

ANAT + MAP mima Residency

Form Preview

Key Information

Expression of Interest: ANAT + MAP mima Residency & Commission

Budget: \$7,500 **Applications due:** 9 April 2027 **Project delivery date:** 28 August 2027, exhibition to open 17 September 2027 **Open to:** All creative individuals, groups, or companies

About the Opportunity

The Australian Network for Art and Technology (ANAT) and the Multi-Arts Pavilion, mima (MAP mima) are partnering to present a unique **Residency and Commission opportunity** for 2026.

This initiative will bring together an **artist and a scientist** to collaboratively develop a new immersive artwork for MAP mima's cutting-edge **360-degree projection Cube**. The project offers space, time, and resources for deep experimentation, encouraging creative and scientific perspectives to merge in unexpected and transformative ways.

The Australian Network for Art and Technology (ANAT) and Lake Macquarie City Council (LMCC) are co-sponsoring the commission.

MAP mima Immersive Artwork

Lake Macquarie City Council is seeking proposals for an immersive digital artwork responding to one or more of the following suggested themes:

- 1. Living Landscapes: The Intelligence of Ecosystems
Exploring the hidden relationships, interconnected systems and forms of intelligence that sustain the natural world—from underground fungal networks and plant communication to the movement of water, weather and wildlife. Artists are invited to reveal the complex rhythms of ecosystems and imagine new ways of understanding humanity's place within the living environment.
- 2. Temporal Dimensions: The Nature of Time
Investigating how time shapes our perception of reality, from geological transformations and evolutionary processes to fleeting moments of human experience. Through simulation, generative imagery, time-lapse, data visualisation and speculative environments, artists might explore overlapping timescales, imagined futures, lost histories or worlds where time behaves in unfamiliar ways.
- 3. Synthetic Realities: The Future of Human Experience
Examining the increasingly blurred boundaries between physical and digital worlds, from virtual environments and augmented realities to digital twins, simulated landscapes and synthetic identities. Artists are invited to question how technology reshapes our understanding of reality, memory, identity and place, and to imagine new forms of existence at the intersection of the real and the virtual.

Proposals may also explore themes independently chosen by the artist and scientist team.

MAP mima is a dynamic venue supporting diverse contemporary art practices. The primary exhibition space, 'the Cube,' is a **360-degree immersive projection environment** with digital mapping capabilities on the walls and floor. The space can also transform into a hybrid stage with two lift-up walls that open to the surrounding park.

This EOI seeks artists and scientists willing to work with immersive projection, light, and sound to activate the Cube with a work inspired by the aforementioned themes - whether

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through **scientific inquiry, cultural perspectives, storytelling, ecological thinking, or experimental approaches to technology and media.**

Artists/Scientists can apply to:

- Create a **new** immersive work commissioned specifically for MAP mima
- Receive funds towards the **development** of new work, along with technical assistance/training
- Exhibit **existing** works adapted for the Cube space

Artists and scientists should submit details about their practice, their approach to immersive digital storytelling, and examples of previous work.

Residency

The selected artist-scientist collaboration will be offered a stay at the Lake House, Lake Macquarie City Council's dedicated artist residency space. The Lake House provides a practical base for concentrated research and creative development while situating artists directly within the local environment and community.

The Lake House offers essential facilities and proximity to MAP mima, the Museum of Art and Culture, and surrounding cultural infrastructure. This proximity enables artists to engage with the local creative ecosystem, connect with community networks, and access the Cube for testing and experimentation.

About ANAT

The Australian Network for Art in Technology (ANAT) is a national organisation that supports artists working at the intersection of art, science, and technology. Since its establishment in 1988, ANAT has been a leading advocate for experimental and interdisciplinary creative practice, fostering collaborations between artists, researchers, and technologists to explore new ways of thinking and making.

ANAT facilitates artist residencies, research opportunities, and commissions that encourage bold, innovative approaches to art and technology. By partnering with scientific institutions, universities, and industry leaders, ANAT creates opportunities for artists to engage with research in fields such as artificial intelligence, robotics, environmental science, and immersive media.

About MAP mima

MAP mima is a state-of-the-art creative venue that serves as a platform for contemporary art installations, digital screenings, performances, and interactive experiences. The name **mima** (pronounced me'ma), an Awabakal word meaning '**cause to stay**', reflects the venue's intention to interweave ancient and emerging cultural narratives.

With advanced projection, sound, and lighting technologies, MAP mima provides a space for artists to experiment with immersive storytelling. The Cube's unique architectural features allow for a fully enclosed digital experience or a hybrid stage open to the natural surroundings, making it an ideal setting for a celestial-themed artwork.

Site & Audience

MAP mima is located in Speers Point Park, the most visited public space in the Lake Macquarie region, with over **400,000 visitors annually**. It connects with contemporary public artworks, the Warners Bay entertainment hub, and the Museum of Art and Culture, yapping. The venue acts as a cultural activator, presenting immersive digital experiences, theatre, music, and workshops.

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Project Objectives

- **Amplify voices and ideas**
 - Provide a platform for artists and scientists to showcase original, experimental work that brings forward diverse perspectives and new ways of thinking.
 - Strengthen the visibility of cross-disciplinary collaboration between art, science, and technology in an immersive public context.
- **Nourish creative practice**
 - Support the development of ambitious new work through dedicated residency time, technical support, and financial investment.
 - Foster an environment where experimentation, risk-taking, and innovation can thrive.
- **Adapt to shifting contexts**
 - Encourage flexible and responsive approaches to artistic production that engage with ecological, cultural, and technological change.
 - Build resilience in artistic practice by equipping participants with the capacity to work in complex, interdisciplinary environments.
- **Transcend conventional boundaries**
 - Enable bold, immersive storytelling that pushes beyond traditional gallery or stage formats.
 - Inspire audiences by transforming MAP mima's Cube into a space of encounter where art, science, and lived experience converge.

