

Media Release

The Hon Ros Spence MP
Minister for Multicultural Affairs
Minister for Community Sport
Minister for Youth



Monday, 24 August 2020

GETTING ONLINE TO CELEBRATE VICTORIA'S MULTICULTURALISM

The Victorian Government is encouraging multicultural communities to get innovative and find new ways to celebrate despite the coronavirus pandemic.

Minister for Multicultural Affairs Ros Spence today invited multicultural and multifaith organisations to apply for funding to help them hold events that celebrate the state's vibrant diversity.

Those events will look very different compared to previous years due to restrictions during the pandemic.

Funding for this year's *Multicultural Festivals and Events program* – which has supported thousands of projects over the past five years – will support online events and improve the IT capability of organisations to reach more Victorians.

Groups can apply to hold events held between 1 October and 28 February next year, with funding to flow through two grant streams:

- *Digital Festivals and Events Stream* (small grants up to \$2,000, medium grants between \$3,000 and \$9,999 and large grants between \$10,000 and \$50,000)
- *Digital Capability for Organisations Stream* (up to \$3,000)

Applications will close on 13 September 2020. For more information or to apply, go to vic.gov.au/multicultural-festivals-and-events-program.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Multicultural Affairs Ros Spence

"The pandemic has meant many changes – including the way we celebrate together – but we just need to think outside the box."

"We're helping organisations adapt to the challenge of this new environment by moving these celebrations into the digital space."

"There's no denying the celebrations will look different, but Victorians have shown amazing resilience and innovation and I look forward to seeing what these multicultural events hold in store for us."