

Question on Notice

No. 562

Asked on 17 April 2008

Mr Fenlon asked the Minister for Education and Training and Minister for the Arts (Mr Welford) -

QUESTION:

As the Arts Queensland's Sector Project Grants are now open to Queensland artists for submission –

Will he provide details to the House on the purpose of the grants?

ANSWER:

The purpose of the Sector Project Grants Program is to support excellence in the arts by providing one-off funding for the development and presentation of creative work and professional development opportunities for both emerging and established Queensland artists.

The program is delivered by Arts Queensland as part of a suite of funding mechanisms designed to foster creative activities and projects that are of the highest artistic quality, that increase audiences for Queensland arts product and that identify previously untapped income streams for the arts.

There are two categories – individual career development grants of up to \$5,000, for which applications are accepted at any time throughout the year, and project development and presentation grants of up to \$50,000, with round two applications closing on 31 August.

Through the 2007 program the Bligh Government distributed over \$1.4 million across 64 diverse projects: from large-scale events like the Swell Currumbin Sculpture Festival that attracts 200,000 visitors each year, to a tour by award-winning Brisbane band The Boat People, who were subsequently added to the line-up for the prestigious Great Escape Festival in Brighton in the UK.

The Sector Project Grants Program supports high quality, innovative and economically viable projects that respond to the priorities of the Queensland Arts Industry Sector Development Plan. The grants are specifically intended to give our state's talented artists a 'leg up' into successful professional careers, rather than just a government 'hand out'.