



Media Release – For immediate release

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Live Performance Australia's President Andrew Kay AM to step down

Peak industry body, Live Performance Australia, today announced that current President, Andrew Kay AM will step down as President at the conclusion of LPA's Annual General Meeting (AGM) to be held on Thursday 22 November 2018.

LPA's Executive Council announced the appointment of LPA's next President, Richard Evans, who will take up the role following the AGM.

Andrew has devoted 30 years of service to the association and live performance industry and was first elected to LPA's Executive Council in 1989. He served as Vice-President for 9 years (1995-2003) before being elected as President in 2004. He has served in this role for 15 years.

Andrew Kay AM said:

"It has been a great honour leading LPA, first as its Vice President, and then as President over the past 25 years. The live performance industry, as shown in the latest record attendance data, is, by and large, very healthy as indeed is LPA itself, with record membership and strong finances. Of course, there continues to be ongoing issues that the industry is confronting. These include the depressing lack of cultural infrastructure in Sydney, the financial challenges faced by our smaller companies, the problems created by a "one size fits all" wages system and the apparent Federal Government indifference to making any meaningful investment into our creative sector. While there may be dark clouds on Australia's economic horizon there is still much to be optimistic about. Ours is a great industry and I thank the LPA Executive Council and the LPA membership for allowing me the privilege of being their President. I leave the organisation in the safe hands of our wonderful CEO Evelyn Richardson and her amazing staff and welcome Richard Evans into the role."

Current Executive Councilor and incoming President, Richard Evans, has served the association for 12 years, including as Vice-President 2011-12. He is currently Managing Director of the Australian Chamber Orchestra and formerly held roles as Executive Director of The Bell Shakespeare Company, Managing Director of Sydney's BridgeClimb, Executive Director of The Australian Ballet, Interim Managing Director of Melbourne Symphony Orchestra and CEO of Sydney Opera House.

LPA's incoming President, Richard Evans, said:

It is an honour to follow my longtime colleague Andrew Kay, and to become LPA's next President. LPA is an organisation I have been close to over many years, and I am passionate about the support and development of Australia's live performance industry. Contemporary, effective, clear and well-communicated outcomes for our employers will support a strong and vibrant future for all sectors of our entertainment industry and its audiences. I thank Andrew for his extraordinary tenure and leadership, and look forward to working with the LPA Executive Council and its membership together with Chief Executive Evelyn Richardson and her team, as we enter the next phase in LPA's history.

LPA's Chief Executive, Evelyn Richardson, said:

"It has been a great privilege to work with Andrew over the past eleven years. He has been a strong leader and spokesperson on behalf of our industry. To have given 30 years of service to LPA's members and the industry is an extraordinary achievement. What's even more remarkable is the fact that all of his time and efforts over three decades have been unpaid and given willingly with great energy and good humour. He has always been

motivated by doing what's in the best interests of the membership and the broader industry. His unwavering commitment and support provided to me as Chief Executive is also gratefully acknowledged. I very much look forward to working with Richard Evans, our incoming President, on the next chapter of LPA's journey."

Andrew's significant contribution and industry leadership will be celebrated at a special end of year dinner to be held in Melbourne next month.

ENDS

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About LPA

LPA is the peak body for Australia's live performance industry. Established 101 years ago 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.