics were good. Overall it was entertaining & enjoyable.

Good balance of song and dance, and of humour and seriousness

All good

I liked the fact that it wasn't perfect in that the show used the talents of run-of-the-mill people - not just the obviously talented performers.

Nothing negative all positive

The venue

Positive

It is a stunning venue and I have enjoyed all other performances I have attended there. The queues, poor seating control, and lacklustre production quality of this performance left me less than inspired. I was disappointed to be honest.

The music

Amazing experience of outdoor theatre. An attention grabbing event

The happy volunteers especially the kids and the respect and consideration to the older of our cairns society

Impressed how many community groups had opportunity to participate. Very well written, organised, directed.

Both interpreter/ sign reader

Great atmosphere & variety of music & songs from different cultures

Narrator was excellent

All positive, as an audience you felt the performers passion for what they were doing and the message they were giving us. loved loved loved it

No amazing show all round

The singers that could sing were exceptional

Positive community spirit joining in the celebration of multicultural cairns.

The narrator was really good. Music and choir excellent

Parts of the show were great, choir and orchestra were great. Being a new work few little changes needed. Sound need to be better at points. Lovely mixture from ancient music and dance to the rap

Yes. Good performances from local identities.

The crowd were positive and the quality and originality of the show

People are generally very accommodating and helpful to each other

It was great

Several - the performance was exceptional

A great show and fantastic venue

Just the whole atmosphere created by the performers and the audience was a thrill to be part of.

Amazing venue

The esplanade set up was amazing

Loved the atmosphere and the local talent

Narrator

The narrator

The blending of our cultural heritage and the natural amphitheatre of Martin Munro Park

The performance

The inclusion of others (less fortunate to ourselves) into the performance. was great to see.

The writer Kathryn Ash delivered an inspired story, which was complemented by the musical ability of Rubina Kimiia. The involvement of many Indigenous artists was wonderful.

I felt the band performed amazingly and did not receive any mention

Perfect venue - the night was perfect - not like the ballet!

The live music and the children singing was extraordinary. I feel there was too many songs, less would have had the same impact for the audience. I remember seeing the circus at the same venue a while back that had moving images on the screen behind the performers. That would have added something extra to the experience.

Yes, the way everyone came together to present and explore our history via performance

The quality of singing performances were high. I loved how you also included local choirs. There were a couple of singers who needed a bit more voice training, I struggled with that. But overall excellent.

Main Indigenous female vocalist was excellent

Some of the main singers at the start were a bit pitchy - but one stopped singing as he died in the performance and the other 2 were easy to deal with as the majority were very strong singers

The unity of performance was absolutely outstanding, each person on stage and behind seemed so well prepared and enthusiastic. So many people worked together. Yet it looked incredibly unified. Fantastic job from all involved. very touching that people from all abilities and cultures worked together, what a strong message! It was an outstanding cultural show by locals for locals. It was way more than I was expecting. I loved how the show was narrated. It was a very professional event and I was amazed by the AUSLAN ladies singing for 2

hours non stop!

This event was fantastic. The only negative was that I did not understand the women wearing the black and white corsetry style cusume. I discussed this with my fellow patrons. Some thought they were representing prostitutes of the time. I just thought it was a bit too 'arty' for this type of show.

Choir

I was impressed with the story line & talents of such a diverse range of performers

All participants in the show were fantastic.

Loved that it is a local production showcasing the talent of Cairns

A very professional show

Lovely venue

The inclusiveness of casting and the fact all the cast was local.

Excellent to see so many cultures represented on stage and in the audience. Quality of show is questionable. Food and beverage a little expensive/not realistic prices.

Fantastic experience and a great refresher on Cairns' history told in a different way

No all good

All good

All good.

All positive

Mixed Experiences

The show was nice overall, but there were 2 singers who were really bad. The Italian and Chinese main performers. I don't understand that they got chosen for these roles. I am sure they tried their best, but it sounded horrible. We have much better singers in Cairns. I saw a lot of people leaving after the first 30 minutes or so. After that t fortunately got better. The cultural theme and all about unity in the show was very inspiring. Although it was at times a bit too long. Very disappointing that the choir and orchestra were hidden away AND did not even get a mention or to get on stage at the end to bow! There performance was outstanding, in fat I think they were the best trained/skilled. Many people in the audience thought it was a background recording, because they could no see them and they were not mentioned! I think that is very sad, considering these guys worked their gut off. So next time, please honour all performers.

Some of the singers weren't really strong and some awkward gaps in performance. Some singers were fab though. Performance started too late for families with young kids. We had to go home early due to son getting too tired...

NEGATIVE - the pizza was simply appalling and left me feeling ill. For \$10 for a small 'cheese and garlic' pizza with sub-standard ingredients it was overpriced in the extreme. POSITIVE - The show itself was entertaining and spectacular. However, it is difficult to see the performance well when seated at the rear of the arena. Suggest people be encouraged to bring binoculars.

I really enjoyed the beginning but then find myself bored. Maybe some relation to the 5 story in general would have spiced it up a bite

Great set, lighting, Fantastic Music, on the minus: sound issues with feedback and actors not being heard, Some lead singers were off.

Positive: venue, community support, a worthwhile endeavour. Negative: not much the council can do about it, but other patrons being inconsiderate - talking throughout, and parents letting their children run around shouting and playing. It's not the place for that!

The quality of the performance and talent of some of the performers. The magic of so many groups coming together. The terrible food on offer and the shocking over pricing of said food.

It was a very conventional story line, but that's ok. Thought it might have included the many more cultural groups that have made Cairns home, some reference to saving environment

Yes, the door staff were very friendly and professional. I felt that it would have been more appropriate to offer Indigenous, English, Irish, Chinese and Italian food at this event to keep it themed.

Negative- sound issues, Positive- very personalised narration and music. The council should consider taking on several of the themes and songs at public events like our Festival Parade. Not many cities are fortunate to get their own theme song!

Pity the male Chinese actor couldn't sing in tune. However, he was a beaut actor. Overall, the music and singing was truly wonderful and indeed so inspirational. Congratulations to the composer and lyricists!

Hard to find a car park...liked the bag check

How positive and good the crowd was. Negatives was the small cup of wine for \$8

Choir was sometimes hard to understand due to speakers maybe? Also some singers could have used some more instruction. Hard to understand the Chinese actors with their accents sometimes and spoke quietly. Otherwise, really great!

Positives- the Aboriginal gentleman who was the storyteller was incredible. The choir was fantastic and the girl who was the love interest of the cane farmer 2nd act was very good both acting and vocally. Negative- only one or two principles could actually sing. The Chinese gentleman couldn't speak in tune, let alone sing in tune. Not their fault at all. They should never have been cast in the role. All this does is make them believe that they're so much better than they are, which is cruel in the long run. These are humans your dealing with, with feelings. Will you be offering counselling when they realise their performance wasn't as fantastic as you've been telling them?

Negative Experiences

Only three of the lead singers could perform their role adequately.

Too much poor me the 1st half-2nd half great

I enjoyed the energy of all performers and also the appearance of the stage. However, I heard very little of what was said or sung and would have benefited from: (a) a screen to the side of the stage focussing on the featured actor/singer; (b) due to not hearing what was said I had to guess what was happening on stage and appreciated the few times a written sign appeared on stage to guide me as to what was happening. I cannot have been alone in missing much of the dialogue and would have greatly benefitted from some form of written sign to indicate what were each new group or activity.

Toilets difficult to access

Sound not great. Creatives (eg director) could've made some choices so not to embarrass people who were perhaps not singers...was awkward to watch some struggling up there doing solos etc. Not the casts fault...the creative team should've picked this up and made changes.

Sets great. Some cultures covered well. Amateurish. Seemed underprepared. Not enough "good" singers". Could not hear choir or orchestra.

