



Australian Government



ASSESSMENT MEETING REPORT



Music Board

APPLICATION CLOSING DATE
01 June 2007

AUSTRALIA COUNCIL
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THE INFORMATION IN THIS REPORT IS EMBARGOED
FROM PUBLIC DISCUSSION UNTIL 5 October 2007



Music Board meeting 27 – 29 August 2007

This report provides a context to the assessment of applications submitted to the Music Board at the 1 June 2007 closing date in the Key Organisations and Program Grants categories. It provides some statistical analysis of the results of the grant round and general comments made by the Board during the assessment of applications.

The Music Board held its assessment meeting over three days from 27 to 29 August 2007. The assessment meeting of 17 – 20 September 2007 will be the subject of a separate assessment report for all other categories and initiatives submitted to the 1 June 2007 closing date. These are: New Work; Presentation and Promotion; Skills and Arts Development; the ABC Radiophonic Residency for Media Artists; Fellowships; Project Fellowships; and consideration of nominations for the Don Banks Music Award.

ATTENDANCE

Five of the currently appointed members attended the meeting. Apologies were received from Mr Neil Thompson (Qld), recently appointed to the Music Board. The Music Board has two vacancies.

Dr Graeme Koehne (Chair) (SA) is Head of Composition at the Elder School of Music, University of Adelaide. He has been commissioned by some of the major performing arts companies in Australia, including the Australian Ballet, Queensland Ballet, Sydney Dance Company, Musica Viva Australia and the state symphony orchestras.

Carol Day OAM (Deputy Chair) (WA) is founder and Chair of Western Australian Youth Music Association, has extensive management experience in the arts and in government, and is a consultant specialising in strategic information research.

Prof Andy Arthurs (Qld) is Professor of Music and Head of Music and Sound at Queensland University of Technology. He is also an executive member of the Music Council of Australia, a board member of the Brisbane Powerhouse, and was a member of the Steering Committee for the National Review of School Music Education. Andy has composed music for dance, film, television and multi-media. His recent compositions include songs for The Ten Tenors album *Larger than Life* and *Tenology*.

Fr Arthur Bridge AM (NSW) is the founder of Ars Musica Australis, an organisation committed to the development of the performing arts for young people. He has a special interest in chamber music, orchestral music, community and youth music and the creation of new work.

Paul Petran (Vic) studied classical guitar and graduated from La Trobe University with a Bachelor of Arts (Music). He started working with ABC Radio in 1980. During his more than twenty years' work with ABC Radio as a music producer, he has produced in excess of 1,000 recordings for broadcast and presented regular music programs since 1986. Paul initiated *Music Deli* in 1986, a program that continues to this day and has become an influential part of the Australian music scene. Also, as part of his ABC work, he has produced over 60 public concerts

around Australia. Two of the albums produced by Paul have won ARIA awards: *Womadelaide 1996* and *Mara! Live in Europe* (2001).

Neil Thompson (Qld) is an experienced lawyer and an author. He has a long record of service on arts related boards. He served as a board member of the Queensland Theatre Orchestra (since known as the Queensland Philharmonic Orchestra) from 1982–1990, and as a member on the Artistic Advisory Board for the Brisbane Festival from 1998–2002. Since 2003, he has been Chair of the Queensland Choir Board. In 2001, Mr Thompson received a Centenary of Federation Medal for service to the arts.

Siobhan Lenihan (NSW) provided specialist advice to the Board on the youth orchestral sector.

Music staff attending the assessment meeting were:

Kate Lidbetter	Director
Vanessa Chalker	Program Manager
Andy Rantzen	Program Officer
Karen Baker	Assistant Program Officer
Daniel Edmonds	Assistant Program Officer
Peter Keogh	Section Co-ordinator
Avril Cox	Administrative Assistant

Other Australia Council Staff and guests also attended parts of the meeting:

From Key Organisations: Atul Joshi, Director; Susan Parker, A/g Client Manager, Music and Literature; and David Sharpe, Financial Analyst.

Ben Strout, Executive Director, Arts Development also attended parts of the meeting.

