

Victoria's state government gives \$200,000 for Greek Independence Bicentenary



Applications for events funding close on 3 February

Multicultural organisations can apply for funding for events to be held between March and June this year.

Acting Minister for Multicultural Affairs Shaun Leane today opened the Multicultural Festivals and Events Program, aimed at helping diverse communities to come together in a COVIDSafe way in order to celebrate their culture and traditions.

The funding recognises the important role of community connection and celebration and is geared towards celebrating events held either in person or in digital form. A requirement of the program is for in-person events to adhere to the COVIDSafe Public Events Framework.

With the entertainment and events industry one of the hardest hit because of the pandemic, this funding will help bring more life and colour to the state, celebrating our vibrant cultural diversity, whilst ensuring the health and safety of all Victorians.

In March, Victoria's Greek community will celebrate the 200th anniversary of Greek

independence – a significant occasion on the cultural calendar. The state government will invest \$200,000 to support celebrations, an election commitment which had been made to Victorian Greeks who make up the largest Greek population in the world outside of Greece.

“I can’t wait to see Victorians out celebrating the 200th anniversary of Greek independence in March, our dedicated \$200,000 funding will help it be COVIDSafe but importantly, a milestone to remember,” the minister said. “We have much to celebrate here in Victoria and this funding will ensure that, after such a challenging year, festivals and events are supported to take place.

“Projects funded will celebrate our rich cultural diversity whilst supporting the revitalisation of Victoria’s economy.”

This year’s funding also includes \$50,000 to support organisations holding Hindu celebrations, events and festivals.

Applications close 3pm on Wednesday, 3 February. For more information or to apply, visit vic.gov.au/multicultural-festivals-and-events-program.

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