I didn't like the show. Felt unwelcome by the indigenous people. And the use of white fellas that is disrespectful. If we can't use black fellas then they shouldn't use white fellas.

The sound was really low and when people were talking the music was too loud.

It was very culturally patronising to Chinese and anti- whitefella rather than celebrating shared culture.

The alcohol drink prices were outrageous

It was a bit hard to see, some big screens would be helpful. Some of the singers were pretty off key, but most of them were good. It was a great production overall. The mayor and another MP behind us kept chatting and laughing which wasn't appropriate.

Sound could have been better sometimes but understand hard for production of this size

Some of the vocal parts were off key

More speakers. Too quiet

Microphones on leads didn't work properly

Two of the main singers (the bald Colonialist and the Chinaman) were very poor singers and out of sync with the choir and score and this detracted from an otherwise great show

Greater focus on Indigenous culture as seemed to be very Chinese orientated

Some of the performers were outstanding. I love the inclusiveness of the show. there were also some weaker leads that detracted from the show. I found the Chinese section very hard to understand and the singing poor

I understand it was a volunteer performance but some of singing was flat

Need better audio facilities

Rude audience members pushing in front and talking through performance

One disappointment I experienced was being told I could not use my camera to photograph, I read the conditions before going and it clearly stated no audio or video equipment which is understandable but no mention of cameras taking still images. I did explain this at the gate and a woman who I was only advised as the boss instructed I couldn't use my camera. I did as instructed and watched the show and hundreds of people filming with Ipads and phones without any issues. If I attend another similar production, I'll be making enquiries beforehand to have this clarified.

Very amateurish performance

I feel the musical did not show some of the positive steps being taken with the Aboriginal communities to help reconcile the differences.

Sound quality wasn't great. We were sitting to the left of the stage

The Chinese singers were painful to hear

Food and drink on one side of the venue only. Have more food and drink accessibility

Too much of the singing was poor and off key. Cairns amateur musicals are better for talent. But the choir was excellent.

Sound was a huge issue. Other than that, a fabulous evening!

Other patrons rather inconsiderate in sitting around in a way to obliterate our views and with talking through the performance.

Very hard to hear dialogue at the back and unable to hear song lyrics clearly, which took away much of the story

The singing was variable in quality

More options on food would be better with all the food vans we have that could of been better

Storyline needs improvement. Seemed choppy and unclear at times. Performers were not always well suited for their roles. Singing was sometimes off-key. Choir was sometimes inaudible and needed a microphone.

Cairns Festival (2018) - Audience

Grand Parade and Fireworks

Fireworks were great - first firework show since moving here from Sydney. Less 'gaps' in the parade, took too long especially with a toddler. Free parking for the parade was a great idea!

Fantastic parade so much effort by so many people it was awesome. The fireworks were superb, the atmosphere was fantastic

There was too much of a gap between the floats in the parade which affected the momentum and impacted enjoyability - we watched for 2 hrs with an hour of waiting beforehand so a total of 3 hrs and still didn't see the whole parade - because of the gaps it just went on for too long

Parade was very disappointing compared to previous years. Long gaps in between floats and not as many as previous years. Kids got bored of waiting in between floats making it drag on too long

Queensland Symphony Orchestra

The Orchestra were amazing, and the conductor was wonderful!

Conductor was very entertaining. Added popular appeal to classical music by offering a popular theme. Great overall atmosphere. Loved the touch of having paid people in costume to welcome us.

The symphony was amazing. Such a great family event.

QSO and the fireworks were just AMAZING, the best we've seen in either Darwin or Cairns and the NT loves its fireworks

The Symphony Orchestra at Munro Martin Park

Just the concert. Would like to have seen the fireworks but was on the same night.

Light Show

Light show at the library. Qld orchestra. Fireworks were brilliant

Humans by Circa

Humans was a stand out. I also find events on the Esplanade to be fantastic as it truly engages the community

Carnival on Collins

Carnival on Collins really lacked compared to previous years. There was no good street performers like the stilt walkers etc. There wasn't as many stalls. It was all just junk food trucks etc.

Other events

Seagulls. They were so fun!

Lots of other things happening brass sweat and tears, the cemetery walk and the choral society

Negative Comments

Sometimes the local 'talent' is very local & not necessarily of a public event standard

The multiple acknowledgements of the Traditional Owners is ridiculous. It is a token, politically correct gesture that does not do the Aboriginal people any good. Let's give it a break - we are all Australians.

Negative was people not being moved on in the drop off/pick up zone out the front of the venue. Positive very well organised and run!

Wicked the Musical (2019) - Audience

POSITIVE COMMENTS ON THE EXPERIENCE

Access

Ability to be picked up without getting wet

I really liked the drop off and pick up spot on the Sheridan Street side, and the ability to drive off easily into the traffic.

The pickup area during the rain was essential for my friend who is over 80. The toilets were excellent. The lift well situated.

In spite of the rain being able to be picked up and dropped off under cover. Visible security presence. Sign saying 'No alcohol beyond this point' very sensible.

Performance

The costuming and sets were more impressive than I had expected. Nothing negative.

Great cast. Lovely staff.

The performance was beautiful and the costumes chorus sets and band were stunning

The cast of the show. So talented.

Lead performers were very good

Good ensemble

Performances were excellent

The lead actresses were fantastic

The cast coming into the foyer after the show to mingle with the crowd was nice. An opertunity for photos and signings of programs with the cast would be lovely

Amazing costumes and stage design

The easy flow of the presentation in regard to changes of scenery, props, etc.

The performance and the Theatre were mist enjoyable.

Performers and musicians were amazing, set fantastic

Yes. The tech, Quility of performance.

The night went well

Quality of actors

excellence of performance and excellent staging

Just a wonderful production for an amateur organisation

Choral Society productions are always great and of a high standard

Orchestra, sets, lighting, costumes, excellent

Excellence of local productions

Great night out.

quality of the main performers

Cast was incredible

The whole cast and crew of Wicked

Unusual, unique

Outstanding flawless performance and production. Amazing local talent amazing

Overall a fantastic performance

Everyone that went thoroughly enjoyed the experience

The show itself

Vocal performances were outstanding

We really enjoyed the oerformance

We've got some great the Theatrical talent here in Cairns. Not only the cast, but, all that behind-the-scenes talent as well. The sets for Wicked were awesome!

Talent of performers was excellent

The cast

The vocals of all the characters

just an amazing show and very enjoyable evening

As always, the Choral Society did an outstanding job. The costumes and sets were amazing.

Wicked did not disappoint in anyway.

The performance

The performers, costumes and sets looked great

The performance was the best I have been to in Cairns

The talent of those on stage. The music. The stage sets and the special lighting effects. All so positive

Overall very pleasant evening and good value.

it was great overall

Great performance from the Coral society

Started pretty much on time. Would have enjoyed the curtain raised another one time for the audience to really appreciate and show support.

Wicked was a stand-out all round. Spectacular staging, lighting and costumes and an entertaining story. But I did feel sorry for the Wicked Witch.

The performance was great

Main actors, actresses were great. Lovely voices

For an armature production I believe the performers were just as good as the professional production of Wicked.

The quality and professionalism shown by the performers

The two female leads were great, particularly Glinda.

The two female leads were great, particularly Glinda.

Wicked cast were all amazing

Very positive experience, my wife and I thoroughly enjoyed the performance.

Overall was a great night.

Professionalism and enthusiasm of the cast

The quality of the performance was excellent

Overall very good- congratulations

Was very enjoyable

The experience was very positive

My granddaughter has now experienced a proper live theatre performance for the first time and was amazed by it. This sort of thing is what we need more of to inspire our next generation. They shouldn't have to travel to Brisbane to get this life experience. Just seeing her face and listening to her afterwards shows what bringing things like this here achieves.

