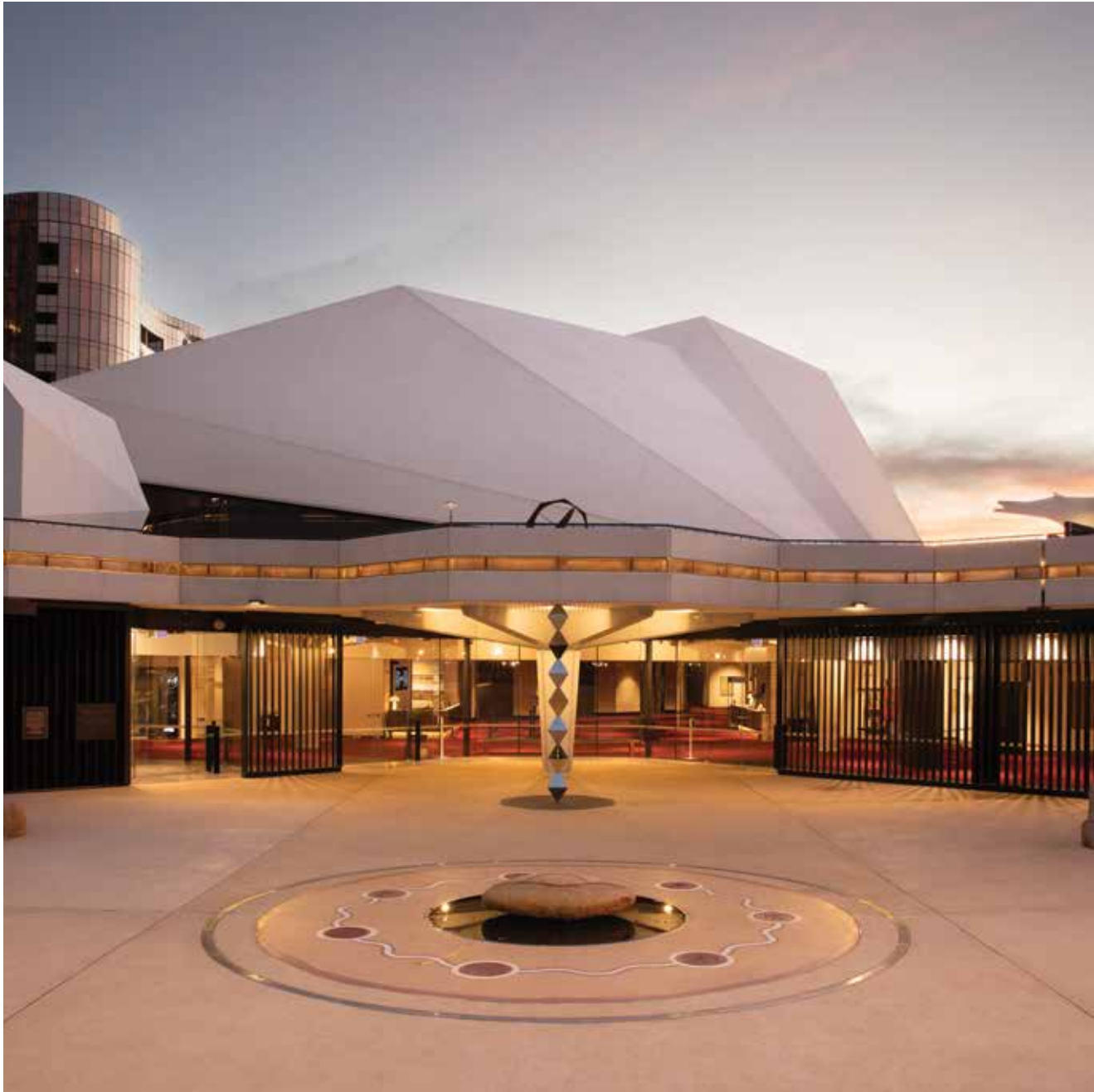


IMPACT





Adelaide Festival Centrerlu tampinhi, ngadlu Kurna yartangka panpapanpalyarninhi (inparrinhi). Kurna miyurna yaitya mathanya Wama Tarntanyaku. Parnaku yailtya, parnuka tapa purruna, parnuka yarta ngadlu tampinhi yalaka Kurna miyurnarlu iitu yailtya, tapa purruna, yarta kuma puru martinhi, puru warriapinhi, puru tangka martulyainhi. Kumarta yaitya miyurna iyangka yalaka ngadlu tampinhi.

