

Media Release



Thursday 28 November 2019

Local community groups to share in \$130,000 in funding

Forty-seven local groups will receive more than \$130,000 in funding, thanks to three components of Camden Council's Community Financial Assistance Program endorsed at Tuesday night's Ordinary Meeting.

The first component endorsed was Council's **Cultural Performance Subsidy Program**. 12 local groups will receive more than \$13,000 in funding to help them access Camden Civic Centre to showcase performances and provide quality affordable entertainment to the community.

President of Fisher's Ghost Youth Orchestra (FYGO), Jennifer Beh, said they were thrilled to receive \$1,200 for their South West Sydney Philharmonic project.

"Our program, *The World is a Stage*, will be a collection of incredibly beautiful music from theatre, ballet and classic film," Ms Beh said.

"It's timeless and will undoubtedly leave you wanting more!

"The FGYO Committee is absolutely committed to producing good music locally, by locals, for locals, and absolutely blow their socks off! This funding means we can do just this and present the program locally – where we rehearse, where we work and where we live."

Other groups who received funding as part of this program include:

- Shaun Parker and Company, who received \$1,200 to run a free world-premiere of a performance integrating dance with new technology audio engineering;
- The Australian Decorative Fine Arts Society, who received \$800 to provide their annual event introducing young children to music through performance, and exploration of instruments and sound; and
- Mater Dei School, who received \$1,200 to provide a free matinee performance by youth with disabilities for our senior and local school communities.

The **Community Sponsorship Program** was next off the rank, which aims to provide encouragement and support to community organisations by supplementing funds raised for their events and activities.

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Media Contact:
Christina Fracassi
Media Advisor
Camden Council
PO Box 183, CAMDEN NSW 2570
Phone: 4645 7823 Mobile: 0438 062 628
Email: media@camden.nsw.gov.au



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Council endorsed 12 applications, requesting both in-kind and monetary support, to a total value of \$46,160, including:

- Camden Musical Society, who received \$3,025 for their *One Night Only* showcase;
- Jeremiah Edagbami, who received \$2,560 for the Macarthur Schools Debating Competition;
- Kids of Macarthur Health Foundation, who received \$3,200 for the Camden LEGO Fair 2020;
- Camden Rugby Union Club, who received \$4,225 for the NSW Junior Rugby Union under 12-year-old State Carnival.

The third and final component endorsed was the **Community Small Grants Program**, which aims to help build community capacity and engagement and, in turn, create an enriched and connected community. 23 applications were supported for part and full funding, to the value of \$85,299. They included:

- Turning Point, who received \$6,250 for their Domestic and Family Violence Support Package;
- Catholic Family Welfare Services, who received \$4,140 for their *Living Life Well* program for seniors;
- Karitane and Anglicare, who received \$4,000 for their dad's circle community group, at Oran Park; and
- Macarthur Diversity Services Initiative Ltd, who received \$5,195 for their playgroup.

Mayor of Camden, Cr Theresa Fedeli, said she was pleased to help worthy local organisations deliver key services, activities and events.

"I love seeing these local organisations seize opportunities across the Camden area to activate creative and cultural spaces, help residents in need and help connect residents to form tight-knit communities," Cr Fedeli said.

"I look forward to seeing what each group will produce with this funding and their passion for what they do."

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