Atmosphere was great

I was so pleased that the performers of Wicked and the Cairns Choral Society now have an excellent performing space that suits their talents. (Instead of that other old clapped out barn)

Stunning costumes and performances of all artists

The Cairns Choral Society is excellent

Performance was of very high quality for a regional production.

seemed well polished

Incredible production. Sets, costumes, choreography, talent onstage. Vocally and orchestrally very strong

The show was a real success

Performance was terrific.

Except kids eating during performance, the rest was enjoyable

The performers, musicians and all behind the scenes teams did a fantastic job to produce a wonderful show

Very talented group of people

Overall great experience.

Exceptional night both show and centre

The show was magic, just loved every minute. Orchestra was wonderful, the conductor should have been given the chance to take a bow and the orchestra thanked specifically so we could applaud

The show was the standout. Well Done to all involved:)

Outstanding performance in a fabulous venue resulted in an excellent night out.

The high quality of the performance.

Great cast

The Wizard, Elphaba

Do you mean in relation to the actual production of Wicked or the CPAC experience? If Wicked, the costumes and orchestra were fabulous, the volume on the mikes on some of the leads went out a few times. All teething problems which no doubt will be ironed out during the season.

Appreciate the local talented artists and support people the costumes were outstanding

The second act once sound issues were resolved

Quality of staging, quality of acting and the amazing singing skills of local talent.

The talent was amazing. As already mentioned, there were times when the orchestra overpowered the singers and made it hard to hear what they were singing but I think that is a microphone issue. The voices overall could have been a bit louder.

It was a great night out

The quality of performers and assistants both on and off stage, and the quality of the musicians.

The entire cast was incredible!

Seating

Comfort of the seats and view of the stage. My friend is small and I was worried about her seeing having never been in the CPAC. No worries now it is a great view

Great seats

Sound

The sound was great and the sets and the manipulation of them were excellent.

Sound effects was very good, too.

Great sound and wonderful sets

Orchestra was heard sufficiently and acoustic good.

The orchestra sounded fantastic

Staff

Great staff and state of the art venue just please stop people eating and drinking in the theatre itself it's very annoying

Positive-staff very friendly and helpful

Customer service, ease of finding way around theatre, great covered area around theatre especially in wet weather and ease of finding a close car park. Everything about our experience was awesome!!

Answered this question previously. Staff and surroundings

Ticketlink staff were most helpful with the booking process.

Everyone was helpful and friendly

Helpful staff.

The staff were great

Great service

Ushers very helpful

Helpful and enthusiastic staff.

Staff were helpful but inexperienced

I was very happy with everything, with my only suggestion being more bar staff be allocated for sold out shows

Stage

The stage sets were very impressive.

The staging and props, I was just totally amazed by how incredible they were, how made them, how they moved. Everything about them.

the onstage sets were fabulous

Wonderful sets & effects

Great stage backdrops and outstanding performances from all characters

Costumes and set design were outstanding

Costumes, sets.

Amazing set design

Thought the stage props were excellent

The costumes were fantastic - being a dressmaker I can appreciate how much work went into them

See previous responses. Costumes and sets were amazingly good. The cast performed admirably.

Staging and costumes

Very professional stage and props

Amazing set but sound quality disappointing

Sound, lighting, quality of costumes and stage props outstanding

The set was amazing

Stage effects were simply outstanding.

The costumes and props were excellent. The cast were all wonderful.

The set was completely amazing. I have never seen anything like that.

The sets and orchestra

The presentation of the stage, ie the big bat at the top was impressive.

Sets, Costumes and wonderful acting and singing

Costumes amazing

Toilets

Female toilets were numerous, so refreshing to not have to queue, well planned in design

Venue

Artwork recognising place of ATSI culture in Australia.

Venue is excellent. Customer service excellent.

Lovely venue but should be totally non-smoking area.

Exterior of venue is impressive

I love that it's all very open

No major delays at the toilets, bars and serveries.

Council did a good job

CPAC is of equivalent standard to capital city theatres

Wonderful to have a performing arts centre in Cairns!

The theatre is perfect for viewing the stage no matter what seats you have

Very classy venue

Positives beautiful venue, Choral Society!!

Just enjoyed seeing the new building. Cairns Choral Society were wonderful as usual.

Pos, beautiful theatre, great sound

The space comfort in the theatre foyer and stairs. Such an improvement on the old building.

The layout and feel is very in keeping with Cairns and its tropical climate and character

Loved that you could stand outside under cover, the bar was accessible both sides.

the quality finishing of the centre

Bar & snack area. Plenty of toilets.

Theatre layout and finishes.

Venue very easy to navigate

Positive Beautiful Theatre, Negative queues for refreshment stand/bar

Great theatre

Beautiful venue inside and outside

Loved the art inside and outside

The design and layout was good

Equal, if not better, to many venues I have attended. Wicked was 1st class.

Beautiful looking, great seats etc. bad sound and long bar wait times

Enjoyed the venue not the show

'Wow' factor on entering the theatre. Rainy night, so walk acrossuncovered and wet carpark was a dampener

The indoor/outdoor foyer

Negative experiences

Only the lack of aircon, which made it a bit uncomfortable

The venue was quite hot

Air con and toilets where disappointing

The theatre was way too hot which is a shame as it is a standout venue

Extremely satisfied but would have preferred a Seniors discount ... hope this will apply to other shows!

Cheaper program of event.

Loved the theatre and performance. Confused as to the availability of parking on site. Needed to park a distance away on the street and negotiate flooded gutters.

Parking and processing needs improvement

Negative: parking; toilets; queues for refreshments.

Car parking at CPAC is an issue.

I frequent theatre regularly and I was disappointed with wicked

Only as stated above about not being g able to see the far right front of the stage

Unfortunate people in row behind, with young boys, spoke, and ate loudly from plastic packets, throughout performance. Also left dreadful mess. Your employees are angels

Rethink seating

Just the arm rests not being long enough.

Just the leg spacing of seats

The colour of the seats are awful in my opinion

Chair discomfort

Pity the sound levels of some performers was drowned out by orchestra. Need to get sound levels right, but it was opening night so maybe rectified in later performances.

The sound from the singer's mikes could have been improved slightly

Voices were very guiet and hard to hear a lot of the time and the overall sound was very guiet

The sound quality as mentioned above. needs attention or would not return

Just the sound level imbalance

There was a massive stand out in a negative way. The mic volume was way too low for the performers. I sat in row B and could barely hear them. Sometimes I could hear their actual voices on stage and not through the mics. There were some key vocal points in the show that were completely ruined by not being able to hear the performers

Seemed to be some sound issues at our performance

At times, the orchestra was too loud and masked the singing.

Volume of vocalists could have been louder!

Bar line up

The smoke effect used during the show was very chocking and obstructed the view to the people in the fron rows

Too much fog during performance caused breathing difficulties

Women and toilets (felt sorry for them), and the umbrellas.

Toilets not flushing

Negative. The ladies toilets.

I thought the new venue would have greater seat capacity than the old one in order to attract greater artists to perform in Cairns but I did not have the impression that it did.

More foyer space and more seating

There appeared to be more aboriginal culture displayed more than any other culture

Expected more Indigenous art works

Only as mentioned re people walking straight up the to bar area and then being served ahead of us patiently queuing and what felt like lack of air conditioning

I would add by way of comparisons, recently I had the benefit of seeing two operas at the Metropolitan Opera in New York City. The Met is known for its fabulous productions. I do not think that Wicked is found wanting given our location and population. Of course, Wicked is a musical not sung in operatic style. But in the style that it is, the singing wasn't great and that is why I have come away feeling unexcited. They need to cast for better singing if possible and not for acting talent.

