

DIY

IT'S LIVE!
in Queensland



BRISBANE FESTIVAL

**QUEENSLAND
MUSEUM**

Principal Partner
sunsuper



Brisbane Festival is an initiative of the Queensland Government and Brisbane City Council



This project is presented by Brisbane Festival and Tourism and Events Queensland.
Supported through the Giving Program by Tim Fairfax AC and Gina Fairfax.

Florentijn Hofman



Introducing Messengers of Brisbane

Although conceived prior to the global COVID-19 outbreak, the artwork I developed for Brisbane Festival, *Messengers of Brisbane*, may be prophetic in its timing. This work breathes hope; hope for better days during the Festival and into the future. The distance of the works on rooftops and other high positions indicate aspiration and, at the same time, question our current situation of social distancing and what freedom means to every individual. The works give aim and direction in a time where creativity is paramount and the power of imagination must be relied upon to feel a flight synonymous to the bird. The beautiful bright colours, which mimic exactly those found in the natural plume of the Gouldian Finch, encourage people to also be colourful. The hat is a very important feature in this work. It is an extension of my practice where I've used it as a tool in many prior works. For me, it symbolises celebrating life, enjoying life and being positive, especially during this period, but it is also appropriate to all life situations. Being positive makes one live longer and with more quality. While birds in nature are very autonomous, here as large-scale temporary sculptures in Brisbane they will indicate connection and the arrival of a positive message.

Six giant Gouldian Finches will fly into Brisbane to spread messages of hope this September. Created by internationally renowned artist Florentijn Hofman and brought to life by Brisbane's Urban Art Projects, these spectacularly coloured birds invite us to look up and smile.

Perched atop iconic Brisbane locations in the inner-city river area, Messengers of Brisbane can be viewed on a leisurely stroll, bike ride, or even from a CityCat.

Learn more about this endangered species through workshops and activities at Queensland Museum and on our website @ brisbanefestival.com.au

Flying Finch

Difficulty / Easy
Time / 30 Minutes
Space / Indoors or outdoors
Ages / 5+

Materials needed /
Paper, printer

Flitting upon a breeze must feel a magical thing. Sure, there are predators to be wary of and finding food is a relentless endeavour. But the freedom to fly from a foe or dash to a grassy refectory would be joyous. Do you wonder what the finches you see are thinking? You might have spotted a Red-browed Finch with striking eye shadow and a burst of crimson at the base of its tail, or perhaps a Double-barred Finch impressed you with its necklace and coat of delicate white spots. The contrasting caramels of a Chestnut-breasted Mannikin may appeal more to your inner artist. Better still, why not invent a unique hybrid with colours, tints and patterns of your own design.



See an inspiring display of 20 live finches fly about an aviary at Queensland Museum to celebrate Brisbane Festival. You can also take a step back in time and get an extraordinary insight into John Gould and Elizabeth Gould's *The Birds of Australia*, a book not usually seen as a part of the museum's rare book collection. Make sure you visit during the festival. More information at qm.qld.gov.au

Step 1

Print out the template.



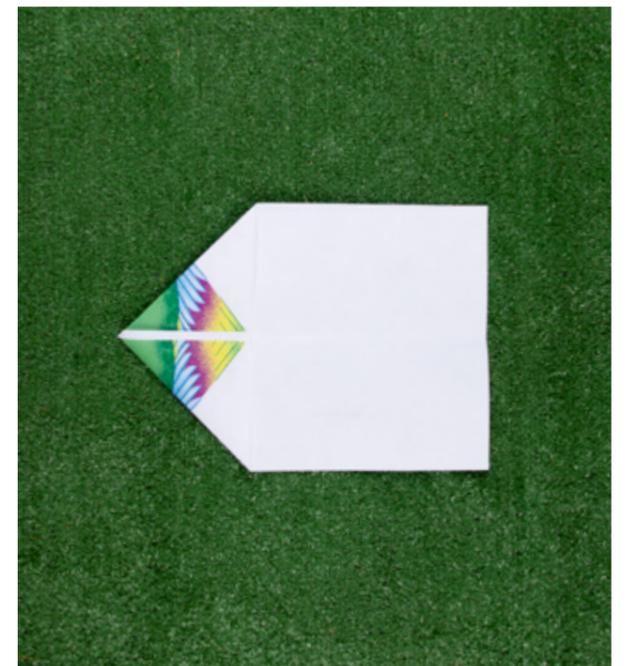
Step 2

Flip the paper white side up and then fold the paper in half lengthwise (hot dog fold). Then unfold the paper so it lays flat.



Step 3

With the paper lying flat, fold the top left and right corners 45 degrees toward the middle crease (from our previous fold in half). Note that depending on your printer, this may not exactly match the dotted line on the printed side.



Steps continued on next page →

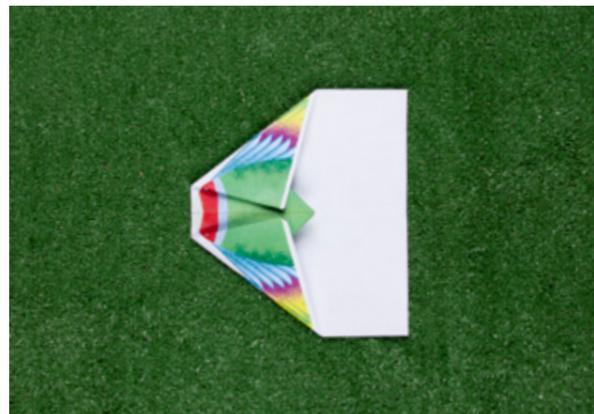
Step 4

Fold the point made by the last two folds straight down using the bottom of the triangle folds as a reference, forming a tight triangle.



Step 5

Take the upper right hand corner of the page and fold it in towards the centerline of the page about 30mm up from the point that we just folded down in the previous step. There is a circle indicator to give you an idea of roughly where this fold should land.



Step 6

Next fold the tip up along the horizontal dotted line. It should just neatly bump the two diagonal pieces of paper to the right and left, stopping it from being folded too far.



Step 7

Fold the whole page in half making sure that the small triangle we just made is on the outside of the fold. Lastly take each wing and fold down along the dotted line. You are aiming for a fold that creates a line that is lower towards the front of the plane (and the beak of the bird) and has a small incline as you move toward the back of the plane. Do the same to the other wing and you are ready to take flight!



Optional

Cut the white away in between the feathers on the back of the bird to give it a more life-like feel, plus it will still fly great!

Or follow the instructions and design your own, draw, paint or colour over the template after printing it and then follow the same process.



Hints

Fold as tight as you can using the back of your fingernail or the edge of a pen. Making slight adjustments after building the plane can massively improve your flight. Start small, e.g. bending the rear part of the wings slightly upwards will help it not nosedive. Or bending the wings slightly up into a v when holding it will improve stability.



Printable Goodies

Print at full size on the best paper you have or if you don't have a printer no stress, just trace over the guides on the following pages with whatever you can find!

