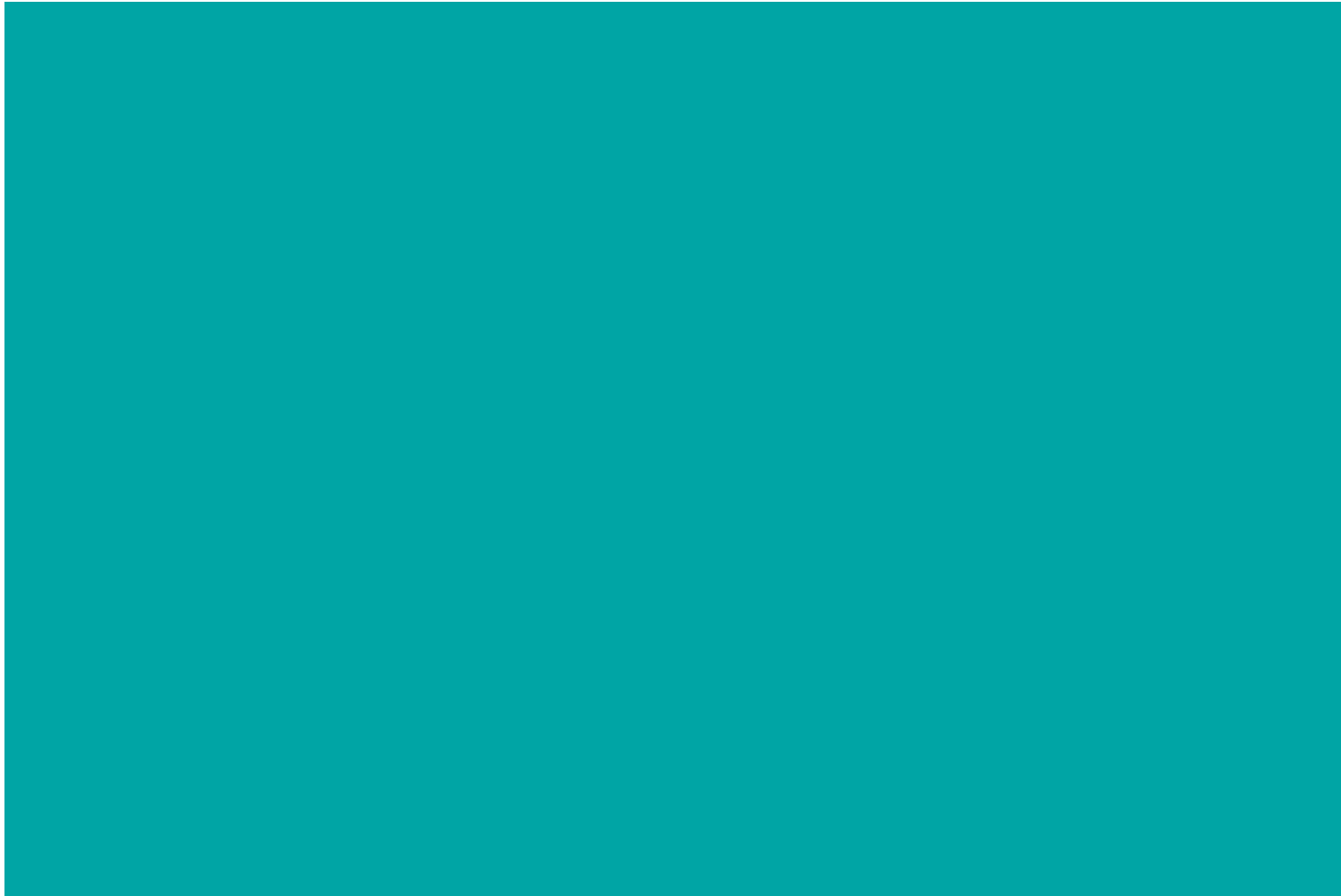

Expression of Interest

Public Art Project

Uncontained Arts Festival 2026, Kogarah



Acknowledgement of Country	3
Accessibility.....	3
Overview.....	3
Statement of Business Ethics	3
Project scope	3
Site location and specifications	4
Artwork Categories	6
Project schedule	7
Budget	8
Application and selection process	8



Acknowledgement of Country

Georges River Council acknowledges the Bidjigal people of the Eora Nation, who are the Traditional Custodians of all lands, waters and sky in the Georges River area. Council recognises Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as an integral part of the Georges River community and values their social and cultural contributions. We pay our respect to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who live, work and meet on these lands.

