

INDONESIA

Jayapura

Cultural Cities Profile
East Asia

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Tom Fering / creative consultancy



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The **British Council** builds connections, understanding and trust between people in the UK and other countries through arts and culture, education and the English language. <https://www.britishcouncil.org/>

Tom Fleming Creative Consultancy is the leading international consultancy for culture and the creative economy. We offer research, strategy and policy leadership across the creative, cultural and arts sectors. We offer technical expertise, strategic thinking and the tools to position creativity to the heart of society. With offices in London and Porto and associates in 12 countries, we are an international agency operating in every region. <http://tfconsultancy.co.uk/>

Indonesia Creative Cities Network (ICCN) is a hub organisation for cross-communities forum, connecting 200+ cities/regencies from all over Indonesia that are committed to implement the 10 Principles of Indonesia Creative Cities that was declared in 2015. ICCN published the White Book of Indonesia Creative Cities (2017) that adapts the 10 Principles to the Indonesian government's KPI, and is developing a dashboard of Creative Cities Index as a tool for local governments to make policies/ regulations based on the real time creative economy data of their respective regions. <https://iccn.or.id/>

Centre for Innovation Policy and Governance (CIPG) is a research-based advisory group which aspires to excel in the area of innovation, policy and governance. Considered to be among the first research-based advisory groups, CIPG grows to be an open-minded and multicultural think tank with keen interest in building Indonesian research capacities across many sectors. <https://cipg.or.id/en/>

Tanahindie was established in 1999, composed of personnel from various backgrounds (researchers, authors, advocates, craftspeople, lecturers, students, social workers, and housewives). Exploring urban social development from the perspective of arts and culture, the organisation's activities include research, seminars, exhibitions, reviews, and publication. <https://tanahindie.org/>

Introducing Jayapura

Jayapura is one of the easternmost cities in Indonesia, located on the northern coast of the island of New Guinea and situated on the border between Indonesia and Papua New Guinea. It is the largest city of Indonesia's Papua Province, with a population of 75,788.

Jayapura City has a diverse ethnic population drawn from areas bordering Papua Province (including Biak, Serui, Sorong, Wamena, and many more) and from across Eastern Indonesia (including the provinces of Bugis, Makassar, Buton, Java, Bali, NTT, North Maluku and others). Accordingly, the languages spoken in Jayapura are quite diverse; locally-used languages include Sentani, Nafri, Enggros Tobati, Kayu Pulo and Skouw, while the Indonesian dialect of Papuan is most commonly used¹.

Despite its relative remoteness and small size, Jayapura is the second-most expensive Indonesian city to live in, after Jakarta.

Jayapura.

Photo © wikimedia.org



Jayapura is the economic centre of Papua and a supplier for all food, materials and other necessities throughout the Papua Region, especially for the mountainous areas in Papua. Economically, we rely only on the service and trade sectors.

Dr. Benhur Tomi Mano,
Mayor of Jayapura²



¹ Kota Jayapura dalam Angka 2020, BPS Kota Jayapura 2020, pp. 91

² jayapurakota.go.id



Developing a local cultural economy

“Economic activities in rural areas, especially for the tourist destinations around Jayapura City, largely rely on the production of traditional crafts and dances.



We are currently gathering data and conducting training on the potential for the creative economy in Jayapura. If possible, we would like to develop creative industries that are based on vernacular culture of Jaya media, art, culture, cuisine and architecture, in order to give positive economic impact to the local rural people.

Muhammad Chalid Nano,
Head of Media, Design,
Science & Technology based
Creative Economy Section, Culture
and Tourism Department of Jayapura
City Municipality.

Jayapura's cultural infrastructure

For the civic authorities, cultural preservation is a priority for the City of Jayapura. Through the stated city vision and other strategic documents, “culture” is particularly highlighted, and city activities focus on the empowerment and preservation of cultural values and customs.

Key interventions include:

- maintaining the values of customs and culture through education
- providing public learning facilities that promote creativity and skills of students
- building cultural villages based on the characteristics and identity of Port Numbai cultural village³
- managing the potential of villages as destinations for cultural tourism.

Additionally, the city has recently established regulations for the development of city parks as “areas of learning and creativity”, as a part of a general strategy to optimise the role of parks as public facilities.

In terms of contemporary and grassroots creativity, Jayapura is, perhaps surprisingly, known as a city dominated by hip-hop and street culture.

In the late 1990s communities in Jayapura began holding various music and dance festivals. Combined with the increased availability and affordability of personal ‘home studio’ technology, and the increasing number of Papuan youths who pursued their studies outside Papua (usually to Java or Sulawesi), the hip-hop genre in Papua became more popular.

