



Live Performance Australia slams funding silence on eve of drastic cuts

Dear Member,

Please be advised that LPA has tonight released the following [statement to media](#):

On the eve of unprecedented cuts to small to medium performing arts companies across the country, Live Performance Australia has slammed the silence of the major political parties on funding for the live performance industry.

Live Performance Australia (LPA) Chief Executive, Evelyn Richardson, said, "It's time for all political parties to step up and support new investment and jobs for Australia's \$2.5 billion live performance industry."

As a priority, both the Coalition and ALP must commit to the restoration of \$72.8 million funding to the Australia Council that was cut in the 2015 Budget and which is critical to the longer term viability of our small to medium companies.

"The legacy of these cuts announced in the 2015 Budget to the Australia Council will be realized within the next fortnight when up to 40 per cent of our small to medium companies are likely to be informed they will lose their funding at the end of this year. This will potentially see 20 companies close their doors, costing hundreds of jobs.

"Both sides of politics during Budget week have overlooked the significant contribution the live performance industry makes to the Australian economy. The industry employs 34,000 people and supports more than 500 performing arts companies around Australia and hundreds of venues, producers and music promoters.

"Both major parties have stated their commitment to supporting jobs, growth and innovation. The live performance industry will play a vital role in meeting these goals with the right investment by government," Ms Richardson said.

Kind regards,

Evelyn Richardson
Chief Executive



**LIVE
PERFORMANCE
AUSTRALIA**

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