

TREASURER TOM KOUTSANTONIS

Thursday, 7 July 2016

Unprecedented support for the creative industries

The State Government has announced an unprecedented \$57.9 million investment in the creative industries as part of the 2016-17 State Budget.

Her Majesty's Theatre will receive \$35.2 million towards a major upgrade – a project that will create 213 jobs during construction and attract some of the biggest shows in the world to Adelaide.

The State Government will also invest \$15 million to the arts sector over the next four years to sustain our state's cultural activity and support our major cultural institutions.

The Budget commits \$1.35 million over the next three years for a live music fund to capitalise on our recent designation as a UNESCO City of Music.

The fund will support new festivals and events, which have the potential to grow into major tourism attractions and create jobs in the arts.

The State Government will also provide \$500,000 to further progress the business case for a new Contemporary Art Gallery in Adelaide.

And following on from the huge success of the 2015 OzAsia Festival, an additional \$750,000 per year will be provided to the annual event.

\$1 million has also been provided towards securing the future of The Cedars, the historic Hahndorf home of Australia's best-known landscape painter Sir Hans Heysen, paving the way for a new world-class cultural centre.

An additional one-off payment of \$700,000 has also been provided to the 2017 Adelaide Festival of Arts for a special event to be announced closer to the launch of the Festival's program.

Background

Since March 2014 to The State Government has invested \$156.99 million in the arts.



In addition to this funding for the creative industries, St Paul's Creative Centre has been selected as one of the locations for Gig City ultra-high-speed internet project, which will assist in attracting arts innovators to South Australia.

Quotes attributable to Treasurer Tom Koutsantonis

The creative industries attract people from around the country and the world to South Australia every year and create a huge amount of economic activity.

This isn't just an investment to support the sector – we know that there is a significant economic benefit provided by these industries, in terms of city vibrancy, attracting tourists and creating jobs.

Quote attributable to the Arts Minister Jack Snelling

The arts are crucial in defining us as a state, cementing South Australia as the Festival State.

In the wake of the Federal Government's cuts to the Australia Council, the State Government's investment and support to the arts is vital, and will ensure that we can continue to support our creative sector.

Quotes attributable to the Innovation Minister Kyam Maher

Innovative industries and the arts work hand-in-hand, both requiring creative thinking to maintain an edge over their competition.

Establishing St Paul's as a location for the Gig City network will not only help our local entrepreneurs, but can also attract disruptive thinkers from all over the world, who will feed creativity in this state and grow the economy.

Quotes attributable to the Tourism Minister Leon Bignell

For South Australia to be attractive to tourists from across the country and internationally, we must support our arts sector.

Building on Adelaide's global status as a Festival City and our position as a UNESCO City of Music, the investment in the arts and creative sector will appeal to new audiences, bringing even more tourists into our state.

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