

Molly Hadfield Social Justice Oration 2026

Presented by Darebin Arts

Access Guide

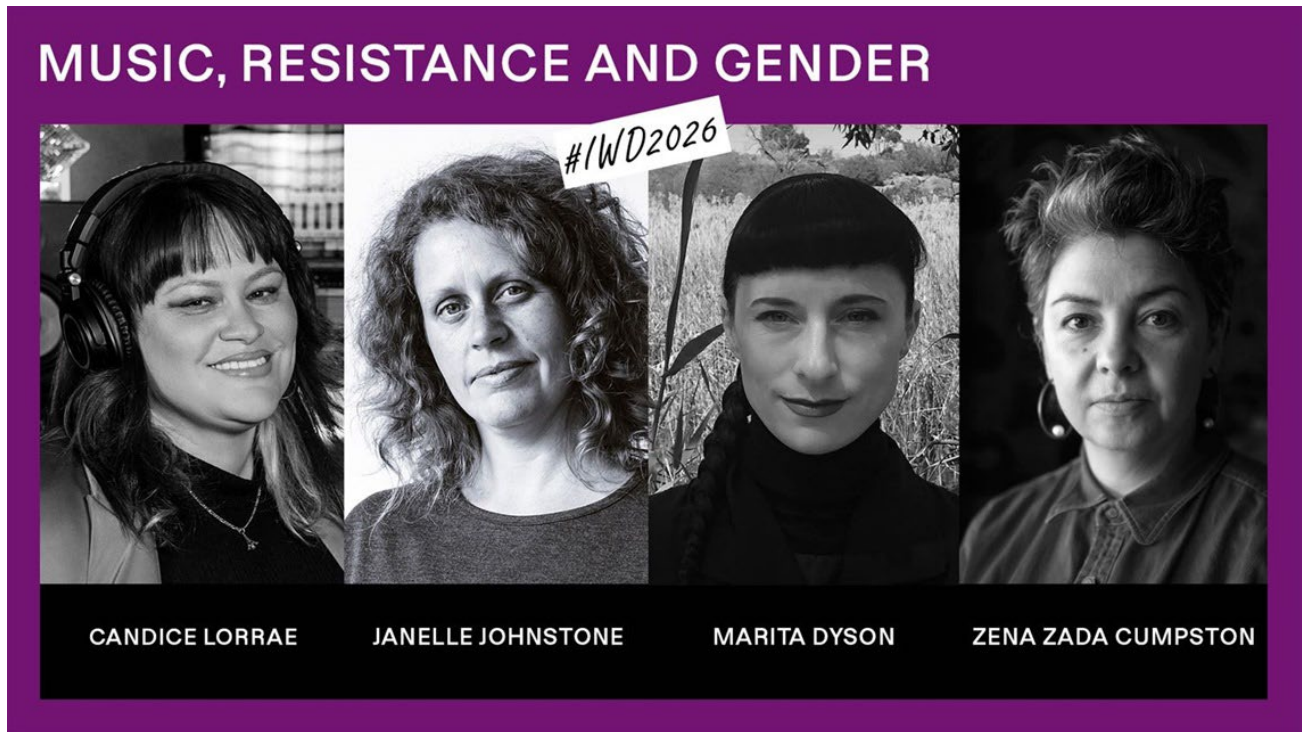


Image description: Four black-and white photos of the speakers of the 2026 Oration framed in a purple background. From left to right: Candice Lorrae in a music studio, with dark hair, wearing headphones and a black shirt, looking at the camera and smiling; Janelle Johnstone, with curly hair and a grey shirt, looking at the camera with her head slightly to the side; Marita Dyson outside with a field behind her, looking straight at the camera with black hair and a black turtleneck top; and Zeda Zada Cumpston, with short hair and a button-up shirt, looking straight at the camera.

Updates to this document

Please note, the details of the event may change in the lead up to the event. We will endeavour to provide the latest access information on performances to ticket holders prior to the event taking place.

The Darebin Arts website will contain the most up to date version of this document and all ticket holders will be notified of major revisions prior to the event.