As a result of significant new funds being provided by the Australian Government for small to medium performing arts companies through the 2007-08 Budget, the Music Board was able to offer a one-off extra grant of \$50,000 to all Key Organisations funded for 2008 activities. These funds are to increase their development, creation or presentation of new work, to assist their ongoing financial and operational sustainability, or to contribute towards their promotion and pursuit of international activity. The Board was also able to increase the budget available in the Program Grants category and create new infrastructure initiatives. The results of this are evident in the Grants List: we have increased funding for most successful applicants, and could offer funding to some companies previously not funded in the Program Grants category.

More details on the use of this new funding are available on the Australia Council website [<http://www.ozco.gov.au/s2m>].

What a pleasure it is for the Music Board to assess and allocate funding to Key Organisations and Program Grant clients for their 2008 activities knowing that the Board could respond to companies' requests and needs in this meaningful way.

In 2008 the Music Board will offer a new sub-category: Key Organisations (Emerging). This is designed to provide a pathway from Program and project funding to Key Organisations status, where companies will benefit from the considerable business expertise on a team of analysts, in order to better support their artistic programs. Further details of this sub-category will soon be provided to relevant companies and made available on the Australia Council's website in 2008.

At this Assessment Meeting the Board took the final steps in determining which organisations should be invited to apply to the Key Organisations or Key Organisations (Emerging) categories next year. Thirty organisations will be invited to submit an application to one of these categories for 2009-2011. Our sincere thanks to the 47 organisations that lodged expressions of interest for Triennial funding for 2009 and beyond and supplied the necessary data and information for the Board to make an informed decision about the fit of the organisation within the Triennial Grants category. This process has allowed the board to become better informed regarding the aspirations of new and existing Music Board-funded organisations.

Staff will be writing to each organisation that has lodged an expression of interest for Triennial Funding (2009-2011) in the coming weeks. Those organisations that are to be invited demonstrated a genuine need for three-year funding due to international or other commitments, and a capacity to respond to the reporting and other requirements of Key Organisation funding. A small number of companies could not meet current eligibility criteria for Key Organisations status, but will be invited to apply for Key Organisations (Emerging) in order to work towards eligibility over the next three years. In this time of transition, Key Organisations staff will be working closely with the organisations intending to submit to either of these categories next year prior to the 15 May closing date (NB this is earlier than previous years. Project categories will retain the usual closing date of 1 June).

The Key Organisation and Program Grant funding round next year will be a fresh start and the Board intends to assess the applications received, and respond to the artistic programs and financial plans accordingly.



The Board is pleased to welcome newly appointed Board member Neil Thompson from Queensland to the Board. Neil will join the Board for its September Assessment meeting. We also welcome back Paul Petran (Victoria) who has been reappointed for a further term. Paul's knowledge and empathy for a wide range of music and his expertise in world music, folk and acoustic music is particularly valuable.

My thanks to Board members for their hard work, and to the organisations that submitted assessment and Expressions of Interest documentation to the Board. The Board also wishes to thank Australia Council staff, and in particular, the Key Organisations Unit for their financial and data analyses, which contributed to informed Board discussions regarding the Expressions of Interest documentation.

*Dr Graeme Koehne
Chair, Music Board
Australia Council*

OUTCOMES



Table 1: Funding Outcomes

Program title	Application (Number)		Success %	Application (Amounts -\$)	
	Received	Approved		Requested Per annum	Approved Per annum
KEY ORGANISATIONS	5	5	100.0%	\$ 910,693	\$ 640,122*
PROGRAM GRANTS	29	29	100.0%	\$1,594,152	\$1,236,506
Total	34	34	100.0%	\$2,504,845	\$1,876,628

- Funding requested and approved for Key Organisations applications is for 2008 activities.

Key Organisations Grants

Five organisations were considered under this category and the results are detailed in this report. The Music Board also provided funding for 2008 to another seven Key Organisations. Table 2 details the full amount granted to these organisations for 2008.

