

Media Release

The Hon Danny Pearson MP
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Minister for Creative Industries



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MULTI-YEAR SUPPORT BACKS VICTORIA'S CREATIVE FUTURE, JOBS

The Andrews Labor Government is driving the recovery of Victoria's creative industries, bringing certainty and jobs through landmark multi-year funding for scores of organisations across the state.

Minister for Creative Industries Danny Pearson was at Footscray Community Arts Centre today to announce more than \$85 million in funding for 113 Victorian creative entities – from icons like Melbourne International Comedy Festival and La Mama to ground-breaking collectives including fashion label The Social Studio and Melbourne Electronic Sound Studio.

This massive new funding injection will allow creative organisations to plan ahead and create the art, experiences and festivals that Victoria is famous for.

Delivering on the Labor Government's four-year *Creative State 2025* strategy, this funding opens up Creative Victoria investment to new and diverse organisations across a broader array of creative sectors than ever before. Some 25 of the recipients haven't previously received multi-year government investment.

Bringing the strategy's 'First Peoples First' principle to life, Koorie Heritage Trust, Songlines Aboriginal Music Corporation, Baluk Arts and Kaiela Arts are receiving funding boosts.

A further five First Peoples-led organisations are receiving multi-year support for the first time – Joel Bray Dance Company, Na Djinang Circus, fashion label Gammin Threads, Jacob Boehme Company and The Torch Project.

Funded organisations span Victoria including Bendigo's Arena Theatre Company, Ballarat International Foto Biennale, Castlemaine State Festival, Arts Mildura, Community Burringa Cultural Centre in the Dandenong Ranges, Warrnambool's Find your Voice Collective, and Float Inc in Lake Tyers Beach.

Reflecting the diversity of Victoria's creative talent, other recipients include Arts Project Australia, which works with artists with intellectual disabilities; acclaimed contemporary dance in the form of the Stephanie Lake Company; Asian-Australian literary platform Liminal; and Australia's first and only Deaf Arts Festival, FLOW.

The funding, which supports organisations over either four or two years, has been provided through the new Creative Enterprises and Creative Ventures programs. Providing further certainty is additional funding through the Sustaining Creative Organisations COVID-recovery program.

For the full list of funded organisations, visit the Creative Victoria website at creative.vic.gov.au.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Creative Industries Danny Pearson

"Victoria is home to dynamic organisations that fuel our creative economy, provide career pathways and jobs and deliver a stunning range of creative experiences for Victorians."

"From internationally acclaimed companies to grassroots collectives, social enterprises, fashion labels and festivals, we're making sure Victoria's outstanding arts practitioners have the support they need."

"This is an investment in the future of our creative industries and the thousands of jobs they support that reflects the diversity of Victoria's talent and our communities."

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