Budget

- **\$7,500** for the commission, covering artist fees, materials, and production costs. The MAP mima team will support installation.
- **\$1000** stipend during stay at the Lake House.
- The artwork will be permanently loaned to the **Lake Macquarie City Council Collection**.
- The artist/scientist will receive **50% payment upon concept approval** and **50% upon installation**.
- The artist/scientist must budget for all costs, including fees, insurances, and necessary equipment.

Responsibilities

- Deliver a complete, fully functioning projection artwork for installation at MAP mima.
- Participate in project documentation (video/photography).
- Optional: Facilitate community workshops (separate fee and scope to be negotiated).

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Selection Criteria

Selection will take place in **two phases**:

Phase 1 - Initial EOI Submission (Current Phase)

Artists must submit:

- Contact details
- A current CV (max. 2 pages)
- Examples of previous relevant work
- A **brief concept statement** (max. 500 words) outlining the proposed immersive artwork, its engagement with the Cube, and its experiential impact. Alternative submission formats (sketches, sample videos, storyboards) are welcome.

Selection considerations:

- Alignment with the project's theme and objectives
- Artistic originality and innovation
- Technical feasibility and artist/scientist's experience with immersive media

Phase 2 - Final Selection

Selected artists will be required to submit:

- Refined artistic statement
- Detailed project schedule and budget
- Proof of Public Liability Insurance (if applicable)

Eligibility

- Open to **national and international artists and scientists** (individuals or teams).
- Teams may include external fabricators or collaborators.
- **Lake Macquarie City Council staff** and **MAP mima architecture team members** are not eligible.

Key Dates

DetailDeadline

EOI application opens 6 Nov 2026

EOI application closes 9 April 2027

EOI applications assessed Late April 2027

Artists contracted/notified Early May 2027

Artwork installation 28 August 2027

Exhibition Opening 17 September 2027

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How to Apply

Applications close at midnight AEST on 15 April 2026.

For further inquiries or to submit your application, please contact:

David Rastas Curator, MAP mimaLake Macquarie City CouncilP: 0447 297 335E:
drastas@lakemac.nsw.gov.au

Contact Details

* indicates a required field

Applicant *

☐ Individual ☐ Organisation

Organisation Name

Title First Name Last Name

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Applicant ABN

The ABN provided will be used to look up the following information. Click Lookup above to check that you have entered the ABN correctly.

Information from the Australian Business Register	
ABN	
Entity Name	
ABN Status	
Entity Type	
Goods & Services Tax (GST)	
DGR Endorsed	
ATO Charity Type	More information
ACNC Registration	
Tax Concessions	
Main Business Location	

Must be an ABN.

Applicant Primary Address *

Address

Applicant Primary Phone Number *

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Applicant Primary Email *

Must be an email address.

Applicant Primary Website

Must be a URL.

Would you like to be on our Creative Lake email list?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Other:

Artist / Scientist

Artist

Title First Name Last Name

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Email

Must be an email address.

Scientist

Title First Name Last Name

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Email

Must be an email address.

Relevant Experience (Artist)

CV

Current CV relevant to the opportunity (maximum 2 pages)

Attach a file:

Or link to current CV relevant to the opportunity.

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Must be a URL.

Please outline your experience relevant to this project.

Example 1: Previous work

Attach a file:

Example 2: Previous work

Attach a file:

Example 3: Previous Work

Must be a URL.

Relevant Experience (Scientist)

CV

Current CV relevant to the opportunity (maximum 2 pages)

Attach a file:

Or link to current CV relevant to the opportunity.

Must be a URL.

Please outline your experience relevant to this project.

Creative Concept

Selection will be structured in multiple phases.

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Phase 1 – Initial EOI (current phase)

A brief concept statement about the design/purpose and application. Please note the concept statement can be submitted in written (no more than 500 words), rough sketch or digitally rendered form, or whichever medium is most suitable for the individual artist or artist team to communicate their ideas.

Please note this is not a request for a refined artistic design.

Creative Concept 1

Word count:

Must be no more than 500 words.

Concept 1 Attachment

Attach a file:

Concept 1 Attachment

Attach a file:

Concept 1 Link

Must be a URL.

Declaration, Review and Feedback

* indicates a required field

Please keep a saved copy of your application form and any related material for your records.

A PDF of your submitted application form will be emailed to the registered email address of the person submitting this application.

Please keep a copy of the PDF and related material that you attached/uploaded to the application.

Declaration of the Applicant

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, all the information in this application is correct. I agree that if successful, images relating to this project can be reproduced by Lake Macquarie City Council for the purpose of promoting this project.

Please type your name and details below to certify the information. Typing your name will be taken to be as binding as a signature.

I declare the above to be true *

☐ Yes

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Your full name

Date

Must be a date.

Feedback

We would value any feedback you may have regarding our online expression of interest process.

Please indicate how you found the online application process:

☐ Very easy ☐ Easy ☐ Average ☐ Difficult ☐ Very Difficult

How long did it take you to complete this application?

Please provide us with any improvements and/or additions to the application process/form that you think we need to consider: