

CALL OUT FOR SUBMISSIONS at the Scarlet Alliance National Forum 2020

The National Forum will be held on GADIGAL LAND (Sydney) on the 3-5th November.

We have decided to hold the Forum in Sydney again this year due to the Covid-19 crisis. Next year, the Forum location will again be open to nominations.

Each year at the National Forum sex workers contribute workshops to our program. These workshops are always listed as a highlight by attendees. The direct peer-to-peer sharing of our knowledge, experience and skills is the foundation of our sex worker community.

The theme for 2020 is **Solidarity in Crisis: Creating and Imagining New Futures.**

This year Scarlet is working towards streaming some of the workshops online for those who cannot or do not wish to attend in-person. Be on the lookout for more information about online options for National Forum, including an info kit for workshop presenters. This is not required for all workshops but is an important step towards access and equity at this difficult time, and will hopefully be a model we can continue with into the future.

We especially encourage sex workers of colour, including culturally and linguistically diverse sex workers and Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander sex workers, to submit workshop ideas. If English is not your first language, we can connect you with other workers if you would like support in putting together your workshop.

Submissions can take many forms, including **presentations, discussions, skillshares, activities, displays and art projects, film screenings, or performances.** We would love to see a range of different formats and styles being presented to keep the space engaging and dynamic for our sex worker community.

Below are some suggestions, guides, and prompts for engaging with this year's theme. But remember - this list is not exhaustive and we want to hear your ideas!

- Responding to the changing work environment
 - Staying safe during a global pandemic
 - Moving to the digital space
 - Sex worker mutual aid
 - Working as an immuno-compromised person

- Getting politically active!
 - Local issues and opportunities to get involved
 - Skill shares for political action
 - Legislative change for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander workers and migrant workers
 - Connections with other movements, such as disability rights, trans rights, prison abolition, etc.
 - Creating change at the community, social, political and legal levels

- Anti-racism in the Australian SW rights movement
 - Cultural safety/debrief/care space for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workers, Asian migrant workers or other racialised communities
 - Examining whiteness and building anti-racist practice as a white worker
 - History of racist policing of the sex industry in Australia
 - Making health services culturally safe for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander sex workers
 - Tackling racism / navigating safety with racist clients

- Solidarity and community
 - Mental health and the sex industry
 - Facing stigma and discrimination
 - Strengthening sex worker solidarity
 - Strategies for dealing with negative discourse around sex work
 - Self defence skill share
 - Know your rights
 - Letter writing to incarcerated folks

If you (or you and someone else) are interested in presenting or facilitating a workshop, please email a brief outline of your idea to admin@scarletalliance.org.au by Friday 7th of August.

We suggest that this outline include (a) an overview of your workshop idea; (b) what your workshop will offer the sex worker community and Forum attendees; and (c) what your objectives are in presenting the workshop.

Please keep the outline to a maximum of 200 words. If relevant, please indicate associations you have with any group, organisation, business or research project connected to your proposal.

Please note: Scarlet Alliance National Forum is a sex worker only space and excludes owners/operators. To submit a workshop outline (and to attend the forum) you must be a sex worker (past or present) and not an owner/operator of a sex industry business.