



ARTIST CALLOUT Interplay Development Program

Nexus Arts is delighted to announce the return of our music development program, Interplay, in 2025

With the support of the Music Development Office, Nexus Arts is inviting contemporary musicians from First Nations and culturally diverse backgrounds to apply to take part in our flagship music development program that encompasses career guidance, a tailored mentorship, a creative intensive and a performance series. The yearlong program aims to bolster creativity, connection, and community in an intercultural and supportive environment.

If you're looking to deepen your creative practice, connect with other artists, work with a mentor, develop new skills and partnerships, hone your performance practice and connect with Nexus Arts and the broader South Australian music and arts industry, we welcome your application.

"Wow. Interplay has been such a feast for the brain and creative spirit. There is so much food for thought and insight into different creative processes and practices from other artists and industry speakers. I've loved connecting with these people and especially with my fellow Interplay artists as we're all developing musically and artistically in this program. It's a beautiful community!" - Ms Chipeta, 2024 Interplay Artist

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Artists taking part in Interplay will work one-on-one with Nexus' supportive and dedicated staff to support your individual career pathways and goals. You will also work with the other program artists in group sessions, including a 5-day creative intensive period where you will share, collaborate, and engage with other artists and industry leaders. You will be supported to identify and connect with a mentor of your choice to nurture your creative spirit and develop a meaningful relationship. You will work on a photo shoot, film a live music video, and perform at the Nexus Arts Venue, all while your creativity and community is fostered and enriched.

Throughout 2025, 6 program artists will take part in:

- One-on-one career development sessions with Nexus staff
- A personalised mentorship with a creative or industry professional
- A 5-day creative intensive at Nexus Arts with other program artists
- An individual photo shoot with an experienced music photographer
- A live music video shoot at Nexus Arts Venue
- Development of your Electronic Press Kit
- Artist group connect sessions
- A performance series at Nexus Arts

These activities will take place between January and December 2025, with key dates outlined below under the heading 'Your Participation'.

The program aims to provide dedicated space for artists to develop, share and connect, bringing contemporary musicians together in the spirit of intercultural communication, exploration and creation. If this sounds like the place for you, please keep reading!

ELIGIBILITY

Interplay is open to artists from both First Nations and culturally diverse backgrounds. Eligible artists must be creating and performing original music in any genre. You must be performance ready. We define this as being ready and able to perform a full-length (approx. 45 minutes) set of original music, if we were to offer you one today. If you're looking to form a band or to learn to write music, there are other opportunities that may be a better fit for you than Interplay. Please get in touch if you have any questions about this.

There are no age or experience restrictions for program involvement. The program will best suit artists looking to further engage in the music industry, who are seeking to build their professional practice by making primary income from artistic work. This program is best suited to artists working independently, without management, although all are welcome to apply. In 2025 we welcome applications from artists new to Nexus alongside those who have participated in a Nexus Arts development program prior to 2022.

YOUR PARTICIPATION

Involvement in the program is free. You are expected to attend workshops and artist connect sessions. Please talk to us if you think this will be a problem for you. One-on-one sessions with Nexus staff will take place at negotiated times which suit both parties.

You will have the opportunity to work with a mentor for approximately 15 hours over the course of the year. This can happen in person or online and can be self-paced depending on your schedule and mentor's availability.

You will be required to take part in a 5-day creative intensive at Nexus Arts from **Monday 28 April to Friday 2 May 2025**. This will be an exciting group collaborative music-making period,

with facilitation by leading contemporary music artists. You will be paid a weekly stipend of \$800 for this period, allowing you to take leave from other paid work.

As part of the program, you will perform once during the Interplay performance series, during November and December 2025. You will be paid for this performance, and the date will be negotiated with Nexus staff and other program artists. The performance will be one set (approx. 45-50 minutes) in duration, and you will perform on the same night as one other program artist.

Please get in touch if you have any questions about being involved in the program.

