

# Buzz

Music Board, Australia Council  
Young and Emerging Artists Initiative

**Closing Date: 01 March 2006**

**Embargo Date: 02 June 2006**

## **Buzz 2006 round 1 – Assessment Report**

Buzz is the Music Board's small grants program for young and emerging artists, supported through the Australian Government's Young and Emerging Artists Initiative. Buzz, now in its fifth year, has become an important avenue for supporting young and emerging artists and providing support for young musicians, sound artists and arts workers.

Applications to the first round of Buzz for 2006 were assessed on Thursday 4 May 2006 by a four-member panel – Music Board members Julian Knowles (NSW) and Paul Petran (VIC) and music sector representatives Tom Ellard (NSW) and Madeleine Paige (NSW). Funding decisions were then made by the Director, Music, taking into consideration the recommendations of the panel.

There are two rounds for this initiative in 2006. In this first round, 20 grants totalling \$50,000 were approved.

### **How your proposal was assessed**

Buzz proposals were assessed according to three criteria:

- The quality of the artists and their music
- The merit of the project including evidence of thorough planning
- Potential for the project to contribute to the applicant's professional development

The applications were ranked and funding was given to the projects that rated highest against the set criteria.

### **How many people applied?**

<b>Buzz 2006– round 1</b>	Proposals received	Proposals approved	Success rate	Amount requested	Amount approved
1 March	100	20	20%	\$255,000	\$50,000

The first-round of Buzz for 2006 demonstrates a marked increase in the number of applications received compared to 2005 rounds 1 (47 requests) and 2 (77 requests). The program continues to be increasingly competitive. Panel members commented on the high calibre of most applications received. In this round the Music Board was pleased to support projects across a range of musical styles including sound art, contemporary rock/pop, jazz and classical music. Diverse musical outcomes supported include a contribution to a youth music event, recording projects including CD manufacture, advanced instrumental study overseas, mentorship programs, touring within Australia and other key developmental opportunities for emerging artists.



## Who were the successful applicants?

Client Name	Application Title	State	Amount
Aleks & The Ramps	Assistance towards the production of a 5 track CD of original music	VIC	\$2,500
Brad McCarthy Quartet	Assistance towards the recording of a demo of original compositions	VIC	\$2,500
Chen, Ray	Assistance towards travel expenses to attend 'Encore' workshops and master classes	NSW	\$2,500
Circle The Sky	Assistance towards a recording that will be made as a part of the 'Kool Skools' project	VIC	\$2,500
Collett, Morwenna	Assistance towards a mentorship with Ian Clarke, and participation in the Guildhall School festival	NSW	\$2,500
Gerasimou, Isaac	Assistance towards the recording mixing and mastering of a debut album	QLD	\$2,500
Hall, Thomas	Assistance towards the recording and production of experimental music	TAS	\$2,500
Hammond, Raphael	Assistance towards the production of a debut album, including artwork, pressing and packaging	VIC	\$2,500
Hearn, Christopher	Assistance towards the recording of a second album to be titled 'Alps of the World'	NSW	\$2,500
Jardine, Emma	Assistance towards study at the Accademia Musicale Chigiana in Italy	VIC	\$2,500
Jess Cooknkitch	Assistance towards the UK tour of Cooknkitch, and debut album	NSW	\$2,500
MacLeod, Samantha	Assistance towards costs of youth music event	VIC	\$2,500
Moynihan, Jim	Assistance towards the recording production and manufacture of a 2nd album	VIC	\$2,500
Popov, Eva	Assistance towards the recording of an album of original material	VIC	\$2,500
Sarah Kim	Assistance towards costs to attend the Harlem International Summer Academy for organists in Holland	NSW	\$2,500
Schornikow, Joanne	Assistance towards a mentorship with Pianist Fred Hersch in New York	VIC	\$2,500
SleeperX	Assistance towards a three city tour of the eastern states	WA	\$2,500
Smith, Martin John	Assistance towards living expenses related to postgraduate cello studies in Leipzig	OS	\$2,500
Tamplenizza, Richard	Assistance towards the production of an EP length CD of original material	NSW	\$2,500
Tecoma	Assistance towards the manufacture including pressing mastering and artwork of a debut CD	VIC	\$2,500
<b>Totals</b>	<b>Approved Projects - 20</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>

### Feedback for the future

If you were not successful this round, please don't be discouraged. There is strong competition for any funding opportunity including Buzz. We encourage you to keep working towards finding outlets for your creative projects, whether through your own networks, community or youth organisations, local, state/territory or federal sources of support.

Some tips to consider when putting together an application:

- Read the guidelines carefully and check the starting date for projects – many funding organisations, including the Australia Council, do not support projects that have already started. You must nominate a start and end date for your project.

- As Buzz is the Music Board's grant program for young and emerging artists you must be 26 years or under to be eligible to apply as an individual artist and if you are applying as a group the average age of participants must also be 26 years or under. You must include your age or the age of all artists in your group on your application form.
- The panel encourages artists to explore mentorship programs and other opportunities within Australia before applying to Buzz for assistance in travelling overseas.
- Clarity is important in your application. It should clearly describe the project and how it will benefit you as an artist. Use a minimum of 12 point type and stick to the page limits. It is also helpful to identify which elements of the project are supported from sources such as the artists (cash or in-kind contributions), other key partners such as record labels, and grants, including the Buzz grant.
- Planning your project well is vital. The Buzz panel considers the viability of your project, including the availability of nominated key personnel against the selection criterion 'evidence of thorough planning'.
- If recording for CD release, outline your plans for distributing and publicising the recording.
- Initial musical training is not supported. It's important to demonstrate your experience as a practising artist in your biography or profile. For bands, this may include experience of gigs and tours, where relevant.
- Your support material is vital to your application. When selecting support material, sound quality is very important. Some support material received was of low sound quality or audibility. If submitting home-burned CDs, please check your supporting material plays before submitting it.
- Recordings that can be played on a stereo are preferable to those only playable on computer.
- Support material should be clearly labelled with artists' names, information and credits on the musicians and artists featured. Briefly explain the relevance of the listed tracks to your project as this information provides the Buzz panel with an important context for your application. Please be aware of copyright issues in your support material – if you need copyright permission to use backing tracks or other artists' material, confirmation that you have obtained it should be clearly noted in your application.
- Letters of confirmation can strengthen your application by indicating that your project is well planned and that key artists such as musicians, producers, engineers or mentors have confirmed their involvement. For touring requests, you should demonstrate that your tour has support from venues or booking agencies.

If you were successful in Buzz this round then you cannot apply to Buzz in the future. We encourage successful applicants to consider applying to the Music Board's main grant categories. Go to: <http://www.ozco.gov.au/boards/music/> or call us on 02 9215 9104.

The closing date for Buzz 2006 round 2 is 5 September 2006. If you would like to discuss your ideas before submitting a proposal, please contact the Youth Music Officer on (02) 9215 9127 or email [s.omeara@ozco.gov.au](mailto:s.omeara@ozco.gov.au)

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