Adelaide Festival Centre is located on the traditional lands of the Kurna people. We pay respect to Ancestors and Elders past, present, and emerging as the traditional custodians of the Adelaide Plains. We honour their spiritual relationship with their Country and we do so in the spirit of reconciliation.

Kurna language translation by Wirltu Yarlu, The University of Adelaide.

What a memorable year 2025 was!

This year marked a period of success and renewal, defined by sold-out shows, world-premiere performances and a leadership transition that positions Adelaide Festival Centre for a vibrant future.

We extend our sincere thanks to outgoing Chief Executive Officer and Artistic Director Douglas Gautier AM for his unwavering commitment to Adelaide Festival Centre, which has strengthened our organisation and enriched South Australia's cultural landscape.

A standout moment of 2025 was Jacob Collier's Adelaide Cabaret Festival appearance, where his sold-out performances at Her Majesty's Theatre captivated audiences and showcased his exceptional musicianship.

DreamBIG Children's Festival celebrated a remarkable 50-year milestone. The world's longest-running curated children's festival opened with a statewide birthday parade on site at Adelaide Festival Centre, and numerous parades were hosted by regional schools around the State.

Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* the musical drew more than 120,000 people, making it one of the most-attended shows ever at Adelaide Festival Centre, cementing the city's place as a powerhouse for world-class musical theatre.

Following this exceptional season, Adelaide Festival Centre closed its doors in July to begin the highly anticipated upgrade of theatre seating across all three venues, along with improvements to auditorium lighting, foyer spaces, increased access options for patrons and improved production capabilities. We are grateful to the State Government of South Australia for providing \$35 million to support these transformational works.

With the six-month closure of the Festival Centre Riverbank venues, Adelaide Guitar Festival and OzAsia Festival were staged in diverse venues across the city.

This year we farewelled Adelaide Guitar Festival as a standalone event. While it will not return in its current form, *On the Road* will continue in 2026, and guitar-focused projects will feature in our year-round music programs. We thank Artistic Director Slava Grigoryan and Executive Producer Sarah Bleby, as well as the many artists, audiences, and supporters who have shaped the festival over the past 18 years.

We have ended the year with a refreshed strategic direction, that includes growing audiences and increasing diversity through delivering quality arts, entertainment and cultural experiences that reflect and celebrate distinct voices. Excitingly, Adelaide Festival Centre has extended its commitment to children and young people with an ambitious new goal: to deliver quality arts and cultural experiences to every South Australian school-aged child by 2035.

2025 was also a record-breaking year for Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation. Thank you sincerely for your unwavering commitment and generous support, which continue to expand opportunities for artists and enrich the cultural life of our community.

Thank you, sincerely.



**The Hon
Karlene Maywald**
Chair
Adelaide Festival Centre
Trust



Kate Gould
Chief Executive Officer
Adelaide Festival Centre

Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation

Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation is delighted to report on a truly momentous year, and to thank all our donors and supporters for believing in our vision of arts for all.

Our community has come together like never before. Gifts whether small or large have combined to enable the commission of new works, uplift emerging artists, and spark creative wonder across the state, including key projects that you can read about within this report.

Earlier this year, we were thrilled to announce a transformative donation of \$10 million from Pamela Wall. This extraordinary act of generosity is the largest ever gift to the performing arts in South Australia. It substantially boosts our endowment and with it, our capacity to support Adelaide Festival Centre in perpetuity.

Our deepest thanks to Pammie, and also to John Bishop, and to Leon Pitchon, for leading the way in making significant donations to our endowment. These gifts are already making an impact. Our long-term goal is to reach an endowment fund of \$25 million, and this target is now within sight.

We also celebrate a record growth of the Artistic Director's Fund donor group and our first year of Vanguard, our new group for the next generation of philanthropists, whose support has been matched by the Lang Family Foundation, Legh and Helen Davis, and Sheryn Foord.