ABOUT OUR PROGRAM MANAGERS

Jennifer Trijo

Interplay Program Coordinator

Jennifer Trijo is a Filipino multi-disciplinary artist living and working in Kurna Country. She has achieved commercial success as an actor-singer-musician in music theatre having toured with several productions. She has played Baruska (accordion) in the Australian tour of *Once* (DTC | BSSTC | HOTA), Janelle Woods and Shirelle in *Beautiful – the Carole King Musical* (Matt Ward Entertainment), Ms. Mendoza in *The Deep North*, the first African-Australian musical (South Australian Playwrights Theatre); Hua Mulan, Pocahontas, and Badroulbador in *Disenchanted* (Mad About Theatre), and Kim in the Australian tour of *Miss Saigon* (LWAA | Michael Coppel). Since releasing her debut self-titled EP, she has composed approximately 100 original songs. Recent career highlights include being named a 2024 Finalist in the APRA AMCOS Professional Development Awards in the Music Theatre category for her musical *Dragonfly*, and winning a 2024 Green Room Award for Best Artist Ensemble with the multi-talented cast of *Once* the musical. She collaborates as a multi-instrumentalist with the Nexus Arts Orchestra and Hyoshi in Counterpoint ensembles, and performs and presents work at the OzAsia Festival and Adelaide Fringe Festival. Jennifer is a proud member of the MEAA.

Emily Tulloch

CEO & Artistic Director

Emily Tulloch is a musician and arts leader working on Kurna land. She is the CEO and Artistic Director of Nexus Arts, where she leads the organisation in promoting an intercultural vision of Australian contemporary arts. For 16 years, she has been a committee member of COMA (Creative Original Music Adelaide), the city's leading presenter of original jazz and art music. As a violinist, she was a member of Zephyr Quartet for 15 years, and with the ensemble created critically acclaimed and award-winning shows, performed internationally and across Australia, received two Ruby Awards for Innovation and three APRA/AMCOS Australian Art Music Awards. She has composed work for the Adelaide Youth Orchestra, Brink Productions, and ABC Radio National. Recent artistic projects include co-composing and recording the score for Restless Dance Theatre's 'Exposed', with her Zephyr Quartet colleague Hilary Kleinig, and the co-creation of the show 'Needle in the Hay: the music of Elliott Smith' which premiered at the Adelaide Cabaret Festival in 2023.

Kultar Ahluwalia

Marketing Assistant

Kultar Ahluwalia is a hip hop artist from Southern Adelaide, South Australia with Punjabi and Irish roots. At a young age, Kultar found wisdom in the empowering words of revolutionary hip hop artists such as Public Enemy and Ice Cube. Kultar has now crafted a unique style of hip hop that encompasses numerous influences, whilst remaining very much his own. Kultar is a multifaceted artist (and human being) – a rapper, singer, vocalist, poet, music producer – often handling all production, writing, recording and mixing from his humble home studio. Kultar wears his heart on his sleeve in his writing which often reflects the important aspects of his identity – having family from two different cultural backgrounds, being a husband, a father, an Occupational Therapist and Clinical Educator, and workshop facilitator. Kultar was a part of the Interplay Program in 2023 where he developed a new stage show and EP. He will be releasing and performing this material with a series of performances for the 2024 Oz Asia Festival.

TO APPLY

Please provide us with the following:

1. A brief personal biography which describes your music practice, background, and relevant achievements (300 words maximum).
2. Brief answers to the following questions (one page max. in total):
 - What would you like to gain from participation in this program?
 - What are your music career aims?
 - How do you think taking part in this program would help you achieve these aims?
 - Please identify at least one mentor you would like to work with. This can be either another artist or an industry professional you would like to learn from. This can be done either in person or remotely (online), so please consider mentors beyond South Australia.
 - Have you been involved in any mentoring programs similar to Interplay in the past? If so, please provide some detail about them.
 - One of the unique aspects of our program is the exchange of ideas between artists in the cohort despite the diversity in genres and backgrounds. Do you enjoy working collaboratively (e.g. workshopping ideas in a group situation, sharing and exchanging ideas)?
 - Is there anything else you would like to let us know about you or your arts practice?
3. Recordings of your original music (max 10 minutes). These do not have to be professional recordings – they can be demos, home recordings or smartphone videos. CDs can be sent to the address below, or you can direct us to up to 3 web links such as YouTube, Soundcloud or any other accessible web platform.
4. The name, email and/or phone contact of a referee relating to your musical experience. This might be another musician, a collaborator, or a teacher.

Please email the above information to info@nexusarts.org.au

You are welcome to instead submit your application via post or in person at our office in the Lion Arts Centre, cnr Morphett St and North Tce, Adelaide, 5000 (open Tuesday to Friday, 9.30-4pm). Please let us know if you would prefer not to submit a written application and we can arrange a time to meet to talk through your application process.

Applications will close at midnight on Monday 16 December 2024, with selected participants notified shortly afterwards and program activities commencing in January 2025.

For any information, please call or email us at 08 8212 4276 or info@nexusarts.org.au

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Nexus Arts



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Development
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