

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Festival Director/Producer – Australian Antarctic Festival 2026

Issued by: Mawson's Huts Foundation (MHF)

Location: Hobart, Tasmania (preferred, with hybrid/remote flexible options)

Contract: Part-time

Salary: Negotiable

Start Date: November 2025 preferred, earlier or later start date by mutual agreement

Closing Date for EOIs: October 31

ABOUT THE AUSTRALIAN ANTARCTIC FESTIVAL

The Australian Antarctic Festival (AAF) is a biennial event celebrating Hobart's role as a global Antarctic Gateway City and its rich legacy of polar science, exploration, and heritage.

Hosted by the Mawson's Huts Foundation, AAF has engaged thousands of people in Antarctica's stories through exhibitions, school programs, public events, and science engagement. As we approach 2026, the festival is undergoing an exciting revitalisation to position it as a major national and international event — blending heritage, climate, science, arts, and innovation, with the bold ambition to sit alongside Tasmania's most iconic festivals.

ABOUT THE ROLE

The Mawson's Huts Foundation is seeking a highly organised, collaborative, and proactive Director/Producer to drive the operational and logistical groundwork required to deliver the 2026 Festival.

This role will work closely with MHF's team, stakeholders, and delivery partners to coordinate planning, scheduling, partnerships, and program development, ensuring the festival's vision can be realised.

The Director/Producer will be instrumental in laying the foundations for a bold, reimagined festival, managing day-to-day operations, and ensuring alignment across stakeholders.

While a draft program for the 2026 festival is already in place, the new Director/Producer will have the flexibility to shape it further and bring in their own creative ideas.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Coordinate operational planning for the 2026 Australian Antarctic Festival, including program frameworks, schedules, and logistics.

- Manage stakeholder engagement with delivery partners, scientific institutions, sponsors, arts organisations, and government bodies.
- Support the development of partnerships and funding opportunities alongside the MHF CEO and fundraising team.
- Lead production timelines, risk management preparation, and early-stage program scoping.
- Ensure strong communication and reporting between MHF, partners, and contractors.
- Uphold values of accessibility, sustainability, and community impact across all planning processes.

IDEAL CANDIDATE

We are seeking a highly capable organiser and collaborator with proven experience producing public programs, festivals, or large-scale events.

You will bring:

- Demonstrated experience in project management, program production, or event operations, preferably in the cultural, science engagement, or festival sectors.
- Strong organisational skills and attention to detail, with the ability to manage competing deadlines.
- Excellent relationship-building skills across diverse stakeholder groups.
- Familiarity with producing programs that combine arts, science, environment, public engagement and First Nations stories.
- A proactive, solution-focused mindset with the ability to work both independently and collaboratively.

TERMS

- Part-time contract, commencing November 2025 or at an earlier or later date by mutual agreement.
- Flexible working arrangements available, Hobart-based preferred but remote candidates will be considered.
- Fee structure negotiable based on experience and scope.

TO APPLY

Please submit your Expression of Interest including:

- A cover letter outlining your relevant experience and interest in the role (max 2 pages)
- Your CV (max 3 pages)
- Examples of relevant past projects or programs

(Contact details for 2 referees to be provided upon request if shortlisted for the position)

EOIs should be sent to: lara.colrain@mawsons-huts.org.au

Closing Date: October 31, 2025

For further information, contact Lara Colrain, CEO, Mawson's Huts Foundation at lara.colrain@mawsons-huts.org.au or 0408 880 962