Covid Live Recovery (2020) - Audience

Tanks Art Centre - Positive

The Tanks Arts Centre is a stunning venue with staff to match. It's a reliably fabulous place to go.

How well everyone responded to the Covid-safe plan.

There was a sense of proudness from both the artist and the Tanks staff that the community had come to this event.

Tanks Art Centre - Negative

Just negative with the Security guard that was employed on the night...he was unduly aggressive...not to me...just saw how he went overboard and it was also very distractive

Security people were over the top

Unfortunately a group of ignorant and unappreciative women talked behind us all night when we were seated in the tanks in an acoustic setting. It was hard to remain in the beautiful acoustic moment of the artists with the non-stop chatter and laughing. We should have brought it to the attention of the staff as they had no idea it went on when we mentioned it at the end of the night. We will know for next time and it would no way deter us from going again.

I thought the headliner was underwhelming. I didn't enjoy his performance. Never the less, I will continue to attend performances at TANKS.

Cairns Performing Arts Centre - Positive

Excellent all round

Being able to attend a live performance

Easy listening and inexpensive outing.

It was a good event. A bit odd to have so few people in the theatre especially for a comedy show. The event itself was fine, the comics are usual around town so we knew exactly what we were in for but really just wanted to support the endeavour and do something different.

It was lovely attending the venue and hearing a live performance with others even though we were physically distanced.

Love the new venue

The talent available in our local community.

Whole experience was magical

Cairns Performing Arts Centre - Negative

As it was being broadcast live to other venues they had to use microphones for each instrument which did not provide the usual cohesive sound of a chamber quartet.

It wasn't what I was expecting, two very different shows put together.

This was more of a pub venue performance.

Thought some of the comedy presented was in bad taste and low brow for 2020 (misogynistic and abelist).

Understory Film Festival (2020) – Audience

Art and Culture Connection

The quality of the films.

Love that the young students of Cairns are so passionate about film making but was disappointed to see a lack of films from local adults. Potentially there weren't many submissions, hopefully that will change next year

I'd love to see more Symposium events. Potentially 3 days of workshops leading up to the festival? The advice given by this year's guest was incredible and to be amongst so many talented people was a pleasure. Getting a wide range of guests would be awesome, (I'd love to see Brenton Thwaites if that was ever possible ahah!). Only positive things to say about Understory and I look forward to next year!

Overall, it was a fun experience and it was great to network with so many fellow young and upcoming talents. I think the structure of the awards segment needs more work. Films were in different categories, yet they competed against each other. I think it should be divided along the lines of ages AND genres to level the playing field. And a guest panellist (and an established filmmaker) winning the top award seemed a bit out of place and strange. I don't want to think it was a result of bias or conflict of interest but eliminating this loophole could help with fairness and credibility. Apart from those issues it was all great, insightful and encouraging. Would recommend to any and all upcoming filmmakers in the region.

WE do have some great local talent.

Unity.

Diverse young local talent and professional presentation.

The amount of people that were there.

About the Event

I simply enjoyed the buzz and enthusiasm of the event. The MC was hilarious and everyone was relaxed and happy to be there.

It was a really great buzzing culture at the event. That would be a highlight.

Kier Shorey was a great MC

Kier was an excellent host. The event felt very organic and represented Cairns beautifully.

Symposium.

Whiteboard may help

The customer service as a man in a wheelchair.

About the Venue

I think the facility is a great asset to Cairns and strongly support the diversification of the arts in the area. The event itself was very successful and grows in strength to strength every year. Given the large numbers of entrants, more consideration needs to go into 'categories' and reducing the length for these films so that none are longer than 5 minutes!

Positives: Great atmosphere, Great staff! Great venue!

Negative Comments

I preferred last year's venue at The Tanks for this type of event.

It lacked a lot of the atmosphere of holding the event at the Tanks, which feels a much more sympathetic space for the films in the event.

How can someone be on the panel and win an award? Should be one entry per person.

Each director should only be able to have one entry selected for viewing, if there were 70 submissions surely someone else deserves a chance to be seen

A lot of people were confused as to why voting tickets needed to have the number written on them if they were going into numbered bins. Voting could have been easier without the double handling.

Negatives: More food options...

Cairns Children's Festival (2021) - Audience

Positive

Productions

Chores at CPAC was outstanding!

Chores was excellent. Boats were fun

What a treat for the kiddies. The volume level of the music songs played at chores was too loud. Actors voices were spot on.

My children particularly loved the CHORES show....so much

Pogogo show was super fun. Would have preferred to purchase a ticket given its demand. Wish this show was also in a larger venue.

The dentist experience of the t-Rex inspired my daughter to research dinosaurs

Beyond the waves was fabulous.

The 5 Minutes of Fame and the build your own interactive opportunities

The Polygrot Boat experience and the Puppet show were our favourites. Loved the collaboration between ARC and the puppet company. What a great opportunity for the actors, and audience. Watching (and participating) in imaginative play outside of the courthouse was super fun. Would be great to see more activities like this!

The puppet show was great, and we all enjoyed

We loved the shows this year! We were unable to attend the Dinosaur show but would love to see more amazing events like that on in Cairns!

Staff and customer service

Diverse experiences, lovely staff everywhere, highly enjoyable

Friendliness of the volunteers.

The volunteers at the botanic gardens were fantastic.

Good turn out. Successful event at The Court House. Welcoming atmosphere. Great staff.

It was free! Thanks Cairns regional council

Proud to have a festival like this as part of our region.

Negative

Big lines

Just the parking problem and missing out on the shows as mentioned before

Not much shade in outdoor areas near food vans & outside audience

APPENDIX J: INSPIRATION TO ATTEND AGAIN

Beginnings (2018) - Audience

Performance related inspiration

Our local talent is worthy of my time and money

It was a well produced and extremely well presented show.

It is nice to have a performance for locals.

The quality of music and the storytelling involved.

The high quality of the original works and the performances was inspiring

We loved the culture that was showcased through the show and that it was respectful of the history.

Variety, interesting to have an event tell a local story, original music.

Relaxed entertained and educated.

Great production from local artists.

Because it was so professional

Clearly a very high level of talent in Cairns.

As an Aboriginal woman I was so impressed that we had a show that was so inclusive and told from an Indigenous perspective

I love live performances especially when it showcases the talent here in Cairns & the far North

I'm keen to learn more local stories.

It's great to have local artists on a big stage

The presentation was well choreographed, the background music and vocals superb. We loved the narrator and the whole story line and production were appreciated.

I enjoyed the historical and cultural information given via such an entertaining way

The performers need to know we appreciate their great effort. It is an enjoyable time with friends.

I thought the performance was excellent and would have showed visitors how cairns progressed through the years

It was a great night out in a lovely venue, and while the performance was by no means perfect, it was enjoyable. What could have been a potentially difficult subject matter was handled sensitively and inclusively in my opinion. It was nice to see that Indigenous stories and perspectives were not just given their 'token' 5 minutes at the beginning of the piece and then promptly forgotten about. I thought it was well done.

I hail from Perth and they have a history of Musical theatre events all year round. This was on a par with their events. Well done.

Gave me an appreciation of another artform - theatrical musical... LOVE IT!

It was brilliant

It was a beautiful coming together of community, and a wonderful setting

Outstanding local talent in an outstanding venue.

Entertainment value

Excellent local talent

Great local talent. And beautiful venue

Apart from the awesome entertainment it was exciting to see the history of the beginnings of Cairns presented in such an enlightening way.

Good production, well presented and well managed. Also free event so that is also good.

It was entertaining, it was local, great atmosphere

Very enjoyable. Inspiring and makes me proud to be part of the Cairns community.

I guess I underestimated the quality of the performances we could create here in Cairns!

High quality culture learning

Surprised by performance quality.

