



MEDIA RELEASE

NATIONAL GALLERY OF VICTORIA

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NGV Kids on Tour 2025 partners with more than 150 community venues across Victoria this January to offer FREE art-making activities

Various locations and venues across Victoria | January 2025 | FREE



20 December 2024: Get ready for an artistic adventure these summer school holidays! **NGV Kids on Tour** is back this January with free school holiday art activities for kids across Victoria, including making a playful cat and dog ear headband, illustrating a Kusama-inspired pumpkin, and creating fashion designs for paper dolls. The 2025 NGV Kids on Tour marks the largest ever program to date with more than 150 venues participating across metropolitan and outer metropolitan Melbourne and regional Victoria, from Thomastown to Colac, Mildura to Swan Hill, Eltham to the Yarra Ranges. The Tour will reach galleries, libraries, hospitals, migrant resource centres, community hubs and more.

Coinciding with the NGV's summer exhibitions *Yayoi Kusama* and *Cats & Dogs*, NGV Kids on Tour celebrates the work of local and international artists and designers, as they draw inspiration from the colour and vibrancy of nature and the world around them.

In celebration of the *Cats & Dogs* exhibition, children can design a **Furry Friend Headband**, a set of cat or dog ears inspired by their own beloved pets or furry animals in their lives that they can take home and wear.

Kids across Victoria will also be able to enjoy the work of iconic Japanese artist Yayoi Kusama in the **Lots of dots with Yayoi Kusama** activity and children's book. Pumpkins have appeared in Kusama's artworks since a young age growing up on a seed and plant farm, and this drawing activity invites children to add their favourite colours and designs to dots on a pumpkin and write a short poem about the humble fruit. While young ones will be able to spot big dogs, little dots and shiny dots in Lots of dots story time sessions.

Melbourne-based fashion designers and sisters Fatuma and Laurinda Ndenzako from slow fashion label Collective Closets celebrate the beauty and history of the African continent through their designs. The designers have developed the **Fashion, Culture & Creativity with Collective Closets** activity where kids and families will create paper dolls and design their own vibrant clothing for the dolls to wear.

Children will learn about bogong moths in the drawing activity developed by Dr Deanne Gilson, a proud Wadawurrung woman living on her ancestral Country of Ballarat. In the activity **Bogong Moths with Dr Deanne Gilson**, kids will discover fascinating facts about the special Australian insect including how it avoids predators and its important place in our ecosystem.

NGV Kids on Tour also invites teenagers to learn about the creative practices of emerging artists and build skills for their own art portfolios through an activity developed with Gamilaroi Yinarr weaver and textile artist **Sophie Honess**.

Designed especially for teens, the **Make a Pompom with Sophie Honess** activity invites participants to create a bush flower-inspired pompom using yarn, embroidery thread and colourful felts to use as accessories on bags or key chains.

Colin Brooks, Minister for Creative Industries, said: 'Australia's most popular gallery delivers again with the return of these incredible, free kids programs, ensuring kids of all ages can continue to learn, create and have a whole lot of fun over the school holidays. No matter where you live, the free NGV Kids on Tour and NGV Kids Summer Festival programs are just two ways we are providing more Victorians with access to quality, free creative experiences this summer.'

Tony Ellwood AM, Director, NGV, said: 'In 2024 the NGV Kids on Tour program reached over 10,000 children across Victoria. This summer the Tour once again extends free art-making activities to kids and families throughout the region through partnerships with over 150 participating venues. The NGV is committed to ensuring all young Victorians have access to enriching creative experiences whether that be at the Gallery or through the Kids on Tour program visiting their local community.'

The NGV Kids on Tour program aims to share the joys of art and creativity with children and families across Victoria by partnering with community-minded venues and organisations over the summer holiday period. NGV Kids on Tour takes place in January 2025 at venues across regional and metropolitan Victoria. For individual program dates visit the websites of the venues listed below.

NGV extends sincerest thanks to Event Partner Officeworks, for their generous support of NGV Kids on Tour 2025.

NGV programming for children and families at the Gallery this summer includes Yayoi Kusama's *The Obliteration Room*, 2002 in the Children's Gallery and the NGV Kids Summer Festival running from 11 - 17 January 2025. The Festival offers free events for families at NGV International and The Ian Potter Centre: NGV Australia, including hands-on workshops and activities inspired by NGV's newest exhibitions, *Cats & Dogs* and *Yayoi Kusama*.