Accessibility

If you require this information in a format that is accessible to you (such as Auslan, [Easy English](#), and large print), please contact Marsha Canning, Public Arts Specialist, between 10.00am and 4.00pm Monday – Friday, on (02) 9330 6444 or museumgallery@georgesriver.nsw.gov.au

Applicants are welcome to contact the Public Arts Specialist to guide them through the process of applying to ensure that all applicants have a good understanding of the EOI and an equitable opportunity in applying.

Overview

Georges River Council aspires for public art to be an everyday experience as it has the ability to tell local stories and builds a sense of place and community identity.

Georges River Council is seeking Expressions of Interests from Artists/Teams of Artists for the creation and installation of temporary artworks/performances to be a part of 2026 Uncontained Arts Festival.

The Uncontained Arts Festival increases the cultural vibrancy of the area, expands, and challenges the ideas of what 'art' is, allowing it to break free from the traditional gallery space and letting it take over the streets, as well as give a platform for local artists to showcase their works. You can learn about the Uncontained 2025 program here: [Georges River Council - Uncontained Arts Festival](#)

Statement of Business Ethics

Council is committed to conducting business in a sound and ethical manner. Responding Organisations and individuals **must** read and familiarise themselves with Council's Statement of Business Ethics provide on Council's website by clicking on the link provided [here](#).

Consultants are encouraged to review the following documents prior to applying:

- [Georges River Council Community Strategic Plan](#)
- [Create Georges River \(Cultural Strategy\)](#)
- [Georges River Public Art Policy](#)



Project Scope

Georges River Council invites Expressions of Interest for artworks to be a part of the 2026 Uncontained Arts Festival.

The Artists/Teams of Artists will be required to cover:

- concept development,
- design,
- installation,
- staffing and
- deinstallation.

Festival Information

- Dates: **26 – 28 June 2026, approx. 4:30pm – 10:00pm** (each day of the festival).
- Location: **Belgrave Street, Kogarah.**

About Uncontained Arts Festival

Now in its sixth year, the Uncontained Arts Festival has become one of Georges River Council's largest community events which has attracted over 40,000 people.

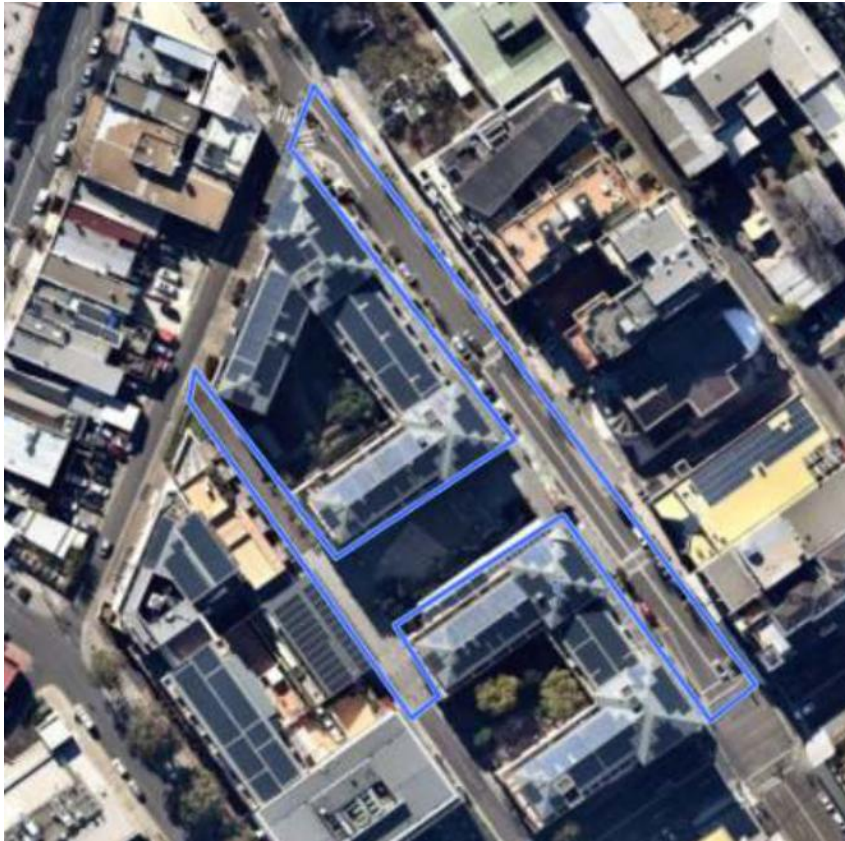
Two shipping containers are brought into the centre of Kogarah, forming the unique festival. Community are encouraged to explore in and around these pop-up artworks. Bringing together interactive large-scale installations with small discoverable artworks, our community will uncover incidental art experiences, and immersive activities involving performance, sound, light, and colour.

