

CONTEMPORARY MUSIC (ORGANISATIONS) 2018 FUNDING ASSESSMENT

PUBLIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

CONTEMPORARY MUSIC (ORGANISATIONS) FUNDING

Contemporary music (Organisations) funding supports programs and activities that provide accessible development pathways for South Australian professional artists and industry representatives, and that actively contribute to the development of a sustainable South Australian music sector.

The intent of Organisations funding is to support programs and activities that when considered all together, create a pathway for professional musicians and industry entrepreneurs from point of entry for early career support, through to ongoing career development.

2018 BUDGET ALLOCATION

The total Contemporary Music (Organisations) funding budget for 2018 is **\$150,000**.

ORGANISATIONS ASSESSMENT

Arts South Australia convened a group of arts industry professionals with diverse background experience, to participate in the assessment of applications to the program for Organisational funding.

All applications were assessed according to the extent to which the application addressed the criteria and application requirements.

Assessors for the 2017 process were: Steve Pitkin (Chair), George Swallow, Emily Smart and Jane MacFarlane.

In addition, the officers of the Music Development Office participated as non-voting advisers, providing considered advice to the assessors.

Brief biographies of all assessors are available at the end of this report.

Applications

Organisations applying for funding were asked to respond to all questions on the application form and demonstrate their ability to meet the funding criteria.

The assessors were asked to consider all applications against the program intent and criteria. As part of this assessment stage, all applicants met with the assessors on Monday 3 and Tuesday 4 July 2017, to discuss their applications. These meetings were considered an integral part of each applicant's application.

On Wednesday 5 July, the assessors reconvened to make their final recommendations.

Assessor Comments

The industry assessors were impressed by the high quality of programs presented by the majority of applicants this year.

The assessors have chosen to fund a range of programs that support the interconnected pathways for artist and audience development, which have been developed by the local industry.

It became evident throughout the assessment process that some industry organisations have taken initiative and assumed responsibility for further developing these pathways to benefit the sector as a whole.

The assessors have chosen to support applications that demonstrated a strong vision for strategic collaborations and growth, and that benefit the state and build on the value of Adelaide's designation as a UNESCO City of Music.

Through the assessor's recommendations for funding in 2018, there is a visible development path for South Australian artists and industry representatives starting out, through to becoming established professionals.

A broad range of programs were supported, which include the development of skills that are specific to the music industry. From nurturing the base of a grassroots understanding of the day to day workings of the music industry, and empowering emerging artists to build networks and connections, through to understanding how to leverage opportunities for ongoing career development in national and international markets.

Each assessor represented a different area of the local industry and contributed enthusiastically, providing valuable insight, and bringing unique experiences and a healthy passion to address key issues.

Throughout the assessment process the assessors undertook a holistic and considered approach against the program criteria and focussed on ensuring that there would be maximum impact on the local sector, from the programs supported through the funding available.

The assessors were passionate about ensuring that South Australia continues to strengthen its growing music culture and cultivates opportunities that enable artists and audiences to thrive.

FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

The Organisations assessors are recommending annual funding of **\$150,000** for 2018, as detailed in the table below.

Applicant	2018 Recommendation (\$)
COMA	24,000
Northern Sound System	68,000
Fresh92.7	43,000
Five Four Entertainment	15,000

CHAIRPERSON

Steve Pitkin – Musician, Event Manager (MeltFrank Productions)

Steve is a creatively motivated Event Designer, Producer and Manager, with a huge passion for the performing arts, live music & event management. With 16+ years' experience as a musician and promoter in the music community, Steve was awarded the Robert Stigwood Fellowship which allowed him to pursue his passion for the music industry even further. Steve is passionately driven to executing successful organisation of bands, tours, music events, festival management, and live production.

Every year Steve produces a wide range of events and festivals to showcase Adelaide and Australian talent. Annual and bi-annual events such as Scumfest, Tell Tale & Vine and new Roots festival, Root Down, all create unique experiences for performers and fans alike, with a rich cultural approach to visual art, music, performance, local food, wine and beer.

PANEL MEMBERS

Emily Smart – Composer/ Performer

Emily is a vocalist, guitarist, bassist and songwriter who has performed or featured in many successful acts over her career, including current acts Nakatomi & High Violet.

During her career, Emily has worked as a session musician, including for Universal music recording artist Penelope Austin for a national support tour of Milky Chance. She has also toured extensively, including a three-week stint in the UK, and performances at the Adelaide Big Day Out, Clipsal 500 and CMJ Festival in New York.

Most recently Emily has been a featured singer in a live duet with Birds of Tokyo at their Adelaide concerts in late 2016 and early 2017.

George Swallow – Co-Owner The Grace Emily

George has been actively involved in the local music scene for more than 20 years, 17 of those at the Grace Emily hotel. As Publican of the Grace Emily, he has a hands-on role with all aspects of the pub but mainly as the live music booker and engineer.

The Grace Emily was recently inducted into the SA Music Hall of Fame and was awarded best venue at the South Australia Music Awards.

Jane MacFarlane – Chief Executive Office, The Helpmann Academy

Jane has over 25 years of executive experience across private, government and community industries with a specialisation in collaborative partnerships, philanthropic giving, cultural and community development, communications and management. Prior to her current role, Jane was the Creative Arts Manager for TAFE SA and the SA/NT Director for Australia Business Arts Foundation (AbaF) and Creative Partnerships Australia.