

**Steve Dimopoulos MP** Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events Minister for Creative Industries



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## NGV HITS THE ROAD WITH BIGGEST EVER KIDS TOUR

The Andrews Labor Government is backing the largest ever NGV Kids on Tour program, with Australia's most popular gallery set to hit the road bringing free art and creative activities to more than 130 venues across the state.

Minister for Creative Industries Steve Dimopoulos today joined budding artists at the NGV to test drive the sculpture, drawing, collage and creative writing activities that are on offer through the program which kicks off today and runs throughout January.

The 2023 Kids on Tour program is taking place in galleries, libraries, paediatric hospitals, neighbourhood houses, migrant resource centres and community organisations in regional, suburban and metropolitan areas across the state.

Delivering fun and free activities in community spaces across Melbourne's inner and outer suburbs, the program will provide families with easy access to school holiday entertainment at more than 35 locations across the city.

Regional stops will span the state from Horsham to Bendigo and Warracknabeal to West Gippsland, offering local families access to creative experiences curated by the world-class team from Melbourne's NGV.

This year's tour celebrates the theme 'Let's Make Art', offering captivating and creative activities for kids and their families. The program also offers dedicated workshops for teens to help them hone their skills and build their portfolios, with leading artists sharing their expertise and experience with Victoria's budding creatives.

NGV Kids on Tour commenced in 2014 and is one of the ways the gallery is bringing the best art and creative experiences to Victorians of all ages, no matter where they live.

NGV's year-round outreach programs range from talks at regional galleries and loans of iconic items from the NGV Collection to online social activities for senior citizens and activities for people living in aged care.

NGV Kids on Tour is part of a massive summer of programming for kids and families at the NGV, which will see the NGV International and The Ian Potter Centre: NGV Australia come alive with free family activities for the Kids Summer Festival 2023 from 14 to 22 January.

Families can visit the NGV website at <u>ngv.melbourne</u> for a list of NGV Kids on Tour locations and other summer programs for kids.

## Quotes attributable to Minister for Creative Industries Steve Dimopoulos

"This school holidays we're delivering more free activities to families across the state, with the largest ever Kids on Tour program offering parents and kids memorable moments led by the world-class team at the NGV."

"Victoria is the creative state and the free NGV Kids on Tour program is one of the ways we are ensuring that all Victorians have the chance to unleash their inner artist and enjoy the best creative experiences close to home."

## Quote attributable to NGV Director Tony Ellwood AM

"Since its inaugural year in 2014, the Kids on Tour Program has demonstrated the NGV's commitment to providing Victorians of all ages with the opportunity to engage with art and design from around the world." **Media contact:** Corey Croft 0468 897 764 I corey.croft@minstaff.vic.gov.au