The Uncontained Arts Festival will be an accessible event, inviting people from all walks of life across all abilities to take part in a celebration of our city's creativity.

Site Location and Specifications

The key locations for the Uncontained Arts Festival will be Belgrave Street, Kogarah (between Kensington Street and Railway Parade) and Kogarah Town Square in Sydney, New South Wales. Please see highlighted area on map below. The outdoor artworks must be safe for public interaction and durable to withstand all outdoor environmental conditions, particularly, high winds. Successful artists are responsible for providing weights as per engineer specs and need to account for the cost of these. Artworks must not require subsurface footings. Limited power is available, so please indicate if your work would require power/ a generator.



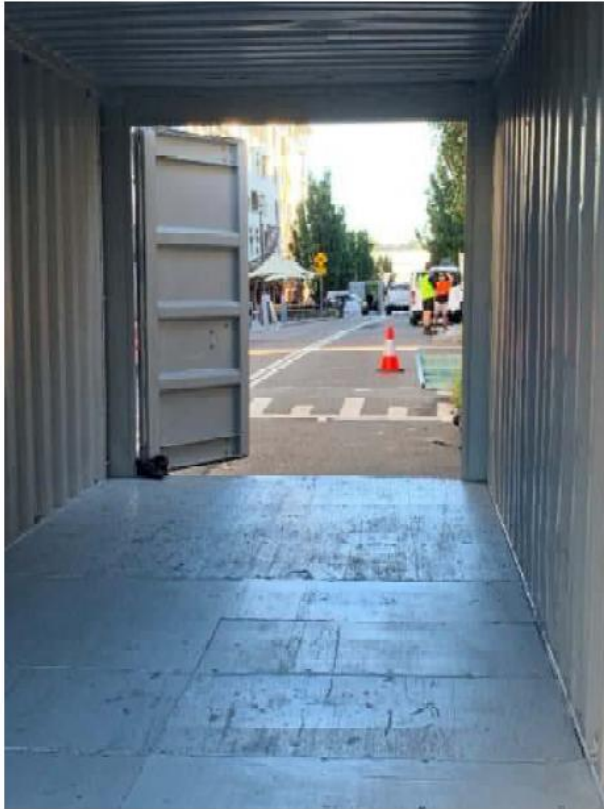


Kogarah Town Square, and Belgrave Street, Kogarah, NSW 2217

Container dimensions

External	
Length	6.06m
Width	2.44m
Height	2.59m
Internal	
Length	5.90m
Width	2.35m
Height	2.39m

Images highlighting the interior and exterior of the containers:



Artwork categories

In your application, indicate which of the four categories listed below apply to your submission. If you wish to submit multiple EOI's, please do so on separate forms.

1. Large scale interactive artwork

- The large-scale artwork should be **engaging and enjoyable**, with broad community appeal, while also challenging traditional art concepts through contemporary practices.
- **Two shipping containers** are available for use, but their inclusion is optional. Artists may drill into or attach components to the containers if desired.
- Artworks must be accessible, durable, and suitable for outdoor conditions, including high winds.
- Engineering certification is required for all free-standing structures.
- Due to road closures, there is only one day available for both installation and bump-out.

2. Installation artwork

- These artworks may be **small to mid-scale mixed-media** constructions, created for a specific location and intended to remain in place for a fixed duration.

- Installations can include **light, sound, digital elements, and moving parts** to create an engaging experience for audiences.
- Exact placement of artworks will be determined based on the festival site map.
- All free-standing works must have engineering certification to ensure safety and compliance.