This event seemed to be well-received by the majority. It kept children and adults enthralled with a upbeat story with subtle touches of comedy and beautiful narration. The local theme made it easy to relate too, and the message was clear. It was an honest reflection on our past, with a vision of hope for a better future, acknowledging the good and bad from the past.

Quality and community support

Everyone has a beginning and should be given an opportunity to improve their artistic growth. The joy and enthusiasm that the cast and production team displayed was fantastic.

It was absolutely fantastic, and it was free!

We have great talent in Cairns as well as including people with disabilitis in the programs

Story, music and special effects were outstanding

It was interesting to learn cultural diversity.

I just loved the music/dancing and atmosphere. My kids enjoyed it too, it's a great way for us to all go out together as a family.

It was a wonderful musical - inspiring, amazing, life giving - fantastic!!

It was creative and included local artists

Great to see so many people involved and such a great mixture of people attending too

Opened my eyes to new things i.e. The theatre and musical side of it

The production exceeded my expectations. It was meaningful and moving and provided a unique insight into the history of Cairns from and indigenous perspective.

I was so impressed with the quality of the performance - totally entertaining and thought provoking

I realised how great our local talent is. The only thing stopping me is cost...

Incredible performance. Probably the best show we have ever seen. Seriously. Well done to all the performers.

I felt that this show encouraged harmony in our community and this is something that I feel needs more focus in Cairns. However, I feel that this show portrayed those of English and Irish descent in a disrespectful manner. Yes, please acknowledge the difficulties faced by our first 5s but those of us with English and Irish heritage have also experienced extreme hardship. Our history was not easy either and the use of terms like "white fella" also make me feel offended.

Love theatre

Great performance

"Beginnings" was a wonderful opportunity to really see that we're "all in this together". Cairns is a cultural melting pot and this performance allowed us all to contextualise this and to understand our personal agency in creating harmony. We could see this on stage and in the audience! Truly wonderful!

Great to have the opportunity to a diverse range of talent

Very good show

Truthfully some of the singers were pretty bad but overall it was entertaining, a great snapshot of our history in Cairns and ended on a really positive note.

Costumes and staging were excellent. However the content was not capturing enough and poor audio effected the experience negatively

So much effort had gone into this amazing production

Because it was brilliant, gave proud moments and gives us cheaper options to do things as a family

It was choreographed brilliantly bringing all the cultures together to tell the story

Because I was impressed with the standard of this musical presented by a cast of hundreds\

Performance was well done and highly enjoyable.

Great performance local history

Amazing performance and the storyline made people think

Personal value inspiration

Re-inspired me to make the effort to attend and support events

My son enjoyed it.

Because I believe it is important to support all the local events so we can continue to have more.

Local Indigenous perspective is very important to community. I love supporting the arts in Cairns... so many talented and passionate people.

I always attend them

I am already in favour of arts and cultural events but have to choose those I think I will be able to enjoy despite severe hearing impairment.

I attend shows as I want already

It was fun and great for the kids

It was free, easy to access, enjoyable and a real community project.

In a nutshell it was easy and convenient

Under the night sky, sitting with friends watching live performance I remember how much I love it. Beautiful Cairns

It was a beautiful night

I already attend as much as I can. I don't need inspiration to go!

I love the arts

As I have always supported the local shows I will continue to support all shows and yes attend more cultural events.

It was very inclusive. Message was universal and current.

It was free and educational

My partner is agoraphobic but stayed for entire performance, a rarity

Great night out

It was a beautiful family night

Enjoying

Family had fun, nice night out

Community well-being inspiration

To be part of community spirit

It's great to get community together

It brings community together.

Good for community

I love being at an event with the rest of the community

The nature of this event was community building and child friendly (even with an ADHD kid)

It reinforced to me the importance of culture for our community and how it is good to support cultural events. It also brings people together

Communal effort

Enhances sense of community

The vibe and community spirit was wonderful to be a part of.

It reminded me how great this community is

Creates such a wonderful spirit and sense of togetherness in and for the town.

Inspirational message. Fantastic community spirit at the event which made it an honour to be a part. Thank you!

Great community show. Represented varied aspects

Great sense of Community

It created an excellent sense of community and showcased the talent of local performers. Therefore when I see another show with the same performers I am likely to want to see them perform again knowing how excellent they are.

It's a fantastic way to engage in the local community and expand my knowledge of the area

A true community engagement event bringing our community together. This was evident last night

The community vibe and quality of performance

The community vibe and great feeling/experience of seeing friends we know on stage and sharing the experience with friends and our broader community members - was such a harmonious experience

It was a fantastic community event and I hope to see more of this from cairns

The community spirit is strong at these events. Was good to see people celebrating The Arts.

I enjoyed the gathering of the community

It was a nice evening and it is good to celebrate living in such a diverse and unique community

We had a great time. Quality production. Affordable. Good to be part of the positive community feeling.

Venue related inspiration

Love the venue, we usually come with a group of friends and the park makes it easy to catch up before the start and in the break.

Love the venue and love to support most things that happen in our region

Just the atmosphere and it's something the whole family can enjoy,

Great venue, set, lights, performance very enjoyable.

Very interesting and enjoyable

Only if its not raining at MM Park - which it wasn't that night

The venue

Just a lovely venue and performance

Great venue

Great atmosphere, terrific venue

I enjoyed sitting outside under the stars watching a wonderful production

Great atmosphere

Great venue and great execution

Venue is family friendly

A wonderful community venue!

To mix & mingle with people from all walks of life

I just love the venue I thought you should have charged a small entrance fee for adults as quite a few left at interval and it was such a great evening

Great atmosphere

Setting is amazing Great outdoor entertainment

Venue is great and it is the first event I had been to there

Love the venue

It was free lovely night and venue interesting story

We went as a part of a group and this venue loaned itself to adults and children alike so young families could be included.

Great venue

I love the Munro Martin Parklands and having locals performing was great.

I love outdoor events, free events, family activities

Loved the Munro Martin parklands, everything went well

Art and cultural inspiration

Art is important to life.

Indigenous cultural experience

Cairns needs some cultural events, music, art, performances!!!!

I already have a great interest in the arts.

Already motivated to attend arts & cultural events.

I like most kinds of shows

Affordable and entertaining

Just love the arts

Because attending arts and cultural events has always been something that fascinates me and I can always get a taste of other cultures without leaving Cairns.

I enjoy them

Because it was good

We attend a lot already

Any good performances mean you want to have another experience

I love music and it was a fantastic event at a beautiful venue

It's a reminder of how far Cairns has matured culturally, the days of amateur productions has passed.

Gimuy people are great and this is what we do. We do the arts good.

Proud of our cultural heritage and would like to immerse in it more

Because my wife and I enjoy going to concerts, musicals, etc

I enjoy the arts, and go to as many as possible

Local talent inspiration

It was a showcase of what Cairns has to offer

It was fantastic

To experience Cairns amazing talent

Important for us and CRC to support local art and artists.

Volunteers can do great things in a short time

Great to see local talent in Cairns

The level of talent is to be commended and encouraged

The degree of professional local talent here in Cairns is great.

Excellent local entertainment

Locally produced arts, including theatre and music allow our local artists to hone their skills, while telling stories about ourselves.

It was so awesome and all local

Showcased amazing local talent

It was a beautiful experience watching local people perform

To support cairns artistic culture

All local artistic endeavours deserve support

Other inspiration

Because I enjoyed it so much

It was a very enjoyable night

If this show was indicative, then yes yes

It's easy to get busy and forget that these events are available

Breathtaking

Great to see everyone getting out and involved. Great for kids.

It was amazing

It was a beautiful show

Went with a group which was great fun

Great show

Enjoyable evening

It was good clean, light entertainment.

Because it was an insight for many people on the beginnings of the north

It made me realise what was possible, even in a smaller place like Cairns! It was wonderful.