Table 2: 2008 Key Organisations funding levels (amounts are per annum)

Name	2008 grant (incl. 2.7% indexation)
Australian Art Orchestra	\$118,342
Australian Music Centre Ltd	\$451,880
Chamber Made Opera	\$242,063
ELISION	\$102,841
Gondwana Voices	\$ 52,582
IHOS	\$ 75,309
Kulcha Multicultural Arts WA	\$ 37,654
Melbourne Chorale Ltd	\$ 48,413
Queensland Music Network t/as Q Music	\$ 26,896
Sydney Philharmonia Choirs Ltd	\$ 69,929
Synergy Percussion Ltd	\$138,645
The Song Company Ltd	\$161,376

Youth Orchestras Australia network

As part of our support to music's key infrastructure, the Music Board also provides funding to the peak State/Territory youth orchestras through a funding arrangement with the Australian Youth Orchestra on behalf of the Youth Orchestras Australia network. The Music Board set funding levels for the eight state youth orchestras as follows for 2008.

The total funding granted of \$212,260 as shown under Australian Youth Orchestra Program Grant is allocated as follows:

Adelaide Youth Orchestra	\$13,000
Canberra Youth Music	\$36,000
Darwin Youth Orchestra	\$10,000
Melbourne Youth Music	\$18,260
Queensland Youth Orchestras	\$39,000
Sydney Youth Orchestra	\$32,000
Tasmanian Youth Orchestra	\$10,000
Western Australian Youth Music Assn	\$32,000
YOA Co-ordinator	\$22,000
TOTAL	\$212,260

A full list of grants approved is attached.

FEEDBACK

- **Budgets:** A well-prepared, realistic budget is critical to the success of an application. Where increases are requested the application and budget must demonstrate how increases requested will impact on the organisation's ability to deliver its program.
- **Quantitative Data Summaries:** The Music Board takes keen interest in the information provided in the Quantitative Data Summary form. Organisations are asked to take care that the information in this report is accurate.
- **Business Plans:** In the Key Organisations category, business plans and delivery plans should provide sufficient information on how the activities will be implemented. The goals, key performance indicators and strategies should be clear, and each goal should be measurable through its key performance indicator.

Organisations invited to apply next year for a Key Organisations or Key Organisations (Emerging) grant for 2009 –1011 will be required to submit a draft business plan in advance of the closing date.

- **Confirmation of key artists** is critical to the assessment of the feasibility of the project. Key artists need to be listed within the page limits of the biographies section.

- **Support Material:** Organisations should ensure that the support material submitted represents the strongest artistic work of key artists involved. The **choice of tracks** should demonstrate a representative sample of the artists involved in the organisation's activities. For example, organisations that present a large number of artists should provide examples of more than one artist or one group of artists. Those organisations should submit three tracks where each track demonstrates the work of different artists. Where one ensemble/ group is the focus of the application the Board requires three tracks of different works.

- Applicants are encouraged to include **Australian or contemporary content**, where relevant. The Music Board prefers to receive support material showing examples of Australian and/or local content.
- **Acquittal reporting:** Acquittals represent the organisation's ability to effectively deliver its program as approved by the Music Board. Acquittals are discussed alongside the assessment of the new application submitted. All applicants intending to apply for operational funding in 2008 are advised that a satisfactory acquittal including artistic appraisal, financial information and quantitative data summaries must be received before the relevant 2008 closing dates for Key Organisations and Program Grant funding.

Music Board initiatives in progress

These include:

- **Digital Download initiative**

At the September 2007 Assessment meeting, the Music Board will consider a report from Handshake Media on the digital delivery of Australian music.

- **International Strategy**

This strategy, to operate for the period 2008-2010, is being developed in collaboration with the Australia Council's Community Partnerships and Market Development division. It will offer a broader base of funding for international activity.

- **Publishing Program**

A set of four books on different Australian musical genres will be published by University of NSW Press, initiated and funded by the Music Board. It is expected that the first of these books will be released by the end of 2008. The series will focus on music and musicians of the last 25 years.

- **Media arts infrastructure and artist opportunities**

The Music Board has assisted a dedicated position for one-year trial period within the Australian Network for Art and Technology. The aim is to raise the profile of sound art, electronica and sound culture and source new opportunities for sound art practice.

In collaboration with Inter-Arts and the Literature Board, the Music Board is also supporting an artist residency in 'Second Life'.

