



KIAMA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
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Kiama Arts Precinct

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Vision

Our vision for the Kiama Arts Precinct is to:

- provide an multi-discipline arts centre that offers exhibition, performance and public use spaces
- merge world-class urban design with historic preservation and environmental sustainability in the heart of Kiama's central business district
- create an iconic public building that celebrates Kiama's creativity, culture and environment
- provide an arts centre that will generate income revenues to strengthen our local economy
- stimulate activity and add character to the central business district and new Kiama East Precinct
- provide an inclusive artist driven environment that challenges participants through artistic expression and social commentary
- engage audiences across all abilities, backgrounds and life circumstances.



Our plan

Council is currently working towards the development of an Arts Precinct within Hindmarsh Park, Kiama.

Our aim is to use new and existing infrastructure.

Hindmarsh Park already boasts the outdoor Orry Kelly Stage and SENTRAL Youth Centre (including recording and rehearsal room, and smaller outdoor stage).

We plan to transform the Joyce Wheatley Community Centre into a working artist space with studio space, workshop spaces, and artist in residence opportunities.



The Old Fire Station Community Art Gallery will continue to operate.

However the development of a new Art Centre is planned for the site surrounding the Old Fire Station and the former Ambulance Station.



[Kiama Arts Precinct Development Plans](#)

What stage is the plan at?

- We are working with BHI Architects to finalise the art precinct designs to submit them for development approval.
- A \$12M funding application submitted to the NSW State Government's Regional Cultural Fund was unsuccessful.
- The purchase of the old Ambulance site is currently underway.
- Transformation of the Joyce Wheatley Community Centre will begin after our new Blue Haven Bonaira site is completed in late 2019. We currently use the centre to deliver our range of Blue Haven programs.

History

Our plan is backed up by a series of planning and community consultation documents spanning 20 years.

These documents identify the need for a multi-purpose art space in the Kiama Municipality.

They also identify Hindmarsh Park and the Old Fire Station Community Art Centre as the most appropriate location for an arts precinct.

Primary functions identified are::

- multi-function indoor theatre/performance place
- cinema
- spaces for workshops and classes
- additional gallery space
- connection with Hindmarsh park for outdoor performances.