

New Footscray Hospital

***Journey to Footscray* – Additional Information**

Introduction

The new Footscray Hospital is one of the largest ever health infrastructure investments in Victoria. Located on the corner of Geelong and Ballarat Roads, the new hospital will support the increasing demand from Melbourne's western suburbs, ensuring that the local community can get the care they need close to home. Construction is now underway, with the hospital expected to open in 2025.

Art throughout the new Footscray Hospital will be calming, restorative and immersive. It will have an important role in providing users of the hospital with a sense of cultural safety, while improving health outcomes with positive distraction and connections to nature.

Footscray Community Arts is an arts precinct dedicated to sharing stories. Our vision is that all communities are makers of culture. As the official arts partner for the new Footscray Hospital, Footscray Community Arts has been engaged as curator for a series of integrated public art opportunities. Our role on the project is to connect artists with public art opportunities and support them to produce artwork which aligns with the curatorial vision of the project.

Plenary Health - delivering the New Footscray Hospital Project in partnership with the Victorian Health Building Authority and Western Health - are commissioning ***Journey to Footscray***, an integrated artwork which shares stories of migration to Melbourne's western suburbs.

Curatorial Framework

Known for its food, bustling markets and artistic vibrancy, Footscray is a place with a rich history and strong sense of community which embraces all people. ***Of Place*** is used to describe the overall curatorial framework for the integrated public art in the new Footscray Hospital, which captures the lively spirit of Footscray and celebrates all that makes the western suburbs so special.

Art at the new Footscray Hospital emerges from its history and cultural heritage. Art is part of place, reflecting the people who live there and the land they call home. ***Of Place*** is inspired by the people of Footscray, who make it one of the most exciting places in Melbourne.

Of Place aspires to build integrated public art experiences that reflect the diverse, creative and hardworking communities who live here and who have lived here in the past. It provides connections to the natural environment, a provider of life and sustenance to its people for thousands of years.

Of Place is deeply grounded in the Cultural Heritage of Footscray, supported by four key themes;

**First Nations First,
Waves of Migration,
Communities Heal and Thrive, and
Renewal and Regeneration**

These themes build a narrative which ensures the integrated public art for the new Footscray Hospital connects to the history of the communities of Footscray, reflecting what makes this area home. The themes acknowledge the role of Footscray's cultural heritage in making Footscray the vibrant and thriving place that it is today – a place to heal and grow.

Artists with pre-existing connections to the west are invited to delve deep into the history of the local area to discover, uncover and share its stories.

About the Opportunity

Journey to Footscray invites an artist to share their migration story.

The work welcomes visitors to the new Footscray Hospital at the main entrance with a tactile artwork, connecting them with the social narrative and history of place and facilitating a sense of arrival. Drawing on stories of journey and migration, this work will be deeply grounded in place to reflect the people who live in Melbourne's west.

One artist who is culturally and / or linguistically diverse will be commissioned to explore common themes associated with migration and meanings of home.

Journey to Footscray will draw upon the experiences of one artist and their community, however will aim to reflect common and shared experiences of migration which emphasise themes of departure, arrival, transition and home. The artist may use forms of community engagement or consultation

to collect stories of migration that can also inform the work and represent more voices and perspectives. These stories could be woven into an abstract depiction that emphasises and celebrates place.

The artwork may be multi-layered to encapsulate the intersecting social histories and identities of the local area of Footscray. It may incorporate text or intricate patterning to engage people at eye-level and encourage users of the hospital to connect more deeply with the place that they are in.

Scope and Locations

The precast concrete, with its rich and earthy colour and texture is intended to connect people to the natural environment. The precast walls across two locations have blocked out recesses to provide an integrated constraint for an artist to work within. The design of these recesses frame the curatorial vision for Journey to Footscray, reinforcing narrative and change with a pattern that grows and alternates.

The surface has been sandblasted with a roughened texture, embracing opportunities for contrasting tactility. Material such as stone or metal may also be inserted into the recess sections of the precast and the artwork may extend out of the recesses and over the precast surface.

There are eight (8) locations within the façade precast where this artwork has been allocated. All block-outs are 20mm deep and are within the front face of the panels.

The precast locations include;

1. 3 x precast block-outs (face of panel) near the main entry from Ballarat Road.
2. 5 x precast block-outs (face of panel) on the way to the patient and community spaces. -, providing the pedestrian connection from the corner of Geelong Road and Federal Street. This location is in close proximity to the Village Green, a common open area that will connect the users of the hospital with the natural environment.

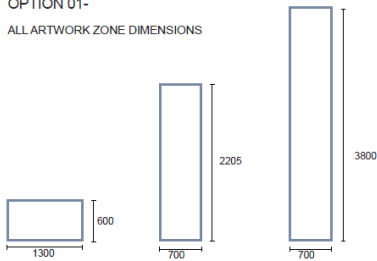
The artist is also invited to create an artwork for the vision strip decals on the ground floor of the hospital. This artwork could be an aspect of the precast artwork (if suitable), or a work which relates to the precast artwork, reimagined as a decal print.

Location images

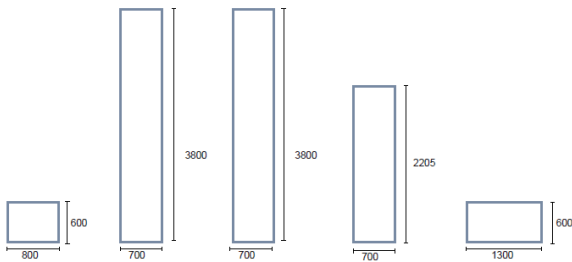


PRECAST PANEL BLOCKOUTS FOR ARTWORK
OPTION 01-

ALL ARTWORK ZONE DIMENSIONS



MAIN ENTRY- LOCATION 01



SOUTHERN WALLS - LOCATION 02

How to Apply

Please note that we accept applications in languages other than English. Footscray Community Arts will have your application translated.

To apply for this opportunity, please submit the following through this [link](#). If you experience and issues with the [link](#), please submit your application via email to lucy@footscrayarts.com.

- An artist CV highlighting your track record of artworks and relevant experience.
- Up to 10 relevant images of past artworks.
- a short, written response to the call-out information (up to 500 words), highlighting your interest, experience and skills.

Footscray Community Arts is committed to meeting access needs for applicants. If you would prefer to submit your application in an alternative way (eg. through an in-person or Zoom meeting), please get in touch with Lucy Buxton (Producer) at lucy@footscrayarts.com or +61 3 9362 8806.

Shortlisting Criteria

1. Artist connection to Melbourne's west and who has lived experience of migration.
2. The artist's track record, as demonstrated by the support material showing previous work.
3. Evidence of appropriate skills in relation to the artwork opportunity.
4. The suitability of the artist's work to the context and history of Footscray.
5. Artist's interest, availability and commitment to the project.

Have a question?

If you have any questions about this public art opportunity for the new Footscray Hospital or the application process, please contact Lucy Buxton (Producer) at lucy@footscrayarts.com or +61 3 9362 8806.