This document was last updated: **Thursday 26 March 2026**

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Where

Darebin Arts Centre
401 Bell Street
Preston VIC 3072

When

Wednesday 1st April 2025

Doors Open: 6pm

Entertainment in foyer: 6:30pm – 7pm

Oration: 7pm – 8.30pm approximately (may run a little over time)

Access Services



The oration will be Auslan interpreted.



Assistance Animals are welcome.



Assistive Listening: Darebin Arts Centre has a Phonic Ear Hearing Augmentation System that provides assistance to people with hearing aids or people with hearing loss that do not wear hearing aids.



Quiet/Low Sensory Space provided. Please ask staff or follow signs to its location.



Visual Rating 50% – this event is mostly talking-based with visuals to support the sounds, so d/Deaf and Hard of Hearing audiences can have some engagement with the event.



Aural Rating 75% - This performance is mainly sound-based with visuals only incidental to the performance, so blind and low vision audiences have close to the full experience of the event.



This performance is fully wheelchair accessible.

Orators (Speakers)

The orators speaking in the Oration will be Candice Lorrae, Janelle Johnstone and Marita Dyson. The MC will be Zena Zada Cumpston.



Image description: Candice Lorrae looks at the camera. She has curly brown hair and is wearing a sheer shirt and a large black hat.



Image Description: Janelle Johnstone looks at the camera. She has shoulder-length curly hair and is wearing a grey shirt with stripy black and white sleeves.



Image Description: Marita Dyson is outside in a field, looking straight at the camera. She has black hair and is wearing red lipstick and a black turtleneck and black coat.



Image description: Zena Zada Cumpston, with short dark hair, looks at the camera. She's wearing hoop earrings and a blue button-up shirt.

Sensory Elements

Sound

The sound for this event will be amplified talking into microphones through a PA system.

Lighting

There will be very simple, colourful lighting states that will illuminate the stage area. There are no moving, fast-flashing or strobing lights. There are no lights directly pointing into the audience.

Physical

Darebin Arts Centre is a 385-seat theatre. The stage will have a couch and a coffee table for the orators participating in the oration. There will be a projection screen hanging above the couch which will be playing a slideshow and a short film throughout the oration.

Smell

There will be no strong smells at this event.

Visual

The oration is a casual event for community to come together in a relaxed setting. The stage will be decorated on the sides with bouquets of flowers, but otherwise plain apart from the couch and projection screen.

Audience Experience

Entry to space

Audience can enter by any door to the foyer, where there will be free tea, coffee, water and soft drink options, some light refreshments in foyer will include fruit, wattleseed scones, dips and savory pies. Some music will be playing. Before audience are asked to move into the theatre at 6.50pm for the Oration.

A roving photographer will be present. If you do not want your photo taken, you can collect a red sticky dot from an usher or Darebin staff wearing blue lanyards to wear.

Shocks or surprises

There are no intentional shocks or surprises for audience members.

Audience experience

The Oration will be a casual event for people to come together to celebrate International Women's Day, the achievements of local Darebin women in the music industry and connect with fellow community members.

Social expectations

Audience will be seated on seats in a seating bank in the theatre for the Oration. The ushers will ask if you could be seated in the front section of the seating bank as audience move into the space.

Audience is allowed to come and go from the theatre at any point. They are welcome to bring their own stim/sensory toys into the space. The pathway from the foyer to the seats is clearly marked.

No food is permitted in the theatre, but drinks are allowed.

If you have any specific seating requirements, you can let us know in advance by emailing: dac@darebin.vic.gov.au



Image description: The Darebin Arts Centre theatre, with a seating bank of red seats and stairs on either side.

Performance expectations



Image description: Photo from the 2025 Social Justice Oration at Darebin Arts Centre, with the orators sitting on a blue couch surrounded by flower bouquets and a projection screen above them with Molly Hadfield's picture and biography. Our 2025 MC is talking to the audience and the Auslan interpreter is on the right.

Order of events

The audience will mingle in the foyer before heading into the theatre to sit down and watch the Oration. There will also be information about the orators speaking in the Oration for audience members to look at before going inside the theatre.

The Oration will start with a Welcome to Country, a message from the Federal MP, the Mayor, and then the orators will speak to the audience about their practice.

The orators will be backstage and won't be sitting in the audience when they are not on stage. Some of them may be in the foyer after the performance if you would like to talk to them.

