



‘Poet Laureates of Melbourne’ supports creative sectors during COVID-19

To support and promote the resilience of local literary community and provide income-generating opportunities for its writers during the ongoing pandemic, Melbourne (Australia), a UNESCO Creative City of Literature, has initiated several creative strategies and initiatives.

In this context, the city has launched the ‘Poet Laureates of Melbourne’, a weekly newsletter where various poets from Melbourne are challenged to write a poem reflecting on their past week’s experience.

Through the newsletter, the city seeks to support local creatives by providing them with an income while enhancing a reflection on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic especially on the cultural and creative sectors. The initiative is foreseen to continue until December after which the city will encapsulate the most defining and remarkable moments and provide a timepiece for this unprecedented situation.

34 poets from various backgrounds and stages of their career are currently participating in this project. Started in May 2020, the newsletter has already received more than 3,000 subscriptions, which illustrates the cosmopolitan essence of the city.

Through the ‘Poet laureates of Melbourne’ initiative, the city aims to improve access to and participation in cultural life as well as the enjoyment of cultural offers, notably for marginalized or vulnerable groups and individuals.

To know more:

<https://us9.campaign-archive.com/home/?u=03529f55fcb7ee3aea28ef369&id=9f76046efa>

<https://www.instagram.com/cityofmelbourne/>

KEY WORDS:

- Access to and participation in culture
- Solidarity and mutual aid