3. Performance art pieces

- Performance art should be designed to **engage a wide and diverse audience**, incorporating a range of **media and creative elements such as music, sound, dance**, and more.
- Works must be suitable for **outdoor presentation** and should aim to challenge and expand the concept of art in public spaces.

4. Mural artists / Live Street Art

- Artists are invited to **create live artworks during the festival**, including on the exterior walls of a shipping container.
- Street art may take many forms, such as **aerosol painting, stencilling, murals, chalk art** on roads, and more.
- These activations are intended to be **dynamic, visually engaging**, and contribute to the festival atmosphere.

Project Schedule

Expressions of interest open	Monday 17 November 2025
Expressions of Interest close	Midnight, Sunday 14 December 2025
Council closure period	24 December 2025 - 6 January 2026
Successful artist/s notified by	COB, Friday 30 January 2026
Uncontained Arts Festival	26, 27, 28 June 2026 (Artists must be available on these dates.)
Official opening of Uncontained Arts Festival (all artists/team of artists invited to attend)	Friday 26 June 2026, 6pm (TBC)
Installation/bump in	Early morning Friday 26 June and must be completed by 3.30pm that day.
Deinstallation/bump out	Post event Sunday 28 June 2026 and must be completed before 4.00am Monday 29 June as roadways are required to reopen

Deinstallation/bump out must not begin until crowds have dispersed, and the event staff have approved it is safe to proceed.

Please note a detailed information pack outlining festival requirements will be provided to successful artists.



Budget

Artists are requested to submit a detailed budget with their Expression of Interest for the creation and installation of their work. The entire budget for the projects must include:

- artist fees,
- materials,
- engineering certification,
- ballasts,
- production/fabrication,
- transportation/travel,
- installation/deinstallation costs of the artwork,
- wet weather contingencies,
- and staffing costs across the festival inc. meal breaks.

Due to lack of storage space on site, equipment cannot be stored prior or post event and will need to be delivered on install day and removed off site during bump out.

Please factor wet weather contingencies if needed as well as staffing. Previous installations have found that invigilation and interpretation of artworks are necessary, as well as queue management due to the high number of visitations throughout the festival.

Please note: If Council is required to hire equipment on your behalf this will be deducted from the agreed upon budget.

Application and Selection Process

Stage 1

Artists/Artist teams are invited to submit an Expression of Interest via [Smartygrants](#). Artists/Artist teams will be required to provide the following information in their application/s:

- Artist statement (max 200 words)
- Provide a written design proposal (max 400 words, reference selection criteria)
- Specify any power/electricity, performance space, sound and safety requirements associated with the project.
- Detailed budget and indicative timeframe for completion of the project
- CV (max 2 x A4 pages per artist)
- Up to 5 images of relevant previous work (submitted as PDF or PowerPoint file, up to 5MB)
- Please note: No detailed concept drawings are required at this stage.

Stage 2

From the received Expression of Interest applications, Artists/Artist teams will be shortlisted to develop a proposed concept design for the public artworks.

Stage 3

The successful artists/artist teams will be commissioned with the final design and installation of the artworks.

Selection criteria

Expressions of Interest in Stage 1 and concept designs in Stage 2 will be assessed against the following criteria that has been shaped by the Georges River Public Art Policy:



- Reflects excellence in contemporary art practice and standards of high quality
- Presents creative, original, and innovative ideas
- Appropriateness to the context of the project brief
- Technical feasibility and ability to successfully realise the proposal/work
- Site specific design that enhances the liveability and distinctiveness of our Local Government Area (LGA)

Insurance and risk management

Successful Artists/Artist teams are required to hold current Public Liability Insurance of \$20,000,000. Any additional insurance and risk management requirements will be discussed with the successful applicant.

Successful artists would need to conduct/supply a Risk Assessment of the proposed artwork in the context of the site. Please take into consideration risks in terms of install and bump out, achieving timelines, and budget.

Successful Artists will be required to:

- Liaise with Community & Culture staff as required through development, installation, and display of the project(s).
- Act in accordance with Council's [Code of Conduct](#) and Statement of Business Ethics.
- Provide all requested information and complete all tasks/ projects in a timely manner, in accordance with any timelines or deliverable dates associated with the EOI and commission, if successful.

Further information

Please contact Marsha Canning, Public Arts Specialist, for further information, on (02) 9330 6444 or museumgallery@georgesriver.nsw.gov.au