

# Argyle Diamonds Ord Valley Muster

---



## Expression of Interest

Mellen Events is seeking expressions of interest from innovative community artists, to become the resident artist of the Argyle Diamonds Ord Valley Muster. The Muster runs from 25 May to 2 June 2012 in Kununurra, Western Australia. However, this position will involve facilitating community engagement in the Kimberley region pre festival and during the 10 days. The artist in residence will be required to deliver an installation representative of the landscape, the people and the party of the Ord Valley Muster and Kimberley region. In total, the artist will be required to reside in the community for approximately 3 weeks. The installation will be on display at different events and activities throughout the duration of the celebrations.

From humble beginnings in 2001, the Ord Valley Muster came to life quietly as a simple one night affair – a pleasant dinner in the outback for local businesses. Since then it has grown at light-speed to establish itself as a pre-eminent event in the national festival calendar with investment provided by the entire community. Featuring well over 30 varied events across an exciting fun filled 10 day festival, the Ord Valley Muster is a celebration of the Kimberley region, and the community that call this natural marvel home.

The artist we seek would be willing to develop the creative concept of the visual arts element of the festival, by pitching to us their ideas of involving the community in a major piece that will be on display during the course of the festival. We ask the applicant to consider a project that celebrates the region and all it has to offer. We would require the installation to be produced in the lead up to the event, with involvement from all aspects of the Kimberley community. Engagement with the local and indigenous community is very important aspect of this project.

It would be favorable for the resident artist to facilitate workshops in the lead up to and during the Ord Valley Muster where community members can come and collaborate to add their own element to the project. The proposed community engagement needs to focus on key sectors of the community which are youth, indigenous and families.

The selected artist will be awarded a \$6,000 budget including fees and materials, as well as being provided with freight, flights, vehicle, trailer and accommodation to attend and facilitate the project in Kununurra. The piece will be transported around selected community events by the artist on a standard open trailer (6ft x4ft), so it is essential it can be strapped down and secured, as well as withstand travelling at high speeds.

The successful artist will provide his/her own Public Liability Insurance, and hold a current drivers license. While every effort will be made to support the resident artist, applicants must be self-reliant and confident in taking full control of the project and the networking involved in developing support groups to complete the piece within the Kimberley community.

The proposed installation needs to consider:

- Budget and regional limitations
- Being displayed in an outdoor environment
- 1 – 2 hr bump in / 1 – 2 hr bump out
- Fully compliant with health & safety regulations
- Respond to the theme and focus of the Argyle Diamonds Ord Valley Muster – “The Landscape, The People, The Party”

Interested artists are invited to email Nikki Graski at Mellen Events **no later than Monday 10 October 2011** with:

- A short blurb, no more than one page, detailing your plans for a suitable project, and ways in which you would incorporate the local community into these plans.
- A budget detailing costs associated with your proposal
- Resume(s) outlining previous work and experience (including web links if applicable)
- Full contact details.

This is a wonderful opportunity for any contemporary artists with an interest in the artistic elements of outback Australia, and who can see the value of community spirit and engagement, by participating in such an admirable and rewarding festival, The Argyle Diamonds Ord Valley Muster.

## Links and further information

Visitors Centre <http://www.kununurra.com.au/en/default.htm>

Australia's Northwest <http://www.australiasnorthwest.com/>

Warmun Art & Community <http://www.aboriginalartonline.com/regions/warmun.php>

## Contact

Nikki Graski

Event Manager

Mellen Events

EM: [nikki@mellenevents.com](mailto:nikki@mellenevents.com)

PH: (61) 08 9382 2677

Proposals should be sent to [nikki@mellenevents.com](mailto:nikki@mellenevents.com) no later than **Monday 10 October 2011**.