



## LPA Summary: Victorian Budget 2018–19

Dear Member

As Members may be aware, the Victorian Budget was handed down yesterday (1 May 2018).

The 2018–19 Victorian State Budget has provided **\$78.7 million** in new funding for the creative industries over four years. This includes funds for the following initiatives that the live performance industry should benefit from:

- **\$34.8m** over four years to improve sustainability of operations for key cultural institutions, including a funding boost for the **Geelong Performing Arts Centre** to expand its operations and programming when its Ryrie Street redevelopment is complete in 2019.
- **\$2.9m** over four years to host the **Australian Performing Arts Market** in Melbourne from 2019 to 2024. The new-look APAM will deliver a series of tailored showcase opportunities in addition to a biennial industry event.
- **\$1m** over two years to implement the **Victorian First Peoples Creative Plan**, including targeted investment for festivals and events that seek to embed First Peoples' work in the creative industries mainstream, a First Peoples Employment Program and a First Peoples Cultural Exchange Program.

The Budget also includes **\$4m** over four years to expand the number of declared major events (including live performances) within the scope of the *Major Sporting Events Act 2009* to prevent ticket scalping. This includes the introduction of **new authorised ticketing officers who will be able to fine scalpers** who target declared major events.

Additionally, **the payroll tax-free threshold will be increased to \$650,000 from 1 July 2018**.

The **payroll tax rate for regional businesses** will be **reduced from 3.65 to 2.425 per cent** – the lowest rate in Australia. This will apply to regionally based businesses with payrolls that comprise at least 85 per cent wages associated with regional employees.

### Further Information:

Detailed information on the **Budget Initiatives for Creative Industries** in the Victorian State Budget 2018–19, including a year-by-year breakdown, can be found [here](#). The complete **2018-19 Budget Papers** can be found [here](#).

**Minister for Creative Industries Martin Foley's Media Release** on budget support for the creative industries can be found [here](#).

Should you have any questions with regard to the Victorian State Budget 2018–19, please contact LPA Senior Policy Advisor, Holly Crain [via email](mailto:hcrain@liveperformance.com.au) at [hcrain@liveperformance.com.au](mailto:hcrain@liveperformance.com.au) or call 03 8614 2000.



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