Other

Content Warnings

The Oration may bring up themes of misogyny, violence against women and sexism.

General Notes

The Oration may make audience members feel passionately about issues of feminism, equity and social justice. This could be triggering for some people.

Audience members are free to come and go from the theatre as they please. There are spots in the foyer to sit comfortably on couches and chairs, and there is a quiet/low sensory space with bean bags also available.

Darebin Arts Centre



Image 1: The front entrance to Darebin Arts Centre looking from the car park.

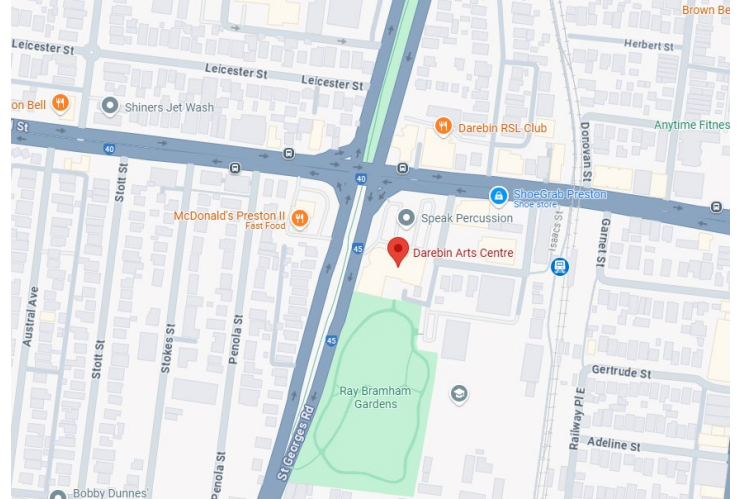


Image 2: a map of Darebin Arts Centre's location and its surrounding area.

Front Entrance



Image description: The front door to Darebin Arts Centre. There are brick stairs leading up to the front door. This door also has a ramp to the right side, so is wheelchair accessible.

Box Office

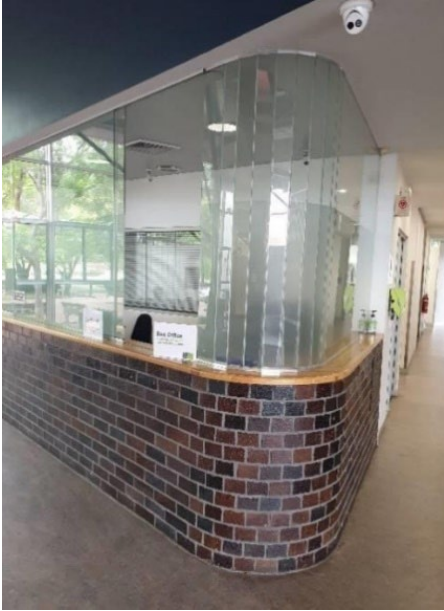


Image description: A glass and brick box office.

Ushers



Ushers wear black shirts with a white Darebin logo. They also wear a blue lanyard. They will also have red dots for you if you don't want to be photographed.

Café



Image description: A gold-coloured cafe with a selection of drinks on the back wall.

For this event, the bar will have tables in front of it with free tea and coffee and a selection of soft drinks available.

Bathrooms

Darebin Arts Centre' has female, male and all-gender bathrooms, and one accessible bathroom. They are located on the opposite side of the foyer to the theatre. There is one accessible toilet.

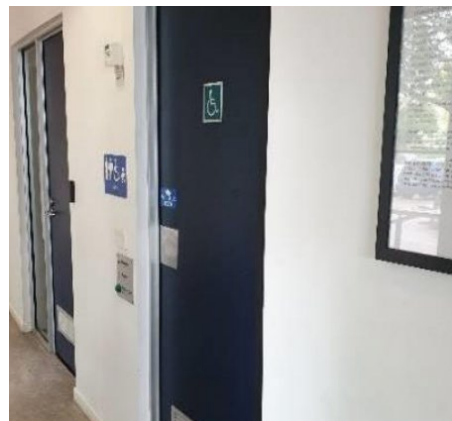


Image description: The first image is of a white corridor which shows the entrance to the toilets in the theatre. The second image shows the door to the disabled toilet in the theatre.

