



**The Australian Government's Additional
Funding to
Small to Medium Performing Arts
Information for Australia Council Clients**

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Foreword

In its 2007-8 Budget, the Australian Government announced additional funding of \$19.5 million over four years for the small to medium performing arts sector. The allocation for year 1 (2007-08) is \$4.8 million. As a result of decisions at the recent meetings of the Theatre, Music and Dance Boards, the first year's funding has been allocated as detailed below. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSIA) Board will meet October to resolve its portion of the new funding.

2008 Funding

A. \$2.9 million Allocation to Key Organisations receiving 2008 funding*

These funds are being provided to existing Key Organisations that are funded for activity in 2008. They include the 2007-08 base grant indexation of 1.25% and an additional one-off sum to support increased development, creation or presentation of new work, to assist the organisation's ongoing financial and operational sustainability or the promotion and pursuit of international activity. Each organisation must clearly outline the way in which these funds will be used in the Revised Program and Budget submitted to the Australia Council later this year.

The full list of recipients and the one off amounts is attached as Schedule 1.

B. \$1.3 million Additional funding to support Program Grant companies

Additional funding has been allocated to support more Program Grant clients at higher funding levels than in the past. Some of these organisations will be considering a pathway to triennial funding in the future.

C. \$0.6 million Special Initiatives

The Council has agreed to support a range of initiatives delivered by the Key Organisations section – focusing on business planning skills, governance and philanthropy – as well as infrastructure initiatives in theatre, dance and music supporting smaller arts companies.

Further details of these initiatives will be available in the near future.

* Organisations not receiving this one-off allocation due to specific circumstances will be directly advised.

New Board Arrangements for 2009 Key Organisations Funding

With the Theatre, Music, Dance and ATSIA Boards all examining their future strategic framework for triennial funding of Key Organisations, please note again that the one-off funding in item A above is for 2008 only. Moving into the future, the new Australian Government funds will be added to the existing budgets of the Boards. These combined funds will be available for the Boards to allocate for 2009 Program Grants (Music Board) and 2009-11 Key Organisations triennial funding agreements (Theatre, Music and Dance), based on the Board's own determination of their grant categories and their assessment of Program and Key Organisations applications in 2008.

In making these decisions, the Theatre, Music and Dance Boards have agreed that for the Key Organisations grant category for 2009 funding and beyond:

- i) There will be a new framework under which all applications will be assessed. Organisations will need to demonstrate that they are or that they can be one or more of the following:
 - An organisation with a sustained national or international presence or influence,
 - A leading innovator that consistently stretches art form practice,
 - An acknowledged centre of excellence in its particular form of practice.
- ii) There will be a new grant category called Emerging Key Organisations, which will be a pathway for organisations to enter the Key Organisations grant category in the future. Each Board will publish timing of the introduction of this category and the associated eligibility and assessment criteria in 2008.
- iii) There will be a new set of eligibility criteria which will be different to those currently in effect, full details of which will be advised by each Board.
- iv) Boards may offer 2,3,or 4 year grants to assist in re-aligning the funding offered with the funding cycle of your State / Territory Funding Agency.

Full details of the Boards' application of the above framework, as well as individual eligibility and assessment criteria, will be mailed to applicants and posted on the Australia Council website before the end of 2007.

Application Procedures for 2009 Key Organisations Funding

As application packs will not be available until February 2008, applicants should note the following arrangements for next year.

- i) Applicants to the Key Organisations category will be able to apply for a new grant amount without reference to previous grant history. This will provide the opportunity for organisations to request support for their realistic aspirations. Organisations will be expected to make logically reasoned requests to realise their artistic vision, fully supported by all aspects of their business plan and be able to show evidence that supports their request. Requests not supported by evidence and realistic costing may be disadvantaged.
- ii) While budgets will be increased for 2009 funding, there is no pre-determined number of Key Organisations for the Theatre, Music and Dance Boards. Given these Boards are inviting new applicants, there may be more Key Organisations, or the same number with a higher level of funding or, for Theatre & Music Key Organisations whose funding for 2009 is currently not guaranteed, there could be fewer funded at significantly higher levels.
- iii) Final decisions regarding Key Organisations' funding levels will take into account consultations with the State and Territory Funding Agencies. You are urged to discuss your request with the appropriate Key Organisations Client Manager as early as possible. The full Key Organisations Unit Contact List is provided as Schedule 2.
- iv) As a result all applicants to the Key Organisations category are urged to utilise the Unit's Business Plan Feedback Service and submit a draft of their Business Plan to their Client Manager strictly no later than 8 weeks before a closing date to allow for feedback to be provided in a timely manner.
- v) The application closing dates for each Board is provided as Schedule 3.
- vi) The Key Organisations unit will be conducting a series of national business planning workshops from mid January to mid February 2008. Invitations will be sent to all new and current applicants to the category prior to Christmas 2007.

