



Media Release – For immediate release

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Live Performance Australia releases Report Card: Coalition yet to deliver its plan for live performance industry

Live Performance Australia has released its assessment of the major parties' policy positions for the live performance industry in the lead-up to the federal election.

LPA Chief Executive Evelyn Richardson said: 'As an industry which makes a \$2.5 billion contribution to the Australian economy and supports 34,000 jobs, we have been keenly following the election campaign and the commitments by parties to supporting a diverse, strong and growing live performance industry.'

The LPA report card assesses the policy commitments of the Coalition, the ALP, Greens and the Arts Party, including how they measure up against LPA's key policy priorities which were outlined on 2 June 2016.

'Labor, the Greens and the Arts Party have all issued detailed policy statements on the arts, including policy positions that will support our live performance industry,' Ms Richardson said.

'In particular, we welcome their commitment to support the return of funding to the Australia Council to provide long term stability for small to medium performing arts companies along with other initiatives that recognise the economic, social and cultural importance of live performance.

'However, it's disappointing that we're just over two weeks from the election and the Coalition is yet to detail any policy for the live performance industry or the arts sector as a whole, apart from some ad-hoc project funding announcements.

'Senator Fifield's appearance at the national arts debate in Melbourne recently was a missed opportunity for him to engage with industry representatives on the Coalition's plan to support jobs, growth and innovation for Australia's live performance industry.

'We hope the Coalition will take the opportunity before the election to set out some policy directions for the live performance industry which not only supports tens of thousands of jobs and creates billions of dollars of economic activity, but is also supported by 18 million Australians who attend a live performance every year,' Ms Richardson said.

The LPA's election report card is available at www.liveperformance.com.au/federal_election_2016

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About LPA

LPA is the peak body for Australia's live performance industry. Established in 1917 and registered as an employers' organisation under the *Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009*, LPA has over 400 Members nationally. We represent commercial producers, music promoters, major performing arts companies, small to medium companies, independent producers, major performing arts centres, metropolitan and regional venues, commercial theatres, stadiums and arenas, arts festivals, music festivals, and service providers such as ticketing companies and technical suppliers. Our membership spans from small-medium and not-for-profit organisations to large commercial entities. LPA has a clear mandate to advocate for and support policy decisions that benefit the sustainability and growth of the live performance industry in Australia.