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New Theatre to Deliver more Performing Arts for Queenslanders

28 May 2018

Dear Member

Today LPA released the following statement welcoming the QLD Government announcement that it will provide \$125m towards construction of a new theatre:

The Queensland Government's announcement that it will provide \$125 million towards the construction of a new theatre at the Queensland Performing Arts Centre (QPAC) is a welcome investment in Queensland's live performance industry.

LPA Chief Executive Evelyn Richardson said the funding would help QPAC attract more productions in future, including tours from interstate and overseas.

'This creates more opportunities for audiences, performing arts companies and industry workers,' Ms Richardson said.

'State of the art theatre space is a vital part of our live performance infrastructure, and this investment will only strengthen Brisbane's appeal as a destination for touring productions as well as providing even more opportunity for homegrown creative talent,' Ms Richardson said.

Ms Richardson said it was encouraging to see governments recognise the economic significance of the live performance industry to local and state economies and be prepared to make the necessary investment to support its growth.

More than 2.5 million tickets for a live performance were issued in Queensland in 2016, and the state generated 13 per cent of nationwide revenue and attendance.

'The development of new theatre infrastructure such as that planned for QPAC will help drive these numbers up in future, ensuring that live performance continues to make a significant and growing contribution to the Queensland economy,' Ms Richardson said.

ENDS

You can read LPA's full media release here.

The QLD Government will deliver a new \$150 million state of the art theatre for Brisbane with the bulk of the funding committed for its construction part of next month's QLD State Budget 2018-19.

The Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk announced an investment of \$125 million towards its construction on the Playhouse Green site at the Queensland Performing Arts Centre (QPAC). This investment in a new theatre follows the recommendations of the detailed business case for a 1500-1700 seat theatre at this site, to be operated by QPAC, who will contribute \$25 million to the new venue.

For further information you can read the <u>QLD Government's Media Statement here</u>.

LPA will keep members updated as further developments arise.

Kind regards,

Evelyn Richardson Chief Executive



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