



Speech by


## Seath Holswich

MEMBER FOR PINE RIVERS

Hansard Tuesday, 19 June 2012

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### OUT OF THE BOX FESTIVAL; PINE RIVERS, PERFORMING ARTS

 **Mr HOLSWICH** (Pine Rivers—LNP) (9.14 pm): Tonight I rise to talk about two fantastic events that I was privileged to attend last week. Last Tuesday at QPAC I was honoured to represent the Minister for Science, Information Technology, Innovation and the Arts at the launch of the Out of the Box Festival for children. The festival is a unique event and is the only festival in Australia that is dedicated to children under the age of eight. This year marked the 20th year of the festival and the program for the year was built on the key principles of literary, artistic and cultural literacy. As a parent of primary school aged children, I have a personal appreciation of events such as this that open up opportunities for our children to experience the arts in an age-appropriate manner. Last Thursday I was at Dayboro State School when the children and teachers returned from an excursion to the festival. Both students and teachers were glowing in their assessments of the festival.

On a more local level, last Saturday I attended the annual Seniors Concert of the Pine Rivers Brass Band. As someone who first picked up a trombone at the age of eight and for many years was a member of brass bands, it was a pleasure to hear such good quality brass band music in my own electorate and to see this band continuing to provide good quality concerts for some very appreciative local seniors. Like the Out of the Box Festival, this year the Pine Rivers Brass Band celebrates 20 years. I congratulate President Ruth Voysey and the band on 20 years of service through music to our community.

I make no secret of my passion for the arts and, in particular, for local community performing arts organisations. Having grown up performing in bands, in choirs and in some very amateur musical theatre productions, I have a deep appreciation of the value of those activities, particularly for our children and youth. That is why I am pleased to support great local organisations in my electorate such as the Pine Rivers Brass Band, Act 1 Theatre and the Pine Rivers Musical Association. I cannot wait to see what superstars in the making are performing in the Pine Rivers Musical Association's production of *Oliver* later this year.

These small, local organisations and activities provide a great opportunity for our children to develop their confidence and self-esteem and provide great opportunities for performers to develop strong friendships and networks with like-minded people. They give great opportunities for budding superstars to learn their trade. I am proud to be part of a government that is encouraging and resourcing the arts at a grassroots level, knowing that this will ultimately lay an even stronger platform for developing world-class performers, performances and exhibitions well into Queensland's future.