Company Development Fund

Organisations that receive Music Board support through the Key Organisations or Program grants categories may be eligible to apply for financial assistance for company development proposals. Company development assistance can be directed for the following types of projects:

- strategic planning for companies facing changing markets (including specific new market opportunities), changing stakeholder needs, a restructure or a shifting resource base;
- development of improved financial systems to strengthen longer term financial planning;
- business plan development and evaluation; and
- governance issues not addressed through other State or Federal training programs.

Recent examples included: \$2,900 to Music NT for engagement of a consultant to develop a business plan, and \$10,000 to Synergy Percussion Ltd for a consultancy to review the organisation's branding and positioning within the arts marketplace

For Program client enquiries, contact Vanessa Chalker, Program Manager (Music) on 02 9215 9301 or 1800 226 912 (toll free).

For Key Organisations clients, contact Client Manager - Literature and Music 02 9215 9118 or 1800 226 912 (toll free).

STEPS IN THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS

BEFORE THE MEETING

Staff check eligibility and register applications on Council's computer database. You will receive a letter acknowledging your application with an application number and staff contact for your reference. Staff analyse the statistical information provided by applicants to help Council measure the effectiveness of its grant programs. Staff prepare applications and support material for the Board assessment meeting. Applications are made into booklets and sent to Board members. Peers are invited to participate as advisers to the Board at the meeting bringing additional expertise and perspectives to the assessment process. Staff also check and manage any conflicts of interest that Board members and peers have with applications and study the applications in order to provide information to the Board as required (see below *).

AT THE MEETING

ASSESSMENT

Board members assess your application against the published selection criteria. Board members may examine support material at the meeting or by prior arrangement.

Board members may also take into account information from other sources such as:

- their attendance at performances and other events;
- reports from members of the Register of Peers who may be asked to provide formal assessments of designated works;
- reviews, videos and recordings, referee reports and other material;
- any previous Australia Council grant acquittal reports and performance agreements you may have had; and
- communication with State and Territory agencies.

Boards may decide not to fund the application at the level requested. While your application may meet the stated selection criteria, this does not guarantee you a grant. The Australia Council receives many more applications than it can support. The success of your application must rest ultimately on the merits of your proposal against published criteria and in competition with all the other applications considered for funding.

NOTIFICATION OF DECISION

All applicants will be notified of the Board's decision by mail during the month indicated on the Australia Council's website and the application forms. Information about grant decisions will not be released over the phone.

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS SUCCESSFUL

If your application is successful, you will receive a letter of agreement offering you a grant. This letter outlines the terms and conditions of the offer. Payment of a grant will not be made until you have accepted the conditions by signing and returning the letter of agreement.

ACQUITTAL OF GRANTS

Acquittals are the artistic and financial reports that you must provide after completing your project. Acquittal reports enable the Council to fulfil its obligations of accountability as well as allowing us to learn about the success or otherwise of your project. These reports are a valuable way for you to contribute to the policy development work at the Australia Council.

**Staff do not make funding decisions. Staff provide information and advice to Council, Boards and advisory bodies to assist their determination of policy and assessment of grant applications. Staff also provide information to potential grant applicants and administer the Australia Council's grant programs to enable a simple, fair and efficient assessment of applications.*

GRANTS LIST

Music Board
KEY ORGANISATIONS MUSIC
Round Id: 15259 Closing Date: 01-JUN-2007

Client Name	Application Title	State	Amount
Australian Art Orchestra	Key Organisations Music - 2008 activities	VIC	\$118,342.00
Chamber Made Opera	Key Organisations Music - 2008 activities	VIC	\$242,063.00
Melbourne Chorale Incorporated	Key Organisations Music - 2008 activities	VIC	\$48,413.00
Sydney Philharmonia Choirs	Key Organisations Music - 2008 activities	NSW	\$69,929.00
The Song Company Pty Ltd	Key Organisations Music - 2008 activities	NSW	\$161,375.00
Grants this Round: 5			\$640,122.00
Total Grants: 5			\$640,122.00



