



**Media Release – For immediate release**

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## **New Theatre to Deliver more Performing Arts for Queenslanders**

The Queensland Government's announcement it will provide \$125 million towards the construction of a new theatre at the Queensland Performing Arts Centre (QPAC) is a welcome investment in Queensland's live performance industry.

LPA Chief Executive Evelyn Richardson said the funding would help QPAC attract more productions in future, including tours from interstate and overseas.

'This creates more opportunities for audiences, performing arts companies and industry workers,' Ms Richardson said.

'State of the art theatre space is a vital part of our live performance infrastructure, and this investment will only strengthen Brisbane's appeal as a destination for touring productions as well as providing even more opportunity for homegrown creative talent,' Ms Richardson said.

Ms Richardson said it was encouraging to see governments recognise the economic significance of the live performance industry to local and state economies and be prepared to make the necessary investment to support its growth.

More than 2.5 million tickets for a live performance were issued in Queensland in 2016, and the state generated 13 per cent of nationwide revenue and attendance.

'The development of new theatre infrastructure such as that planned for QPAC will help drive these numbers up in future, ensuring that live performance continues to make a significant and growing contribution to the Queensland economy,' Ms Richardson said.

***ENDS***

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## About LPA

LPA is the peak body for Australia's live performance industry. Established 100 years ago in 1917 and registered as an employers' organisation under the *Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009*, LPA has over 400 Members nationally. We represent commercial producers, music promoters, major performing arts companies, small to medium companies, independent producers, major performing arts centres, metropolitan and regional venues, commercial theatres, stadiums and arenas, arts festivals, music festivals, and service providers such as ticketing companies and technical suppliers. Our membership spans from small-medium and not-for-profit organisations to large commercial entities.

LPA has a clear mandate to advocate for and support policy decisions that benefit the sustainability and growth of the live performance industry in Australia.