³ Rancangan Akhir RPJMD Kota Jayapura Tahun 2018-2022, BAPPEDA KOTA JAYAPURA 2018-2022, pp. 55-29.

Influenced by global urban street styles, Jayapura hip-hop communities developed their own networks and profiles by holding dance battles on the streets or in public parks. They eventually combined their energy and potential to open up a platform for appreciation of their activities, peaking creatively around 2010 and gaining wider recognition from 2015.



**Jayapura
hip-hop**

Photo ©
www.insideindonesia.org

Outside of hip-hop and street culture, Jayapura also has a wider movement of young people who remain engaged in self-described “hangout style” communities, consciously refusing formal employment in favour of various creative fields, including writing and journalism, tattoo culture, gaming, and music.

Cultural Institutions

Gedung Kesenian Tanah Papua (Tanah Papua Art Building)

The Tanah Papua Art Building in North Jayapura, and a cultural centre and exhibition space, often used as a venue for photo and fine art exhibitions, film screenings, seminars, readings and dance performances.

Loka Budaya Museum, Cendrawasih University⁴

Loka Budaya Museum is located on the campus of Cendrawasih University. Founded in 1970, and originally established under the University's Anthropology Institute, the main collection focuses on ethnographic artefacts from around 270 tribes in Papua: equipment for cooking, farming, hunting and fishing; clothing and accessories; weapons; tools and objects as currency exchange; sacred objects; transportation devices; and musical instruments. In conducting its programme of exhibitions and research, the museum receives funding and support from the Indonesian Government, from research and international collaborative programmes, and through donations from the Rockefeller Foundation and the Dutch Government.

Kopi Djuang⁵

Kopi Djuang is a coffee shop and creative space founded by a number of young cultural activists in 2018. This space is used by journalists, film makers, social activists, artists, and musicians as a creative space for networking, project development, exhibitions and events. One thing that makes Kopi Djuang among the most visited in Jayapura is the relationship between the owners and their customers. Kopi Djuang also works to support local coffee producers and farmers.

⁴ <http://asosiasimuseumindonesia.org/2-single-articles/299-museum-loka-budaya.html>

⁵ <https://www.instagram.com/kopi.djuang/>

Communities and creative hubs

Indonesia Art Movement⁶

Indonesia Art Movement (IAM) is a Jayapura-based community engaged in film, performing arts, photography, fashion, animation, and fine arts. Founded by Muhamad Ilham Murda in 2016, the community initially focussed on activities around film production, before expanding into other creative spheres as new activities for knowledge development and collaboration led to an exchange of ideas. In particular, the community seeks to reach young Papuans in Jayapura City who need a space for creative expression, and seeks to address issues of inadequate infrastructure and facilities for the arts and creative industries.

- Indonesia Art Movement has a variety of programmes, including performance ('IAM MOVE'), animated film ('Sans Day'), fine arts and photography ('HabitART'), and an audio-visual magazine called IAM MAGZ. The Indonesian Art Movement also organises several events, including the Numbay Creative Festival and Pesta Damai Papua.

Imaji Papua⁷

Imaji Papua is a community of content creators: writers, photography, videography, and independent films. This largely digital community was founded by Yulika Anastasia in 2017 as a forum and online platform to channel talent and audiences in the fields of writing, photography, videography and travel. Currently the community has a focus on documentary films, collaborating in the production and promotion of several film titles, including "Ada Damai di Yahukimo" ('There is Peace in Yahukimo'), "Tonotwiyat" ('Women's Forest') and "Tambat Sagu".

Komunitas Sastra Papua (KOSAPA)⁸

KOSAPA is a literary community that was founded in 2009. Emerging from a Facebook discussion between the two founders, Gusti Masan Raya and Andi Tagihuma, this community first existed as a local Facebook group. Supporting literature, poetry and creative writing, they currently organise a range of activities, such as book discussions, film screenings, journalism training, and essay-writing workshops among students. Kosapa also publishes books, including anthologies of short stories, poetry, and other writings from community members.

Kopi Djuang

Photo © kawattimur.id



⁶ <https://www.instagram.com/indonesiaartmovement/>

⁷ <https://imajipapua.com>

⁸ <https://sastrapapua.org>



Craft products
of Jayapura

Photo ©
jubi.co.id



Festivals and events

Most major festivals and events in Jayapura are directly associated with the promotion of tourism or the development of the local creative and tourist economies. As such, they maintain a strong association with the presentation and preservation of a broad range of cultural traditions and art forms or, in the case of the Cycloop and Noken festivals, the preservation of local environmental and ecological areas.

