

Media Release

The Hon Natalie Suleyman MP

Minister for Veterans
Minister for Small Business
Minister for Youth



Saturday, 3 June 2023

2023 VICTORIAN YOUTH FEST RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

The Andrews Labor Government is supporting young people across the state with grants for youth-led events for the 2023 Victorian Youth Fest.

Minister for Youth Natalie Suleyman has announced 111 successful recipients of grants of up to \$2000 each to host events led by and for young people aged between 12 and 25.

The month-long celebration in September provides opportunities to showcase talents, grow networks and connect with creative like-minded peers.

Successful recipients include Victorian Afghan Students Association for the Afghanistan's Got Talent event to support young artists in the Afghan community. It will include an art exhibition, short story competition and singing contest.

Campaspe Cohuna Local Learning and Employment Network will host Kyabram Youth Expo, which will include an art exhibition and music performances, along with stalls providing information on local health, welfare, sports organisations, and youth services. More than 500 local students in Years 8, 9 and 10 are invited to attend.

Brophy Family and Youth Services will support their youth led LGBTIQ+ social group, YUMCHA Hamilton, which will join with other local youth groups to paint a mural to brighten the streets of Hamilton.

Applications supporting regional and rural events and underrepresented community groups were prioritised through the Youth Fest program.

For more information, visit youthcentral.vic.gov.au/youth-fest.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Youth Natalie Suleyman

"The significant number of applications received for 2023 Youth Fest funding is a true testament to the many hundreds of community organisations which are dedicated to the wellbeing of young Victorians."

"Youth Fest funding ensures young people across our state can host events that showcase their talents and provide opportunities to make connections within their local communities."

Quote attributable to President of Victorian Afghan Students Association (VASA) Shikofa Mazari

"VASA is extremely excited to receive a grant for 2023 Youth Fest, it provides us with the opportunity to foster the growth of art and amplify the representation of culture for the young, talented individuals in our community with roots to Afghanistan."