




Speech By
Hon. Leanne Enoch

MEMBER FOR ALGESTER

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Screen Industry

 **Hon. LM ENOCH** (Algester—ALP) (Minister for Treaty, Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Minister for Communities and Minister for the Arts) (10.19 am): Mr Speaker, I know that you are well aware of this, but Queensland is the place to be for the screen industry. Films, television series and digital games made here in our state are enjoyed every day by audiences here and abroad. Our screen industry is continuing to grow, providing ongoing employment for thousands of Queenslanders, supporting local businesses and contributing millions to the economy each year. It is an industry we can all be proud of.

Perhaps most importantly, screen production brings our local stories to life and shares them with the world and 2024 has already seen a Queensland story take the world by storm. In January Netflix released the seven-episode adaptation of Trent Dalton's best-selling novel, *Boy Swallows Universe*. The series has already reached more than 9.3 million households in over 190 countries, peaking at the top 3 of Netflix's global watch list and No. 1 in Australia. To bring this uniquely Queensland story from the page to the screen, the filmmakers brilliantly recreated 1980s Brisbane—the era that I grew up in. The series was made by a team of cast, crew and creatives largely comprised of talented Queenslanders who have dedicated years to perfecting their craft. *Boy Swallows Universe* is the largest Australian series to be made in Queensland. It employed over 185 people and contributed more than \$34 million to the state's economy. Just like *Bluey* before it, the series has put locations across Brisbane and surrounding regions on the global map like Greenslopes and Beenleigh and many other places.

It was essential that *Boy Swallows Universe* be made here in Queensland and the Miles government was proud to support the production through our Production Attraction Strategy. It is one of many incentives and funds administered by Screen Queensland to ensure that our state's screen practitioners can build their careers here and tell our unique Queensland stories. The work of Screen Queensland enables the sector to attract the best local, interstate and international projects to the Sunshine State, including Ron Howard's *Eden*, which has just wrapped filming on the Gold Coast. This high-end feature film employed more than 300 locals, cast and crew and has injected more than \$26.5 million into the local economy. The Miles government will also be bringing more of the economic, employment, tourism and cultural benefits of the screen industry to the north of the state when the \$12.6 million Screen Queensland Studios Cairns facility opens for business soon. I am proud that Queensland screen production will continue to thrive in 2024.