

Media Release – For immediate release

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## Live Performance Australia welcomes new Arts Minister

Live Performance Australia (LPA) has congratulated the Hon Paul Fletcher MP on his appointment as the Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts.

"We look forward to working with the Minister on policies that promote the growth of our vibrant and dynamic live performance industry," said LPA Chief Executive, Evelyn Richardson.

"As the Minister noted on his appointment, Australia's performers and creative artists are world renowned and make a profound contribution to our national identity.

"There is a great opportunity for the new Minister to take a leadership role in guiding a national policy approach that celebrates and advances our cultural industries as valuable national assets, which are recognised for their significant economic and social contribution to the life of the nation," Ms Richardson said.

LPA's President Richard Evans said, "It's time to celebrate and develop the contemporary cultural identity of our nation through a clearly articulated cultural policy, providing creative Australians with a road map to allow them to flourish at home and abroad.

"A strong cultural sector is a major selling point for all sophisticated nations, and cultural development and articulation must be forefront in the new government's aspirations for our national economic and social well-being.

"The cultural sector has suffered too much ad hoc decision-making in recent years, and the new Minister now has an opportunity to put in place policies that support industry growth, better reflecting its size and importance in terms of jobs, economic activity and significant contribution to our cultural expression and identity.

"We look forward to working with the Minister on initiatives to support a successful, thriving Australian live performance industry," Mr Evans said.

## ENDS

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## About LPA

LPA is the peak body for Australia's live performance industry. Established 100 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.