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NGV KIDS ON TOUR PROGRAM: <https://www.ngv.vic.gov.au/kids-on-tour/>

IMAGES: <https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/whtnqldhtdnsur60zrd1t/APV-bUrzw1IXNVho3FsfajUE?rlkey=v0vmv5k8wqsag9sovnlaqakr6&st=5pvpzajy&dl=0>

IMAGE CAPTIONS: A child enjoying the Fashion, Culture & Creativity activity. Photo: Eugene Hyland; Family enjoying activities as part of NGV Kids on Tour 2025. Photo: Tobias Titz; A child having fun with the Lots of Dots with Yayoi Kusama activity as part of NGV Kids on tour 2025. Photo: Eugene Hyland; Kids having fun with the Lots of Dots with Yayoi Kusama activity as part of NGV Kids on tour 2025. Photo: Eugene Hyland

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NGV Kids on Tour 2025 Participating Venues

Portland Arts Centre	Julia Gillard Library
Ararat Gallery TAMA	Kalkallo Community Centre
Artists for Kids Culture	Kaniva Library
Arts Centre Warburton	Keilor Library
Avondale Heights Library	Kilmore Library
Ballan Library	Korumburra Library
Ballarat East Neighbourhood House	Kyabram Library
Banksia Gardens Community Services	Kyneton Library
Bannockburn Library	Lalor Library
Baw Baw Arts Alliance	Latrobe Regional Gallery
Beechworth Library	Leongatha Library
Bell Park North Primary School	Leopold Library
Benalla Art Gallery	Lerderderg Library
Bendigo Art Gallery	Lorne Community House
Box Hill Library	Manor Lakes Library
Braybrook Library	McClelland Sculpture Park and Gallery
Bright library	Melton Library & Learning Hub
Broadford Customer and Library Service Centre	Meredith Community Centre
Broadmeadows Library	Mernda Library
Bunjil Place Gallery	Mildura Arts Centre
Burrinja Cultural Centre	Mill Park Library
Calvary Millward	Millers Homestead
Caroline Springs Library and Learning Hub	Monash Children's Hospital
Carrum Downs Library	Moonee Valley Library Van
Castlemaine Library	Mooroopna Park Primary School
Central Goldfields Art Gallery	Mornington Library
Chiltern Library	Mount Beauty Library
Clunes Warehouse	Myrtleford Library

Cobram Library	Nhill Library
Colac Library	Niddrie Library
Connie Benn Centre	Notting Hill Neighbourhood House
Corio Library	Oakleigh Library
Craigieburn Library	Orbost Arts Centre
Cranbourne Library - Casey complex	Pakenham Library
Creswick Hub	Patterson Lakes Library and Community Centre
Croydon Library	Phoenix Park Neighbourhood House
Dandenong Library	Point Cook Library
Dandenong South Primary School	Portland Maritime Museum
Darley Neighbourhood House & Learning Centre	Pyramid Hill Neighbourhood House
Daylesford Library	Queenscliffe Neighbourhood House
Deer Park Library	Rainbow Library
Diamond Valley Library	Refugee Migrant Children Centre
Different Journeys - Club Kilsyth	Richmond Youth Hub
Different Journeys - Greensborough RSL	Rochester Library
Dimboola Library	Rosebud Library
Doncaster Library	Rushworth Library
Doveton Library	Sam Merrifield Library
Dravidian Art	Seaford Library
East Gippsland Art Gallery	Seymour Customer and Library Service Centre
Echuca Library	Shepparton Library
Edenhope Library	Springvale Library
Eltham Library	St Albans Heights Primary School
Emerald Library	St Albans Library
Endeavour Hills Library	Sunbury Library
Euroa Library	Sunshine Library
Fitzroy Youth Hub	Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery
Fleetwood Primary School	Sydenham Library
Flemington Library	The Factory Rehearsal
Footscray Library	The Memo Healesville
Frankston Library	The Pines Library
Geelong West Library	The Royal Children's Hospital - Yalingbu Yirramboi

Gippsland Art Gallery	The Venny
Gladstone Park Library	Thomastown Library
Glen Waverley Library	Tongala Library
Glenelg Libraries	Trentham Library
Glenroy Neighbourhood House	Tullamarine Library
Greenvale West Community Centre	Vietnamese Association in Hobsons Bay Inc
Haddon Community Learning Centre	Wallan library
Hamilton Art Gallery	Wangaratta Art Gallery
Hampton Park Library	Warrnambool Library and Learning Centre
Hastings Library	Watsonia Library
Heywood Library	West Footscray Library
Hoppers Crossing Library	West Gippsland Arts Centre
Horsham Library	Whittlesea Library
Horsham Regional Art Gallery	Williams Landing Library Lounge
Hyphen Gallery Library	Wonthaggi Library
Ivanhoe Library	Yarra Ranges Regional Museum
Jeparit Library	Yarraville Library