# [REIMAGINING ARTS FUNDING](): Livestream Chat Transcript
# 28 January 2020

**Allie:** Hi everyone!

**Alayna:** 👋

**Jessica Hutchinson:** Hey streamers!

**David wombat lyons:** glad for closed capationing

**Kate Stephens:** very difficult (almost impossible) to hear people in the audience who are speaking.  Can they be given a microphone so we can hear them?

**Kate Stephens:** Thanks

**Jessica Hutchinson:** I saw less pressure on mental health professionals and doctors who are trying to keep artists healthy/together.

**Amandine:** The scope got dazzling for me, because suddenly unique """designer products""", small scale crafts become something everyone can have. How different would things look if everyone could dress and decorate with unique things?

**David wombat lyons:** what are they chatting a bout in the small groups?

**Amandine:** "Spitballing ideas to fund the arts that are NOT government funding"

**Jessica Hutchinson:** Non-govt funding options (for money):
- brand sponsorship
- crowd funding
- credit cards (if you're Kevin Smith funding Clerks)
- philanthropy
- (for film/tv) distributors
- Sugar Daddy/Mother

Funding options (for time)
- day jobs (ugh)
- artist residencies
- professional networks who provide motivation/feedback at key stages of the creative process, so you're not 'wasting time'
- move back home (ugh)

That's all I got lol

**pippabailey:** I think dismissing Govt funding isn't the answer. Its how to rechannel that interest and attention. I have just been working in the social services sector where communities are renegotiating Govt Funding. The arts could learn a lot.

**Amandine:** The entire point of this even is that gov funding is being cut, and typically comes with constraints that are exclusionary (like citizenship requirements). It's why we're even here :)

**Kate Stephens:** Ron Brown at OzFlix runs seminars on alternative funding that might be of interest to some people here.

**Creatrix Tiara:** Yes, this meeting is entirely focused on funding that isn't Government -

**Creatrix Tiara:** We can have discussions about Gov funding some other time but not for today!

**Creatrix Tiara:** One more minute!

**Amandine:** One thing that comes up a lot - I'm in crafts specifically - is the idea of making Very Expensive Commissions to bankroll more affordable or public work. I don't like it because it means catering to luxury clients, but it's basically the same dynamic as client work

**Allie:** I'm really interested in business solutions (for orgs rather than individuals). I've worked for a lot of orgs that had lots of underutilised resources and the attitude seemed to be that utilising them would distract from the art. I think that we need to change our thinking around that. Resources like cafe's/bars, venue hire, public space, even rooftops can become revenue generators or community/audience building tools which will create a healthy ecosystem around the art

**Amandine:** It's pretty common here in Sweden! Since "fika" culture is basically sacred, most arts places also have a café

**pippabailey:** There is a lot of talk around about systems change and the arts have a big role to play in this to address the climate emergency. Artists instinctively know they have a role but are too often missing from the conversations. 'business' in terms of the existing models are simply not going to work for the arts now.

**pippabailey:** The big question is who is paying and how did they make their money. Are these values aligned with yours?

**Kate Stephens:** Please speak up

**Allie:** That's a great point Pippa. I was talking more about arts businesses diversifying their own revenue by operating symbiotic businesses alongside their art. For example, owning and operating the café in the foyer instead of leasing it out

**pippabailey:** Thanks Allie, That can be really productive and can add other values - connections to new audiences, etc. Some muses in sydney worked with the local community to save a Bowlo and its now a great live music venue.

**pippabailey:** *musos* not muses

**Allie:** That's awesome!

**Amandine:** Re: rich allies, my prime network is fellow programmers and that turns out to be quite convenient x)

**Kate Stephens:** What about every time you have an event like this, people can set up a stall to sell their goods and food could be sold and returns divided

**Jennifer Reuter:** hello, I hope this works?

**Jennifer Reuter:** been trying to work out how to join the chat for the last ten minutes haha

**Creatrix Tiara:** You're here noq!

**Creatrix Tiara:** *now

**pippabailey:** Hi Jennifer

**Jennifer Reuter:** okay awesome, thanks!

**Jennifer Reuter:** I've joined other zoom that's before and I always thought it didn't work for me coz they were dead silent xD

**Jennifer Reuter:** *zoom chats

**Jennifer Reuter:** I'm actually chipping away at a comic right now I'm hoping to crowdfund to print in a few months

**Jennifer Reuter:** so very relevant and interesting stuff to listen to

**Jennifer Reuter:** thanks for setting up the Livestream!!

**Jennifer Reuter:** oh and hi pippa!

**Allie:** I must have missed something. What's happening now?

**Amandine:** Break time

**Jennifer Reuter:** ^

**pippabailey:** What would it look like if you as an artist or small company were the 'voice' of your local community? Would it change your work?

**pippabailey:** That's a general question… :-)

**Jennifer Reuter:** I have question: it was great to see so much talk about building community as a core mechanic to help with lifting the arts. But organising and managing community long term is, frankly, a full time job and terrifying, so what are the first steps after this talk to wet our feet in engaging our local communities and help it grow in that direction?

**pippabailey:** What scares you?

**Jennifer Reuter:** people managing, in particular learning the skill of honest conversation in conflict situations and handling trouble cases. Also just the general overhead of organising a community; I would have no time to create. :') So I guess it's better to learn via already existing localities.

**pippabailey:** There are many ways i which communities are already organised…so you may not have to organise them but join them. Everyone has networks and its how to reach into other networks. There is a lot of focus on social mediaa and online networks but actually arts bring people together in real space real time and that is the strength to my mind.

**Jennifer Reuter:** yeah so that's what I'm aiming for, I just don't know where to engage that's outside of my usual entertainment communities

**Jennifer Reuter:** thank you for the answers at the in-person event!

**Kate Stephens:** What about joining a local business networking group

**Amandine:** Those vary a lot quality-wise, and it's easy to end up with start-up types who don't really… understand how arts work

**Amandine:** We're working on an embroidery art collective here, and the "creating in a vacuum is hard" thing is core to why. Even more than the strengths that come with being several, it's about having a forum to ask for feedback and advice!

**Kate Stephens:** Meditation for ideas

**Jennifer Reuter:** I'm actually heading to a business event in a week or so, giving that a go at least!

**Jennifer Reuter:** that sounds really cool though, good luck with the embroidery group!

**Amandine:** Thanks!

**Amandine:** And yeah, business events can teach you a ton. They're often infuriating, but you can still take a lot from them

**Amandine:** If only about boring things like taxes, registration, etc

**Jennifer Reuter:** haha the one I was in before was quite pleasant. I certainly had to test my communication skills but people were quite receptive! Hopefully this next one will also be like that

**Jennifer Reuter:** I think I find it more hard to retain individuals I meet? I'm a low social energy person so I pick friends who I get along very well with as people to keep up with frequently.

**Amandine:** A big thank you! :D

**Jennifer Reuter:** yeah this was pleasant to listen and thanks to the peeps in this chat too for your explanations and answers!

**Kate Stephens:** Maybe a pitch night and invite investors

**Kate Stephens:** Thank you

**Jennifer Reuter:** ������������

**Creatrix Tiara:** Thank you everyone!!!