



## Budget a 'No-Show' for Live Performance

Dear Member,

The Federal Government handed down the **2018-19 Budget** last night (8 May 2018).

### LPA RESPONSE TO FEDERAL BUDGET 2018-19

The Turnbull Government has once again missed the opportunity to demonstrate its support for Australia's live performance industry in the Federal Budget.

Live Performance Australia (LPA) put forward a number of proposals to the Government in its Budget submission to support new Australian content, innovation and job creation for the \$2.5 billion live performance industry.

'This Budget is a big disappointment for live performance. There's nothing there in terms of new policy initiatives or investment to support the live performance industry's growth and sustain the 34,000 jobs in metropolitan and regional areas supported by the industry,' said LPA Chief Executive Evelyn Richardson.

'The Government's neglect of live performance in this Budget follows the upheaval of earlier Budgets including the Catalyst fiasco,' Ms Richardson said.

'Post-Catalyst, the Minister for the Arts, Senator Fifield, indicated he wanted to work with industry to develop a more strategic approach to supporting live performance in Australia.

'That was almost two years ago, and as this Budget shows, the Government is yet to take up the opportunity to come up with any meaningful policy initiatives or plan for our industry or the creative industries more broadly,' Ms Richardson said.

'More than 18 million people attend a live performance in our capital cities, regional centres and country towns each year.

'Live performance promotes Australian talent and creativity across a range of genres, and is a major driver of our visitor economy, attracting visitors from interstate and overseas to see performances or attend festivals.

'It really is time for the Turnbull Government to reflect the economic and cultural contribution our industry makes to Australia with a broader vision and some long-term, strategic policy initiatives that support its future growth,' Ms Richardson said.

LPA's full media release in reponse to the Federal Budget is available [here](#).

### COMMUNICATIONS AND THE ARTS

LPA is disappointed that no new initiatives for the live performance industry were introduced in the 2018-19 Budget. New initiatives introduced for the Communications and the Arts portfolio include:

- **\$140m** over four years from 2019-20 to attract **international investment in film production and related industries** through a competitive incentive program. This funding

will complement the Government's existing 'Location Offset' component of the Australian Screen Production Incentive tax rebate.

- **\$48.7m** over four years from 2017-18 to commemorate the **250th anniversary of James Cook's first voyage to Australia and the Pacific**. The package will support events and exhibitions including a digital platform and educational material.
- **\$17.6m** over two years from 2018-19 to support the **Special Broadcasting Service Corporation (SBS)** and to contribute to the production and distribution of Australian film, television and radio content.
- **\$16.6m** over three years to upgrade original building management systems and address age-related deterioration of the **National Gallery of Australia (NGA)** building.

Minister for the Arts, Senator Mitch Fifield's Media Release on the 2018-19 Budget can be found [here](#).

## SMALL BUSINESS

The **\$20,000 instant asset write-off**, first introduced in the 2015-16 Budget, will be **extended for a further 12 months to 30 June 2019**.

## ADDITIONAL BUDGET INFORMATION

Further information on the 2018–19 Federal Budget can be found via:

- [Federal Budget 2018–19 Papers](#)
- [Department of Communications and the Arts](#) (including portfolio budget statements)
- [Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry Media Release](#)

Any additional Federal Budget details that arise will be communicated to Members.

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



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