

The Hon Colin Brooks MP
Minister for Housing
Minister for Multicultural Affairs



Friday, 22 September 2023

## MORE SUPPORT FOR VICTORIA'S MULTICULTURAL EVENTS

The Andrews Labor Government is supporting Victoria's multicultural communities to celebrate, share and preserve their culture with a new round of festivals and events grants.

Regional communities will also benefit through the Regional Multicultural Festivals and Events Fund with more than \$1 million available to support multicultural festivals and events in regional Victoria.

This gives regional multicultural organisations the opportunity to celebrate and share culture and will drive more visitors to the regions, with no cap on funding requests.

Minister for Multicultural Affairs Colin Brooks today announced the opening of the next round of the Multicultural Festivals and Events Program funding for communities to deliver events between 1 January and 30 June 2024.

Grants of up to \$50,000 are available to organisations in metropolitan areas to host events that celebrate and showcase culture and strengthen Victoria's vibrant multiculturalism.

The *Victorian Budget 2023/24* invested a further \$12 million over four years in more than 25 multicultural festivals and events including the African Music and Cultural Festival, Melbourne Italian Festa, Lonsdale Greek Festival, Polish Festival, Hispanic Latin American Festival, Tamil Festival and Springvale Lunar New Year.

Since 2014, the Labor Government has provided more than \$25 million to deliver close to 10,000 multicultural festivals and events across Victoria.

Applications are open from 21 September until Friday, 27 October. For more information visit <u>multicultural-festivals-and-events-program</u>

## **Quotes attributable to Minister for Multicultural Affairs Colin Brooks**

"I'm so proud of the role the Multicultural Festival and Events program has played, and continues to play, in supporting Victorian festivals and events that showcase our state's dynamic cultural diversity."

"I fully encourage organisations to apply for this funding that will help bring your events to life, as these events are contributors to our multicultural spirit and the richness of community life here in Victoria."

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