

# Media Release

**The Hon Ben Carroll MP**

Deputy Premier

Minister for Education

Minister for WorkSafe and the TAC



Thursday, 15 May 2025

## BACKING STUDENTS LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

The Allan Labor Government is continuing to support not-for-profit organisations to take learning beyond the classroom – helping keep students engaged and excited about their learning journey.

Deputy Premier and Minister for Education Ben Carroll this week announced grants are now open for the next round of the *Strategic Partnerships Program* (SPP).

These grants provide funding to community-based organisations across the state to enrich and enhance Victoria's curriculum.

The grants allow organisations to provide learning opportunities to students beyond the traditional classroom setting, giving students the opportunity to deepen their comprehension and retention.

Current recipients have supported almost 90 programs that support more than 900,000 students and 20,000 teachers to learn beyond the classroom per year.

Previous grant recipients include the Art Gallery of Ballarat which is providing access to arts learning experiences, Footscray Community Arts centre delivering storytelling workshops from a First Nations Perspective and the Andy Thomas Space Foundation which is delivering STEM learning activities for regional schools.

Grants made through the next round will be for a two-year period, commencing from 1 January 2026 and concluding 31 December 2027.

To be eligible to apply for funding, an organisation must be either a not-for-profit organisation, a Victorian local council or local council run entity, or a Victorian Government department, agency or statutory authority.

The funding will help successful organisations deliver programs to students or teachers from Term 1, 2026.

Applications close 3PM 10 June 2025. Further details here: [Partnerships: Department of Education | vic.gov.au](https://www.vic.gov.au/partnerships)

### Quotes attributable to Minister for Education Ben Carroll

*"This funding will help inspire Victorian students and teachers by providing unique educational experiences."*

*"Victoria isn't just the Education State - we're the arts, culture and tourism capital of Victoria, and these partnerships bring the benefits of these sectors into our schools."*

*"We're excited to see the list of applications that are received through this round of applications and the wonderful experiences these will contribute to for young Victorians and those that teach them."*