Lake Sentani Festival⁹

Lake Sentani Festival is held annually at Lake Sentani outside Jayapura since 2007, and is included in Indonesia's main national tourism calendar. The Festival is usually held in mid-June each year. It takes place over five consecutive days. The events and performances focus on traditional Papuan culture, including colossal Papuan war dances featuring 500 dancers, traditional boat dances, ceremonies such as the coronation of the Ondoafi, and various cuisine typical of Papua.

Humboldt Bay Festival¹⁰

Held since 2008, the Humboldt Bay Festival aims to promote the arts, culture and tourism of Jayapura City, with a particular focus on traditional arts and culture from the villages of Papua Province. The mangrove forest, or "Women's Forest" (tonotwiyat) is among the main environmental attractions, and the festival as a whole act showcasing the uniqueness of the native culture of Port Numbai, drawn from across five districts and traditional villages.

Numbay Creative Festival¹¹

Numbay Creative Festival is a one-day music and arts festival organised by the Indonesia Arts Movement community,

featuring performances, exhibitions and events from Jayapura's young creative community groups. Activities include dance performances, exhibitions of books and documentary films, cultural discussions and a mobile cinema. Additionally, the festival also includes writing and film competitions for high school students.

Pesta Damai Papua¹²

Pesta Damai Papua (Papua Peace Party) was a one-day event for young Papuans that took place in 2019, focussing on cultural and civic pride and cross-community collaboration between young people. Organised by the Indonesia Arts Movement, the Papua Peace Party emerged from escalating incidents of inter-community violence that have taken place in Jayapura, and involves Jayapura's street culture communities in dance, music and stand-up comedy events.

Festival Cross Border Skouw

This annual festival is held on the Papuan border between Indonesia and Papua New Guinea. This event is not only a tourism event, but also a cultural and community event to strengthen cross-border partnerships.

Lake Sentani Festival.

Photo ©
www.indonesia-tourism.com



⁹ https://www.indonesia-tourism.com/papua/festival_sentani.html

¹⁰ <https://en.tempo.co/read/503022/papua-holds-humboldt-bay-festival>

¹¹ <https://www.facebook.com/Numbay-Creative-Festival-112964463420844/>

¹² <https://papuainside.com/pesta-damai-papua-berakhir-tinggalkan-kesan-positif/>

Movers and Shakers – a sample

Muhammad Ilham Mustain¹³

Muhammad Ilham Mustain, also known as lam Murda, is a lecturer in fine arts and culture at Institut Seni Budaya Papua in Jayapura (Papua Institute of Art and Culture). As founder of the Indonesia Art Movement community, he is a key advocate for the engagement of young Papuans in creative activities across a broad range of fields, including music, dance, fine arts and film.

Yulika Anastasia¹⁴

Yulika Anastasia is a film-maker and creative advocate, and the founder and director of the Imaji Papua cultural community. She is active in supporting local filmmakers in the making of films and documentaries about Papuan culture and traditions.

Rjha Prayoga¹⁵

A young entrepreneur and creative advocate, also known as Yoga, he is a co-founder of the Kopi Djuang coffee shop and creative hub

Epo d’Fenomeno¹⁶

Epo is a Jayapura-based musician and rapper emerging from the local hip-hop scene. In 2018, he was a finalist of the national Beef Rap Battle Jakarta.

Qhiba Mansawan¹⁷

Ohiba is a musician and rapper, and one of the founders of the high-profile Jayapura rap group Owl Gank.

Yewen¹⁸

John Yewen is a young comedian, famous for achieving 3rd in Indonesia’s SUCA national stand-up competition.

Ignasius Dicky¹⁹

Ignasius Dicky is a fine artist and sculptor who graduated from ISI Yogyakarta Art Institute in 2013, and actively involved in Jayapura’s art scene since 2001.

Nowela Elisabeth Auparay²⁰

A pop singer of Batak and Papua origin, in 2014 Nowela was the winner of national television singing competition Indonesian Idol.

¹³ https://www.instagram.com/iam_murda

¹⁴ https://www.instagram.com/yulika_anastasia2/

¹⁵ <https://www.instagram.com/rejhaprayogha/?hl=en>

¹⁶ https://www.instagram.com/epo_dfenomeno/?hl=en

¹⁷ <https://www.instagram.com/qiibamnswn/?hl=en>

¹⁸ https://www.instagram.com/john_yewen/?hl=en

¹⁹ https://www.instagram.com/dicky_takndare/?hl=en

²⁰ <https://www.instagram.com/mikhelia/?hl=en>

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