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LPA New Members



## LPA Focused On Upcoming Federal Budget and Election Priorities

With a Federal Budget and Election not far away, the LPA Policy team has spent much of April consolidating our 2016 Federal Election priorities to best represent our industry.

[Click here to view LPA's Federal Election Priorities.](#)

While there are a number of areas where we believe the incoming Government can assist our industry to grow, our TOP priority is to safeguard the sustainability of the live performance industry, with 2 key actions:

- Return the funding cut of \$72.8m over 4 years to the Australia Council to provide long term stability for small to medium companies
- Maintain and improve transparency of the Catalyst program

We urge all Members to use this Priority List in your discussions with relevant contacts during the post Budget announcement next Tuesday and in the forthcoming election campaign.

Last week, we put out a [Media Release](#) calling on the Government to hand back funds that will deliver jobs and growth for the live performance industry in the upcoming Federal Budget on 3 May.

We await the Budget on Tuesday and will be responding strongly should the Government not return \$72.8m funding to the Australia Council AND retain the Catalyst program. We are very concerned about imminent job losses and the impact on both small to medium companies and the industry more broadly when the Australia Council makes its funding announcement in early May. The impact of these cuts will be severe with 40% of companies expected to lose funding. That's 18-20 performing arts companies nationally that won't be creating new productions, hundreds of people out of work and lost

### **Prince Moo Productions Pty Ltd**

Prince Moo Productions is a theatre production company producing live entertainment events across Australia. Led by creative Director Peter J Snee, Prince Moo Productions stages a wide range of styles and events, targeting a diverse range of audiences.

### **Shake & Stir Theatre Co. Pty Ltd**

Established in 2006, Shake & Stir is one of Australia's leading contemporary theatre companies specialising in the creation of new work. Shake & Stir produces an annual season of Mainstage and in-school productions and master-classes.

### **Musical Chairs**



### **ARIA Awards**

Mark Fennessy has been appointed as Creative Director for this year's 30th anniversary of the ARIA Awards

### **Arts Centre Melbourne**

Daniel Clarke joins Arts Centre Melbourne as their new Programmer after five years at Theatre Works

### **Circus Oz**

Rob Tannin has joined Circus OZ as their new Artistic Director

### **Melbourne Theatre Company**

MTC has announced that Sarah Goodes and Dean

revenue and export opportunities.

LPA has hired a lobbyist/Government strategist, Matthew Francis from Newgate Communications, for 3 months to assist us with a targeted key stakeholder and media strategy. We have sought a partnership with MEAA as this is an area where we believe we can usefully work together. We will also work closely where we can with other like-minded industry bodies and alliances.

In the coming weeks, we will keep Members informed as to what LPA is doing nationally and at the state level. We will also provide tools and resources for our Members to use in your various meetings and lobbying activities.

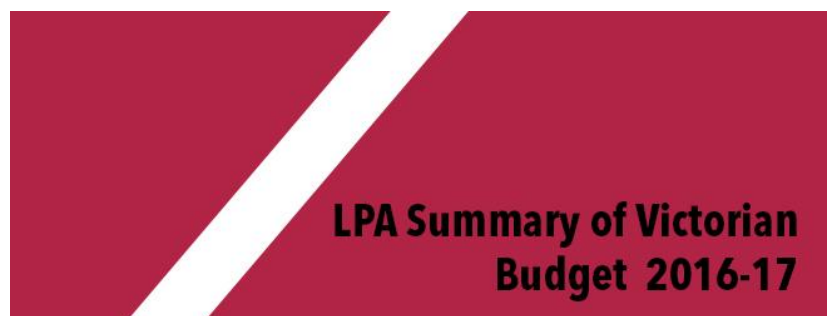
This month, we completed the last of our Member Roadshows after a successful roadshow across five states. Access to the Member Briefing Presentation is now available [via our website](#). It was great to get feedback on what our Member companies are working on and the major issues keeping them up at night. A key theme in all states was the upcoming Australia Council funding announcements in early May with major concerns about the impact of funding cuts. We have taken those concerns on board and our advocacy work in the coming weeks reflects our commitment to representing the interests of our small to medium companies. These cuts will have significant flow on effects to our major companies, venues, festivals and the commercial sector. As the peak industry body for live performance, it is our role to lead, speak out and call on all political parties to recognise and support our industry.

Finally, preparations for the 16th Annual Helpmann Awards are well underway. **Entries close today at 5:00pm** therefore, I urge Members to complete any finishing touches on your Entries by COB. Please contact our Helpmann Awards Administrator Fiona Spitzkowsky with any queries via [e-mail](#) or by calling 03 8614 2000.

Don't forget our [LPA Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages for up-to-date industry news.

### **Evelyn Richardson**

LPA Chief Executive



The 2016–17 Victorian State Budget has provided funds for the following new initiatives that the live performance industry should benefit from over the next 4 years:

- **\$33.8m** to deliver Victoria's first Creative State Strategy targeted at

Bryant have been appointed as Associate Directors starting in 2017

generating productivity, income, jobs and export earnings for Victoria's creative industries.

- **\$50m** to support core activity at the Melbourne Recital Centre, Arts Centre Melbourne and State Library Melbourne.
- **\$6.9m** to expand and improve amenity and access at the Geelong Performing Arts Centre.
- **\$7m** to support the Bendigo Arts Precinct so the regional city can become a creative hub for Victoria.

Additionally, **\$10m** from the Regional Jobs and Infrastructure Fund will support a creative hub in the Latrobe Valley.

Detailed information on the Victorian State Budget 2016–17 Budget Initiatives for Creative Industries, including a year-by-year breakdown, can be found [here](#).

Should you have any questions with regard to the Victorian State Budget 2016–17, please contact the LPA Office via [email](#) or call 03 8614 2000.



**Entries close today at 5:00pm;** there's no time to lose!

This year's Awards will see many of Australia's favourite performers taking the stage including Bangarra Dance Theatre, West Australian Ballet, Mark Vincent, Marina Prior and Sarah Blasko as well as the casts of Singin' In The Rain, Matilda the Musical and The Sound of Music.

Our hosts for the night include Adam Garcia, Helen Dallimore, Guy Noble, Simon Philips, Queenie van der Zandt and The Umbilical Brothers.

To access your exclusive LPA Member tickets [click here](#).

Please contact the Helpmann Awards team at 03 6814 2000 with any queries.



Australia's diverse and thriving arts scene will be covered in a new weekly arts guide and review program Stage & Screen hosted by Deborah Hutton and produced exclusively by Foxtel Arts.

Each week Deborah will be joined by regular presenters, Australian iconic movie host Margaret Pomeranz, legendary television critic Graeme Blundell, Australian cultural figure Leo Schofield and one of the country's foremost arts writers' Chris Hook from the Daily Telegraph, who will all provide viewers a snapshot and their critical insights of what's on show, where and when across, theatre, music, opera, dance, visual art, film and television.

Stage & Screen will also feature unique interviews with arts luminaries and the star performers of cinema, television and the live performing arts, offering insight into the diverse offerings and talent that exists right across the Australian arts and culture landscape.

Tune in on **Wednesday May 11 at 8.00pm AEST** to catch the Stage & Screen premier!

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**[Live Performance Australia](#)**

Level 1, 15-17 Queen Street  
Melbourne, VIC 3000  
Australia

Ph: +61 3 8614 2000