Door to Performance Space

There are multiple entrances to the theatre. There is an entrance up the stairs and also one on the ground floor



Image description: The first image on the left shows the lower door to the theatre, which is blue. The second image shows the blue staircase leading to the upper door of the theatre.

Transport

Train

Darebin Arts Centre is 150 metres from Bell Train Station (Mernda Line): approximately a 6 minute walk

[Bell Station Information](#)

Tram

Route 86 (Low Floor Trams)

Stop #35 Bell Street/Plenty Road

Please note, this is not a wheelchair accessible tram stop

Approximately 5 minute walk to Darebin Arts Centre

Route 11 (Low Floor Trams)

Stop #40 Bell Street/Gilbert Road

Please note, this is not a wheelchair accessible tram stop

Approximately 10 minute walk to Darebin Arts Centre

Bus

Bus number: 513, 514 and 903 all stop a 2 minute walk from Darebin Arts Centre

Parking

There is plenty of free car parking at Darebin Arts Centre. The entry to the car park is on Peter Street, while you can exit the car park from Peter Street or St Georges Road.

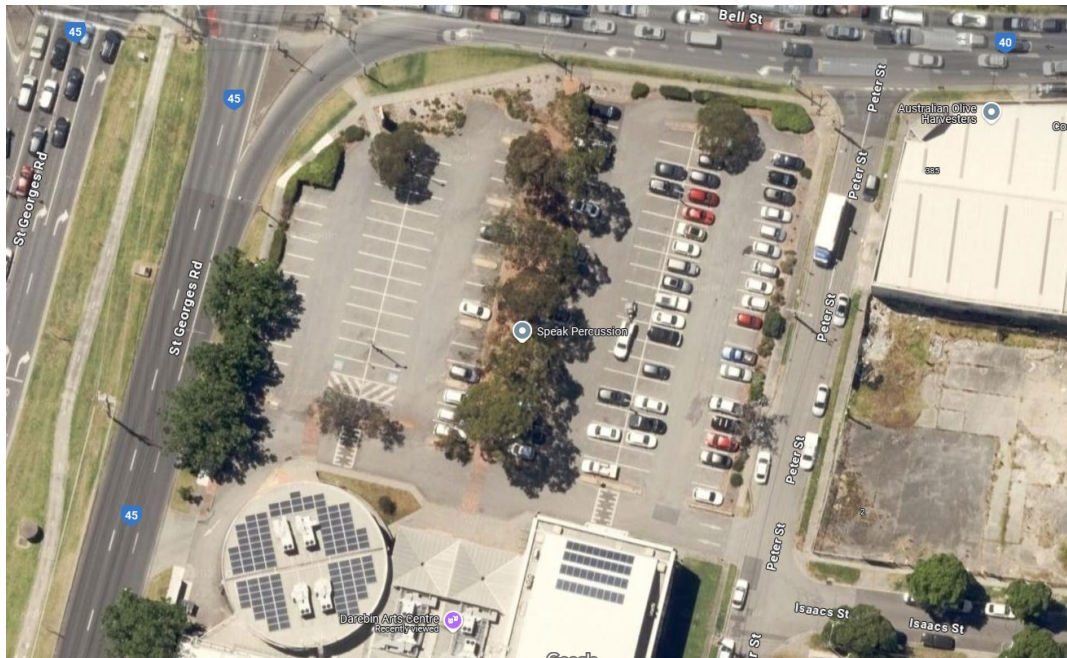


Image description: Aerial view of the Darebin Arts Centre car park. On the right is the entrance to the car park on Peter Street, on the left is the exit onto St. Georges Road.

COVID Safety

The venue is well ventilated. If you have a cough, sore throat, fever, shortness of breath or flu-like symptoms, please reconsider attending the performance.

To minimise the risk of COVID-19 transmission, we advise all patrons, orators and staff to:

- Practice physical distancing where possible
- Practice good hygiene by washing and or sanitising your hands often

Throughout the venue you will find:

- hand sanitiser stations available

Staying COVID-safe remains important. We must all follow these steps:

- Follow the Victorian Government's measures on how to stay safe.
- Practice COVID-safe hygiene protocols.