Music Board
PROGRAM GRANTS

Round Id: 15515 Closing Date: 01-JUN-2007

Client Name	Application Title	State	Amount
Adelaide Baroque	Program Grant 2008: Concert and touring program to WA, Hong Kong and China, recordings and a contribution to core costs	SA	\$24,000.00
Adelaide Chamber Singers Inc	Program Grant 2008: 11th subscription series, regional tour, recording and core costs	SA	\$20,000.00
Aphids Events Inc	Program Grant 2008: Cross-artform performance season, residency, dance and music collaborations	VIC	\$20,000.00
Astra Chamber Music Society Inc	Program Grant 2008: Professional fees for six concert programs featuring the Astra Choir, core costs	VIC	\$30,000.00
Australia Pro Arte	Program Grant 2008: Concert series, Victorian regional tour and core costs	VIC	\$43,000.00
Australian String Quartet Inc	Program Grant 2008: National subscription season, regional touring and other Events, core costs	SA	\$30,000.00
Australian Youth Orchestra	Program Grant 2008: Youth Orchestras Australia's concert and training program, network co-ordination	NSW	\$212,260.00
Dandenong Ranges Music Council Inc	Program Grant 2008: Research and Development, music co-ordination and related projects	VIC	\$25,000.00
Fairbridge Festival	Program Grant 2008: Presentation and operating costs for the Fairbridge Festival, WA	WA	\$20,000.00
Footscray Community Arts Centre Ltd	Program Grant 2008: Professional fees and related costs for workshop and events program	VIC	\$40,000.00
Jazz Queensland Incorporated	Program Grant 2008: Marketing and development, membership, partnerships websites and events	QLD	\$23,000.00
Jazz SA Inc	Program Grant 2008: Concert presentation costs, jazz co-ordination, core costs	SA	\$25,000.00
JazzWA	Program Grant 2008: The promotion and development of West Australian jazz via services and projects	WA	\$55,000.00
Melbourne Jazz Co-operative	Program Grant 2008: Weekly series of jazz presentation, advocacy and core costs	VIC	\$50,000.00
Moreland City Council	Program Grant 2008: Professional fees and related costs for the Brunswick Music Festival	VIC	\$35,000.00

GRANTS LIST

Music Board
PROGRAM GRANTS
Round Id: 15515 Closing Date: 01-JUN-2007

Client Name	Application Title	State	Amount
Music Association NSW Incorporated	Program Grant 2008: Assistance with the delivery of support and services to NSW musicians	NSW	\$35,000.00
Music Council of Australia Pty Ltd	Program Grant 2008: Operational costs for information services, research, advocacy and projects	NSW	\$94,000.00
Music NT Inc	Program Grant 2008: Development and expansion of core activities, projects and marketing	NT	\$35,000.00
Music for Everyone Inc	Program Grant 2008: Workshops, concerts, commissions, arts access program, core costs	ACT	\$26,000.00
Southern Cross Soloists Music Ltd	Program Grant 2008: Presentation of concerts, Bangalow Music Festival, education program, core costs	QLD	\$32,500.00
Sydney Improvised Music Association Inc	Program Grant 2008: Weekly jazz presentation costs, contribution to Jazz/Now Festival, core costs and \$5,000 for Young Women's Improvisation Workshops	NSW	\$60,000.00
The Australian Voices Ensemble Ltd	Program Grant 2008: Professional fees for choral presentation, five composer commissions, core costs	QLD	\$45,000.00
The Boite	Program Grant 2008: World Music Cafe series, Singers' Festival, other projects and core costs	VIC	\$35,000.00
The Jazzgroove Association Inc	Program Grant 2008: Presentation, promotion and recordings of contemporary jazz-based music	NSW	\$25,000.00
Topology	Program Grant 2008: Concert activities, touring, collaborations, other projects and contribution to core costs	QLD	\$26,746.00
Tura New Music Ltd	Program Grant 2008: Sounds Outback Festival/Conference, Scale Variable series, Club Zoo and contribution to core costs	WA	\$65,000.00
Wangaratta Festival of Jazz Inc	Program Grant 2008: Presentation costs for the Wangaratta Festival of Jazz	VIC	\$40,000.00
West Australian Youth Jazz Orchestra Association	Program Grant 2008: Artists' fees and core costs for training, compositional and concert activities	WA	\$40,000.00
Western Australian Music Industry Association	Program Grant 2008: International Market Development, WAMI Festival and Compilation, and contribution to core costs	WA	\$25,000.00
Grants this Round: 29			\$1,236,506.0