Schedule 1

Key Organisations Receiving One-Off Extra Funding for 2008

Board	Organisation	State	One-Off Funding Amount
Theatre	Arena Theatre Company Ltd	Vic	51,544
	Australian Theatre for Young People	NSW	51,544
	Back to Back Theatre Inc.	Vic	51,544
	Barking Gecko Theatre Company Ltd	WA	51,544
	Carclew Youth Arts Centre Ltd (Lowdown Magazine)	SA	51,544
	Flying Fruit Fly Foundation	NSW/Vic	51,544
	Griffin Theatre Company Ltd	NSW	51,544
	HotHouse Theatre	NSW/Vic	51,544
	is theatre ltd	Tas	51,544
	La Boite Theatre Inc	Qld	51,544
	La Mama Inc	Vic	51,544
	Legs on the Wall	NSW	51,544
	Melbourne Workers' Theatre	Vic	51,544
	PACT Youth Theatre Inc	NSW	51,544
	Patch Theatre Company Inc	SA	51,544
	Performing Arts Centre Society Inc.	WA	51,544
	Performing Lines Ltd	NSW	51,544
	PlayWriting Australia	NSW	51,544
	Polyglot Puppet Theatre Ltd	Vic	51,544
	Rock 'n' Roll Circus Ltd (Circa)	Qld	51,544
	Sidetrack Theatre Group	NSW	51,544
	Snuff Puppets Inc	Vic	51,544
	Spare Parts Puppet Theatre Inc.	WA	51,544
	Terrapin Puppet Theatre Ltd	Tas	51,544
	Urban Myth Theatre of Youth Inc.	SA	51,544
	Urban Theatre Projects Ltd	NSW	51,544
	Vitalstatistix Theatre Company	SA	51,544
	Yirra Yaakin Aboriginal Corporation	WA	51,544

Key Organisations Receiving One-Off Extra Funding for 2008

Board	Organisation	State	One-Off Funding Amount
Music	Australian Art Orchestra Ltd	Vic	50,000
	Australian Music Centre Ltd	NSW	50,000
	Chamber Made Opera Inc	Vic	50,000
	Elision Inc.	Qld	50,000
	Gondwana Voices Ltd	NSW	50,000
	IHOS	Tas	50,000
	Kulcha – Multicultural Arts of WA Inc	WA	50,000
	Melbourne Chorale Inc	Vic	50,000
	Q Music Inc	Qld	50,000
	Sydney Philharmonia Ltd	NSW	50,000
	Synergy Percussion Ltd	NSW	50,000
	The Song Company Pty Ltd	NSW	50,000

Board	Organisation	State	One-Off Funding Amount
Dance	Ausdance National	ACT	64,895
	Buzz Dance Theatre	WA	64,895
	Chunky Move	Vic	64,895
	Dancehouse	Vic	64,895
	dancenorth Australia	Qld	64,895
	Expressions Dance Company	Qld	64,895
	Leigh Warren & Dancers	SA	64,895
	Lucy Guerin Inc	Vic	64,895
	Restless Dance Company	SA	64,895
	Stompin Youth Dance Co.	Tas	64,895
	Tracks Inc	NT	64,895

Schedule 2

Key Organisations Contact List

Name	Position	Direct Line	E-mail
Atul Joshi	Director	02-9215 9024	a.joshi@ozco.gov.au
Carin Mistry	Client Manager – Dance & Theatre	02-9215 9160	c.mistry@ozco.gov.au
Mei-Lin Bastian	Client Manager – Literature & Music	02-9215 9112	m.bastian@ozco.gov.au
Michelle Hall	Client Manager – ATsia & CP	02-9215 9325	m.hall@ozco.gov.au
Billy Crawford	Client Manager – New Media Arts, Strategy, & Visual Arts	02-9215 9122	b.crawford@ozco.gov.au
Kevin Golding	Business & Governance Analyst	02-9215 9140	k.golding@ozco.gov.au
David Sharpe	Financial Analyst	02-9215 9190	d.sharpe@ozco.gov.au
Emma Kirby	Marketing & Sponsorship Analyst	02-9215 9012	e.kirby@ozco.gov.au
Jessica Miller	Admin. Asst.	02-9215 9000	j.miller@ozco.gov.au

Toll Free Number: 1800 226 912

Fax: 02-9215 9352

Schedule 3

Important Dates 2008

Theatre Board

Draft Business Plan Deadline	1 April 2008
Application Closing Date	1 June 2008

Music Board

Draft Business Plan Deadline	15 March 2008
Application Closing Date	15 May 2008

Dance Board

Draft Business Plan Deadline	1 May 2008
Application Closing Date	1 July 2008

ATSIA Board

Draft Business Plan Deadline	15 May 2008
Application Closing Date	15 July 2008