




Speech By
Hon. Anastacia Palaszczuk

MEMBER FOR INALA

Record of Proceedings, 17 June 2016

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Budget, Arts

 **Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Premier and Minister for the Arts) (9.42 am): I am proud to stand in this House today to speak on arts in Queensland. As Minister for the Arts, I understand the importance of investing in the arts and having it accessible to all Queenslanders. Art plays a significant role in communities. I was pleased that in Tuesday's budget we announced funding of \$41.8 million over the next four years to grow cultural tourism, invest in arts infrastructure and increase regional access to the arts. We will reinstate funding for blockbusters at the Queensland Art Gallery and the Gallery of Modern Art with \$10.8 million over the next four years. Since GOMA opened in 2006, it has hosted exclusive exhibitions featuring Warhol, Picasso and Matisse, drawing millions of people to our state, and this legacy will continue. The Queensland Museum will deliver unique cultural tourism benefits with up to \$4.5 million over four years. The Queensland Museum will maintain the state's priceless collections across its network in Toowoomba, Townsville and Ipswich and its storage facility at Hendra with funding of \$7 million over four years. An additional \$1.5 million has also been allocated to QAGOMA for plant and equipment. We have also allocated \$3 million towards cultural infrastructure, including the refurbishment of QPAC's Cremorne Theatre for the redesign of staging and seating areas.

In areas in regional Queensland such as Cairns a \$15 million allocation has been made for the Cairns Performing Arts Centre, subject to the outcome of federal government funding and a business case. I know that Mayor Bob Manning is very happy with this announcement. The budget will also enhance regional access to the arts through the Playing Queensland Fund. The arts is an investment in communities, it can create cities and regions, it can bring communities together. Our budget funding announcements reinforce my commitment to Queensland's arts sector to deliver economic and cultural benefits to millions of people across our state.