It's fun

Because I like learning about our city's history

Reminded me of the huge and wonderful cultural diversity of this area

It was a wonderful event to take the whole family

Good

It was just such a pleasurable and emotional experience that I thought I need to do that more often.

A great show

Uplifting

I have always enjoyed this type of event. Wonderful that Cairns City Council put this on a free event.

Because it was such a massive project which was inclusive for everyone

My kids enjoyed it so we'll go to future events

Good experience

I enjoyed the performance & which in turn creates the hope of repeating the experience

It was beautiful and spectacular. The theme resonated with everyone. I was part of the choir. I want to do it again.

Not Inspired

How do I say this in a nice way. I was embarrassed for Cairns. Some of the singers were atrocious. I understand the point of the show but the execution was dismal. This was not a good a good quality show to represent Cairns. I don't mean the content of the show it was the professionalism of the production.

Performance was not executed well.

Poor vocals and I believe the story line could of been more entertaining. I know it's true events but was quite boring there was a lot of talk about how fantastic it was going to be I didn't feel that when I left.

Very slow moving production. Singers singing obviously flat- disappointing. Sound and lighting very good.

Didn't like the content of the show. It is portraying negative side of white people (and I am not a white fella) very one sided. The Chinese actors were pathetic can't sing and you could have got a better English speaking cast. I can't understand a word they said. The story seemed to focus on how Aboriginals were hard done by with all the historical facts. I think there should be happier and positive notes about how everyone whites blacks browns band together to make Cairns a better place for all. And the Japanese were not mentioned. They have a huge impact to the tourism industry. Can't understand why the focus on Chinese!!! We left feeling unwelcome by the Aboriginal people to be living here. It is not a happy ending beginning story. Sorry won't support such program in future.

The concept was great but some of the singers were very disappointing.

Low quality production and a missed opportunity to express the truth about colonisation

Music, sound & lighting were good. Actors/main singers & dancers were terrible. This was like a bad school play. We left at half time - would have left earlier but didnt want to appear rude.

The performers gave it their all, but due to poor direction and very poor sound engineering, feedback, mic's off when performers were singing, a long with some of the performances being totally flat both speaking and singing roles, I believe this is an opportunity that was sorely missed. For all the hours and hours of rehearsal that went in to that show, I think the behind the scenes people really let their cast down, badly! The choir were amazing though, when we could hear them.

I felt it was not of a high standard

This is good for the feeling of belonging to a community, it made me happy

Very amateurish production. Embarrassing to listen to the vocalists

Depends who's involved

Very disappointed

Singing and diction let the rest down

It wasn't of a high standard

I left at interval. it was amateurish, slow, uninteresting, worse than a high school performance! very disappointing

It was way too long, the choir was not to be seen or acknowledged, some of the lead singers were painful.

I have been to several performances at Munro Martin Park and this was just not up to the standard of other performances there. The story line was unclear, the sound was not as good as other shows, bass kept booming, the calibre of the performers Was a little disappointing

It was cheesy at times and more like a high school performance. Some singers were good (Lenni Stone) but the Chinese people can't sing and spoke very bad English.

Boring

Many lead singers were poor. Choir needed to be highligted more. Overall sound was inadequate.

Less than half the lead performers should have been put on stage and asked to play a major role.

Despite the limitations of the performance (some of which was really good), the main difficulty was not being able to hear clearly (a combination of poor sound and other patrons talking loudly and constantly throughout the performance), I would love to see more at the venue. I will simply make sure I'm their earlier to get a position closer to the stage.

Cairns Festival (2018) - Audience

For enjoyment

It was very enjoyable.

I really enjoy outdoor concerts

They were enjoyable

Great atmosphere achieved by venue and performance

We really enjoyed the evening.

Enjoyed this so much :)

It was a lovely show, and the Parklands are a very beautiful, relaxing place to attend an event.

I enjoyed seeing a full size, quality orchestra. Also the town had a good buzz.

Quality of event

QSO is a fantastic orchestra. It was awesome to have them in Cairns. The special guest group were not really needed and was a flat spot in the night.

It's beautiful to see multiculturism

The standard was so high.

Cost

The variety and cost

Easy and cheap entertainment

First introduction

Relatively new to Cairns with a toddler and we want to explore more of our surroundings, culture, history, etc

More aware of what's going on in Cairns. I've been in Mareeba 9 years & never knew about the Festival

We haven't been to any others and now are looking forward to more events at next year's events

We were regular subscribers to the SSO & ACO when we lived in Sydney. More live classical music in Cairns would be most welcome.

Regular attendee

I always attend everything I want to anyway

Because we would go anyway!

I already attend heaps of things

I would attend any way.

Negative

Wasn't as good as past years. Particularly Carnival on Collins.

Wicked the Musical (2019) - Audience

Performance

So impressed with the calibre of the show. On par with the national productions!

This was excitement usually experienced with CCS performances. Early in the season so perhaps they will settle into the new space soon. a good quality performance. The sets were excellent. Felt it was missing the energy and

The standard of the production, the staging, costumes and performance were outstanding.

Love of theatre

It's been a while since I've been to a musical - Wicked was fantastic and reminded me how much I love them.

I love plays and musicals. Any good theatre production. I have recently moved from Sydney to Port Douglas.

We have a love of performing arts and wish we had more touring shows here so we didn't have to keep going to Brisbane.

Talent

Amazing talent in Cairns.

Showcase of local talent-easily comparable with capital city offerings

We should be very proud of the level of talent in our local community

Venue

The CPAC was amazing and I'd like to see other performances on the stage.

Great venue for more performers to come to Cairns

New venue made performance enjoyable

Professional

Very professional production, especially the orchestra, the sound quality, the sets and the costumes! The seating gave a really good view of the stage and the atmosphere in the theatre was fabulous!

The professionalism and quality of all areas of the production were outstanding.

Covid Live Recovery (2020) - Audience

Cairns Performing Arts Centre

Arts and Culture are essential to life and living.

Excellent performance.

Forgotten how much I enjoyed them pre-Covid

Getting out to the theatre is always in uplifting experience.

I love supporting local talent

Live performance is enjoyable

Live performances are always inspiring.

Live stage performances are wonderful

Live performance is special.

Well-presented and professional

Shows it is possible even now

Support the arts in general

Yes because it was good to get out and help out the local economy

Support local community

I go to arts events I am interested in and this was one

It didn't uninspire me.

There have been none I am interested in

Was not to my family taste

Tanks Art Centre

Because Greta is phenomenal.

Great venue

I enjoyed it and appreciated having something real to go to.

I like TANKS

I love them

I really enjoy the Arts

The venue is so unique.

Love love music.

Understory Film Festival (2020) - Audience

POSITIVE

Appreciation for art and culture

Because our family are entertainers

Being able to see a culmination of Cairns films was wonderful to witness and be apart of

I appreciate seeing the talent in our region.

Local special talent

It was enjoyable

I like short film

Love to see creativeness in all arts cultural events

See more emerging artists

The creativity and energy is wonderful.

Very welcoming and a good way to show off local talent

Venue

Great venue

The seat I had was great

Good to just get out of home

Networking

NEGATIVE

Already a supporter

Already attend as many as I can afford.

Already go to a lot of arts events

Because I attend them anyway

Because we go to whatever appeals

I already have the desire to.

I go to arts and cultural events. This was a film and award night,

Unchanged

Venue

As much as I like art in all forms, competition is what draws me every time and others. More people competing more people they bring too... Bigger amount of people coming bigger the hype! Like the red carpet entrance that was pretty hype!

Wrong venue.

If I was answering this question specifically on this one event then I would say no however the venue is far superior in terms of comfort and ease for patrons than the previous venue at the Tanks. Certainly a better attendance.

