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NEW MEMBERS



October was a busy month with LPA staff meeting in Canberra with the Minister for Immigration's Chief of Staff and the First Assistant Secretary, Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP), to discuss our serious concerns regarding changes to the Subclass 420 Temporary Work Entertainment Visa. In particular, we are concerned about the removal of the 'group discount' and lack of clarity regarding exemptions. We are following up these meetings and will advise Members of the outcome shortly. We are mindful that the new online system goes live on 19 November and we do have concerns about the lack of testing and provision of the relevant online forms in advance of the launch date. The DIBP has advised that we will not get this information in advance so LPA staff will do our best to assist Members when the online system goes live.

Today we welcomed René Spoors to the LPA team as our new Workplace Relations Advisor. Please introduce yourself to him in the coming weeks. He is already immersed in workplace relations issues and has hit the ground running, working alongside David Hamilton.

Our annual Ticket Attendance and Revenue Survey 2015 will be released next week. A link to the e-report will be sent to all Members with the Media Release.

We are fast approaching our Annual General Meeting on Friday 2 December in Melbourne. The formal announcement and papers, including our Annual Report 2015-16, will go out to all Members tomorrow. We look forward to seeing many of our Melbourne Members at the meeting.

If there are industry issues you would like to raise with us, please contact the LPA office on 03 8614 2000 or via email.

Kind regards,

Evelyn Richardson
LPA Chief Executive

ARTANDBUSINESS

Founded by arts management specialist Dale Hollingsworth, ARTANDBUSINESS offers tailored financial and business solutions for creative and not-for-profit companies. ARTANDBUSINESS identifies with and specifically aims to benefit cultural and socially-minded organisations.

MUSICAL CHAIRS



Australia Council

Sam Walsh AO, Kate Fielding, Zoe McKenzie and Leigh Carmichael have been appointed as new members of the Australia Council Board for three year terms.

Opera Australia

Opera Australia's CEO Craig Hassall AM will be leaving the company next year to take up the post of Chief Executive of London's Royal Albert Hall.

TEG Live

Tim McGregor has been appointed as the new Managing Director of TEG Live. Tim will concurrently fill the role as TEG's Chief Commercial Officer.

Screen Producers Australia

James Cheatley has been appointed as Manager, Government Relations and Policy at Screen Producers Australia.

LIVE PERFORMANCE AUSTRALIA NEW WORKPLACE RELATIONS ADVISOR

LPA warmly welcomes **René Spoors** to the team as our new Workplace Relations Advisor.

René joins LPA after working with the Victorian Chamber of Commerce and Industry as a Workplace Relations Advisor/ Business Development Consultant.

Members are encouraged to add René to your industry correspondence and databases.

To contact him directly:

Email: rspoors@liveperformance.com.au

Phone: 03 8614 2000

LPA RAISES CONCERN WITH VET STUDENT LOANS ELIGIBLE COURSE LIST

LPA has written to the Minister for Education and Training, Senator Simon Birmingham, raising our serious concern with regard to the high number of live performance, and more broadly creative arts courses, that have been excluded from the Federal Government's proposed VET Student Loans Eligible Course List.

From 1 January 2017, the Government intends to introduce VET Student Loans to replace the current VET FEE-HELP scheme, in which students will only be able to access VET Student Loans for some courses.

While LPA supports the Government's intention to "offer greater protections for students and provide access to quality higher level VET qualifications that address industry needs and create better opportunities for employment", we believe the lack of proper industry consultation has led to the exclusion of nationally reputable performing arts courses on the eligible course list. The exclusion of these courses may create unintended consequences that result in our industry's workforce needs being unmet in the long-term.

We have requested that the Department of Education and Training consult with industry stakeholders to determine how a new VET Student Loan scheme can best support our skills requirements, prior to any final decisions being made.

A copy of LPA's letter to Minister Simon Birmingham can be found [here](#).

Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact the **LPA Policy Team** via [email](#) or call (03) 8614 2000.



NEW 408 TEMPORARY ACTIVITY VISA

Members will be aware that the new temporary activity visa framework will **come into effect on 19 November 2016**.

Please see [Circular 10-16](#) and [Circular 11-16](#) for more detail.

We would like to remind Members that the deadline to lodge Subclass 420 Entertainment Visa applications through LPA has now passed; **we will no longer be accepting 420 visa applications**.

LPA will inform Members of details regarding the new online Subclass (408) Activity Visa as they become available.



LIVE PERFORMANCE AUSTRALIA AGM 2 DECEMBER 10AM

The LPA Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on Friday 2 December 2016 in Melbourne.

Location: Salon, Melbourne Recital Centre, 31 Sturt Street, Southbank, Melbourne

Date: Friday 2 December, 2016

Time: 9:45am until 12pm

The session will include the AGM commencing at 10am, followed by an Industry Briefing commencing at 10:15am. This briefing provides

an opportunity for LPA to report to Members on our activities for the year, as well as seeking Member feedback on future challenges facing the industry. The Industry Briefing will conclude at 12pm and Members are encouraged to stay on for a light lunch.

Please RSVP via RSVP@liveperformance.com.au by Thursday 24 November.

WORKING IN THE AUSTRALIAN ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY: FINAL REPORT

Entertainment Assist and Victoria University have partnered together on a report titled 'Working in the Australian Entertainment Industry: Final Report' which sheds light on mental health issues within our industry.

The report addresses issues such as income, work and sleep patterns, social support and networks of Australian arts workers. Participants included 2904 respondents across all sectors of the Entertainment Industry from all States and Territories of Australia.

For a summary of Entertainment Assist's key research findings, click [here](#).

AUSTRALIA - SINGAPORE ARTS GROUP

Australia and Singapore will strengthen cultural ties with the support of a new Australia–Singapore Arts Group.

The Australia–Singapore Arts Group was established in May 2016 to build on the commitment both countries made following the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the Field of Arts and Culture in 2015.

This month, the following new Australian members were announced: Mr Douglas Gautier AM, Chief Executive Officer and Artistic Director of the Adelaide Festival Centre and Chair of the Association of Asia Pacific Performing Arts Centres; Professor Susan Street AO, Executive Director of the Queensland University of Technology Precincts; and Ms Claire Spencer, Chief Executive Officer of Arts

Centre Melbourne.

The Singaporean members are Ms Angelita Teo, Director of the National Museum of Singapore; Ms Kathy Lai, Chief Executive Officer of the Singapore National Arts Council; and Ms Chong Siak Ching, Chief Executive Officer of the National Gallery of Singapore.

The group will meet regularly to provide advice and recommendations which will drive an ongoing program of cultural activities in both countries to enhance our cultural relations, develop professional skills and cultivate audiences.

For more information about the Australia-Singapore Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, including the Australia-Singapore Arts group, click [here](#).

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