Film entries

It's not the fault of the organising side of things, I guess the submissions were of lower quality... but overall it felt like a school event as the majority of films were student submissions.

The quality of some of the films wasn't very high

APPENDIX K: UNANTICIPATED IMPACTS

Beginnings (2018) - Audience

About the performance

The Indigenous artists of this production were exceptional. When the leading female was shot, I wept openly with sadness.

It was a dreadful performance. If you want to do any of what you listed above you should put some proper planning and pay for lead performers. The background roles such as choir were well performed by the amateur volunteers. You need to set your expectations of what a performer is capable of doing based upon their level of experience and capability.

Cairns has a great showcase of talent.

The show was very good but it was too long / the story to be told

Some of the performers were criticized for lack of musical talent, but overall everyone did a great job.

Made me realise once more, how many talented people we have in various areas and how important it is to give space for them to express their talent for everybody to enjoy and for giving them a boost for trust in themselves and pursue their dream.

The engagement of local and very talented musicians was well worthwhile to demonstrate the cultural depth that exists here in Cairns. It was such a shame that it was only on for one night and so many people missed out on getting tickets. Such a lot of work for only one night's performance.

Inspires me to be on the lookout for more events.

I think it was a great performance

The stage set-up and everyone involved from the sound technicians, performers, security guards etc. was of a very high standard. I noticed that most people stayed right to the end which indicates that there was genuine interest in the performance.

Appreciation for talent and effort that was put in to putting on the production. As it was free - made me feel that the City valued its population to reward them with such a visual and artistic treat.

Wonderful

I enjoyed the show but a lot of singers where out of tune and 3 hrs is very long!

The choosing of people from all different cultures & walks of life to present an awesome cultural event.

I would like to see more events at this venue

Great to see the fabulous talent that's around

Great how it was

Beginnings was a competent amateur performance. I am pretty cognisant if the history and culture of Australia but it was nice to have a Cairns flavour to it

Provides a great new venue for amateur theatre

A fabulous event!

This performance is something shown nationally

Allowed me to appreciate the breath of local talent across our multicultural communities

Created strong personal and professional connections in the arts

About Cairns and Community

Made me leave wanting to know more about the people and history of Cairns.

If had info in booklet would also help, background info on the events etc.

This was amazing to showcase the history of this town and basically nation. As a traditional inhabitant of this land, its not about what happened back then anymore, we just want white people to see and understand what happened. Not looking for any sympathy or anything just to understand and educate themselves on what took place so that we can live harmonious together in love and peace now.

I had not really realised the big part the Chinese had in Cairns

Not only excellent performance but relevant to Cairns and FNQ and our first peoples history.

I didn't like the focus on how bad the Aboriginals were treated vs others. How about focusing on how everyone Aboriginal, whites, Asians have worked hard to make Cairns what it is today? I know many ATSI people who did 3 jobs and bought properties on acreage they brought their kids up all went to

Cairns Festival (2018) - Audience

Thank you! It was a great night!

Creates interest and talk with the locals.

Surprised by the number of people in Cairns who were interested in classical music.

Bringing the QSO here was fantastic for the city and we hope that they come back again. Was so nice to have freedom to wander at the Carnival without worrying about traffic - in fact we cycled there as did many other families.

Enjoyed my first trip to Munro Martin Park.

Also became aware of how small our city centre is. A benefit usually but it was bursting at the seams on firework night.

Cairns Festival (2018) - Producers

Project objectives being met

Strengthened community.

As an unfunded and financially under-resourced event the reliance on goodwill and existing relationships, particularly with Indigenous artists, was tested. In the future, resourcing discussions with the festival organisers will need to start from the appropriate financial arrangements for community and professional artists engagement and commitment process. The expectation of professional artists involvement will need to be a starting point for the events development so that there is no risk of being exploitative.

There are lots of areas in which to volunteer and participate in the community.

Personal impact

The project identified potential creative pathways that engage underrepresented artforms and combinations of artforms.

Professional development

Fun people to meet

Helping other businesses in Shields street be more engaged with the festival and bringing business to them.

Developing a production within an environmental / recreation reserve is challenging and has some artistic risk associated with it. The 2018 production provided insights to that process that will assist with future event planning and creative development.

It's evolving and improving yearly

Local art and culture sector

The ephemeral nature of site-specific production is transferable to many different environmental contexts, really anywhere in the city and surrounds can be engaged as a cultural and artistic site. This opens up the potential for artistic engagement and allows specific places to be interpreted through the lens of art practice. (Artist)

Met lots of lovely people in the public sector and staff. I was able to assist people with their queries and direct to right areas. (Volunteer)

Audience and community benefit

I found it very satisfying to help and participate in community events. (Volunteer)

I did not receive an artist's fee for involvement, however, I have provided a small budget to provide the artists involved with a token appearance fee. (Artist)

Wicked the Musical (2019) - Audience

About Cairns Art and Culture

I think you're doing enough to establish the readiness and enjoyment of culture in Cairns.

It reaffirms my love of live theatre in Cairns

It was an excellent performance and I think that if there are more musicals of this calibre in the future, word of the quality will spread which can only help CPAC and Cairns on the whole.

It would be good to see some international shows come to CPAC

Just want to say I love the cultural art works especially the Ghost Net piece from Erub Island.

Looking forward to bigger & better productions that will be able to come to Cairns because of our improved venue!!

Looking forward to more experiences at CPAC

People from all over come to watch

Put Cairns on the map

Put Cairns out there

We are as good if not better than the bigger cities

For the population of Cairns there are more than enough cultural and artistic venues. CRC needs to cater for locals, not tourists.

It's a good start but Cairns has a long way to go. Shows should be aimed at the greater area not just Cairns. Cairns has little to attract me as it is geared to the tourist and how much we can charge.

About the performance

All very enjoyable

Appreciation of talent in Cairns. Music soundtrack

Cairns Choral Society were a classy act with Wicked and great to have such talent in Cairns

Could match it with the capital cities

Enjoy opportunity to see talent from FNQ

Excellence of local productions

I am looking forward to attending many more events

I am proud to say this is what Cairns can offer. I took a relation from Sydney with me and they were impressed.

I believe Wicked opened my eyes to the amazing talent Cairns has to offer.

I took a visitor from the UK, and she loved it! We've seen the show in London, and it was just as great.

It made me appreciate the talent we have here in Cairns. The singers were wonderful.

It was a great show, but I expected nothing less

Local talent

Loved the performance.

Our local talent was incredible.

Showcases the broad and rich talent obviously available in Cairns. Having seen many shows in London, New York and Paris, Cairns

The costuming was excellent. As was the direction and staging. The weak point of the production was the singing, especially amongst the men. Overall the acting was good. The show just left me feeling unexcited. I would not spend money for this experience again.

The shows put on by our Coral society equal any I have seen in Brisbane and in London also

There is no need to travel to other Australian Capitals to see and enjoy presentations.

They did a good job with poor material

This is a community production produced to a high level

Top night thanks

Totally enjoyed experience

Very good.

We will get more people wanting to support the locals

Well done Cairns Choral Society for presenting such an amazing production. You make me proud. And thank you Bob manning & the CRC for delivering our community such a fantastic arts centre

Wicked was a great choice as the inaugural production for CPAC.

Wonderful to be able to see amazing theatre productions locally without having to travel down south.

Wonderful to watch all local production that are levelled with big city art productions. Once again well done team!

About the Venue

Cairns has long needed such a theatre. Now we have one and I'm delighted with it.

CPAC's visible and concealed design features are impressive

Great Indigenous artwork, inside and out.

Great venue for attracting artists and performers of every kind to our city.

High standard of venue & facilities. Fantastic.

I feel proud of my town's performing culture.

I just hope our reputation as an award winning venue for entertainment is recognised by the top performers

I look forward to many more visits to the venue

I think having a new, more vibrant venue will attract more artists

Locals appreciate a venue which is adequate.

Looking forward to my next visit there

Made me proud to be a Cairns resident

New theatre is lovely, but it doesn't cater for the future needs of Cairns, not spacious enough!

Provides a place of glamour

So proud of this new improved venue

The complex is a great asset to our region

This is a venue for Cairns to be truly proud of.

This venue is a great plus for Cairns and surroundings because it gives us more chances to see excellent plays and musicals.

Show was average, performance was mediocre and again the chairs were too uncomfortable

RADF Program (2021) - Grant recipients

A reminder about how many great creative and talented people there are in Cairns!

Amazing support from the industry and arts community in pursuing in the development of this project.

The results of the photography works project also added the importance of recording our cultural practices for our next generation to learn from.

Yes. the beautiful, surprising and very moving relationship with the trees.

There was an initial delay with the venue undergoing renovations, which meant that I had to apply for an extension. Then there were the COVID-19 restrictions, which occurred right at the time of instigating my community engagement element of the project. COVID also impacted the way I could engage with the public (no workshops or room brochures).

RADF Program (2021) - Grant recipients

A movement of increased health, passion and engagement for and from the environment as experienced by the artist and the audience. A new genre of music in collaboration with the trees. A new language in art.

There was a wide range of audience members who expressed desire to continue seeing youth productions, that champion young creatives in the region.

Yes definitely.

APPENDIX L: SUGGESTIONS FOR INFORMATION DELIVERY AND ADVERTISING

Cairns Festival (2018) - Audience

No suggestions

I think it was pretty well advertised

Thought you did a good job!

Not very well advertised

Not everyone is social media user!

Print media

Have Festival brochures available at lots of outlets like Newsagents or Newspapers including the Atherton Tablelands.

More consistent newspaper advertising, sometimes events seem to disappear from the paper

Posters of events, perhaps in shopping centres, along with hand out brochures

The pictures on the advertising look quite generic. I think it would be better show more pictures of past events to give people an idea of what the event is like. Advertising directly to school would be a good idea.

Maybe get the word out earlier away from Cairns

Sometimes more advertising is needed

Covid Live Recovery (2020) – Audience

No suggestions

No, its fine (n=9)

Frequency

Earlier notice of event and then a reminder please. More consistent newspaper advertising, sometimes events seem to disappear from the paper

If one is on an email list fine... but perhaps more posters around - In shops and notice boards to get new people involved.

Regular updates

Same information on social media as on the website

Do better surveys

Understory Film Festival (2020) – Audience

Print media

More advertising and more targeting of different age groups. Potentially advertise within schools more and youth. Pulling together large groups of young people is easier than you think!

Maybe email schools of upcoming dates as our schools Film and TV teacher, does not do social media, so was unaware of dates.

I did meet people who did not know about it. Maybe letter drops could help?

Post the venue timetable more clearly in advance

Use TV n radio

Will it be published in the Cairns Post on Monday of the winners?

No suggestions

Communication was great

Keep on going - getting the information to the public so the festival can grow. It was so good to see so much local content. And the calibre of entry was amazing

Cairns Children's Festival (2021) - Audience

Event Detail Reminders

I don't use social media, so email alerts to upcoming events would be awesome.

Provide clear details on social media. I had to search out different venue sites to find exactly what was on and when. But this is not really a problem.

Reminders about when I had booked.

Repetitive SMS exposure.

Increased advertising

Maybe advertise more. I didn't know it was on until my mum called and told me.

I didn't realise that the regurgitator event was part of the bigger festival and was surprised to see this upon arrival. Perhaps more communication regarding this when advertising for individual shows as part of the event would be more helpful.

Ticketing

The performance for Pogogo Show at the Tanks was great but friends of ours didn't get to come in with us as they capped the numbers. Perhaps making it a ticketed event next time? We didn't realise they would cap the numbers and that we wouldn't be able to attend with our friends which was very disappointing for our 7 year old. We all thoroughly enjoyed the show though!!

Other

A map with features and show times so I can prepare ahead

No, its fine (n=2)

APPENDIX M: PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Beyond the Waves (2020) - Producers

I learnt so much, and had the opportunity to be involved in a week long creative development which was one of the most special, and useful weeks I have experienced in my 30 year long career. [Artist]

Learning our body moves that commer our feeling the puppet. Production crew were right on point because we need approve ourself professional. I so grateful opportunity be part of DPS, CQU music students...etc more [Participant; Artist; Volunteer]

The creative professional collaboration returning to theatre after many years working in film - writing/directing working in collaboration with council and the dead puppets society and learning how to operate puppets/create live performance with puppets and working with talented team and working with CQU musical students working with my incredible, dedicated ARC performers opportunity to potentially tour the show professional development as a director - big learning curve - wonderful opportunity [Facilitator; Artist]

The high calibre of artistic input both local and state wide and the professionalism [Facilitator]

Working with Karen Jackson, velvet, props, the team and working with puppets [Participant; Artist]

Working with Karen Jackson, working with velvet, working with puppets and props and working with the team [Participant; Artist x 2]

Cairns Childrens Festival (2021) - Producers

Actually the expertise of the ARC workers who understand their participants so well that they could support them to bring a creative development into a full blown outstanding production. And that we do need to be seen as expert in our field and be in the consultation room when props are being designed for people with disability to use. To allow us the lead voice in giving feedback when something won't work.

RADF Program (2021) – Grant recipients

Creative problem solving towards the best outcome pushed my practice and me beyond my comfort zone.

Great challenge and personal artistic growth.

I developed a great team - invaluable. My team were happy in the process - priceless.

My personal experience was wonderful - other than the general stresses of managing a 3-month program for students, I was greatly enriched by the experience and inspired by the student's creativity.

New skills in online production due to variance required to present online.

Personally and culturally, it provided us the opportunity to pass on knowledge to the next generation about the subject matter that we were capturing.

RADF Program (2021) - Grant recipients

Great learning process for performance skills in public space and responding to unexpected circumstances.

Positive experience entering the public eye.

Tank 4 Exhibition (2021) – Producers

Community engagement is not a regular part of my art practice. Having access to the general public is a valuable service however it is challenging to predict the quantity and quality of those engagements. Although unpredictable I found the outcomes beneficial.

Exposure to see the wider community.

This was my first solo exhibition so I was proud of what I achieved with the assistance of The Tanks Team.

Court House Gallery (2023) - Producers

An opportunity to highlight Urban sketching at two wonderful venues (Scottsdale Artists' School and the Court House Gallery). A chance for the public to see Urban Sketchers and Urban sketching.	Cairns Sketchfest 2022 Exhibition
Frustration. Difficulty with understanding a project manager with English as a second language. Funding reporting program with error faults for a year. Not repaired after many reports to project officer.	Cairns Sketchfest 2022 Exhibition
Gained more confidence, can never guess who will buy your work.	Cairns Sketchfest 2022 Exhibition
I sold 3 pictures of 4 exhibited.	Cairns Sketchfest 2022 Exhibition
Opportunity to see and experience art from other urban sketchers chapters.	Cairns Sketchfest 2022 Exhibition
Our child is 4, so professional development is not really on her list of priorities although she was super stoked to be involved and it very much encouraged her to continue marking art.	Children's Festival
It's a walking the walk opportunity which is vital part of professional development.	I am who I was when I was ten Exhibition
My child likes pottery.	Insects Rule
The opportunity to bring 34 artists to exhibit as part of the Cairns Indigenous Art Fair who otherwise would not be able to participate.	Past, Present, Future Exhibition
Ideas for connecting to wider community.	Tell Me a Story Exhibition
Recognition on my PDP for engaging with the community.	Woven Stories Exhibition