We especially welcome Kate Gould, the new Chief Executive Officer of Adelaide Festival Centre Trust, who brings a bright new vision for the future of the arts in South Australia, and one the Foundation is excited to support. We look forward to sharing more of our plans with you in 2026 as Adelaide Festival Centre reopens and the curtain goes up on the next act, building on the remarkable legacy of the inimitable Douglas Gautier, who we farewelled in June.

Thank you for your support in whichever way you give to the Foundation. We appreciate every supporter, every dollar donated, and every bit of encouragement you give us through your words and your actions. Thank you. We hope you share our pride reading about the impact we have created together.



Miranda Starke
Chair
Adelaide Festival Centre
Foundation



Abbie Taylor
Executive Officer
Adelaide Festival Centre
Foundation



How you have made a difference

\$6,515,572

total income

Your gift brings the arts to life. Every dollar goes directly to its purpose, nurturing talent, creating unforgettable experiences, and sustaining the future of the arts in South Australia. With your support, we turn vision into reality and inspire creativity across our community.

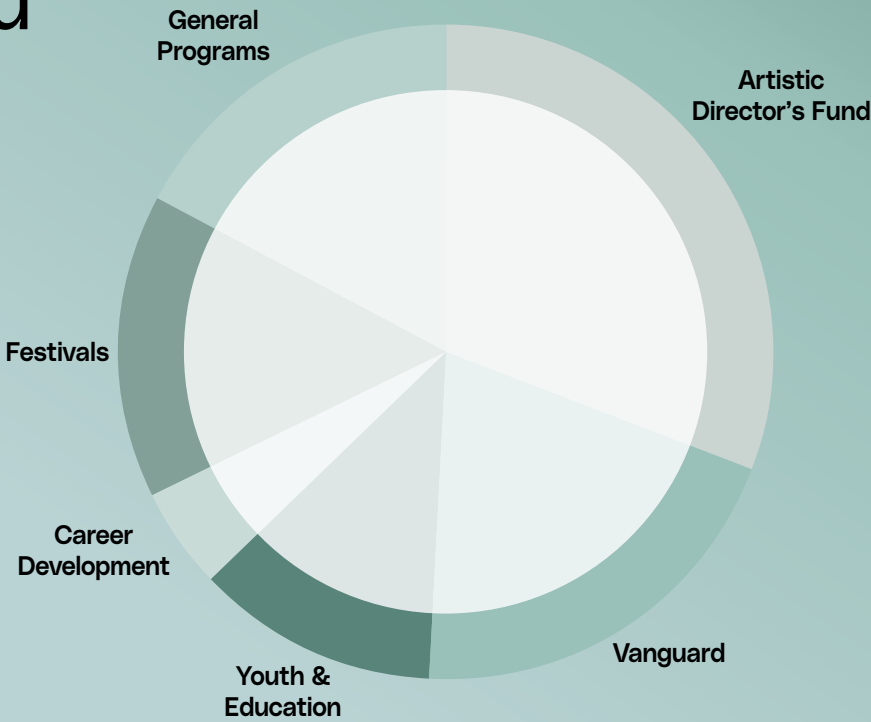
\$11,146,803

Endowment Growth

Invest in a legacy that lasts. Gifts to our endowment preserve your principal while generating reliable returns, providing permanent, stable funding for Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation. Professionally managed by our Finance, Investment and Risk Committee, chaired by Jim Hazel, these funds ensure we can plan boldly, commission groundbreaking Australian works, and maintain equitable access to the arts, forever.

By contributing, you become part of a vision that will inspire generations, helping us reach our goal of a \$25 million endowment, which will deliver \$1 million to Adelaide Festival Centre annually in secure, enduring support.

Where you made an impact





DreamBIG Birthday Parade
Photo by Kyahm Ross

DreamBIG Children's Festival

over
85,000
attendees overall

over
35,000
school attendees

232
South Australian
schools

49%
social-educationally
disadvantaged schools

41%
regional schools

over
18,500
tickets issued
to free events

In 2025, DreamBIG Children's Festival celebrated its 50th anniversary – and young people across the state were invited to the 50th birthday party.

Presenting over 70 events for schools and families, DreamBIG invited children to reflect on who they are, and who they want to be through the theme of 'I was, I am, I will be'. With a strong focus on interactive experiences that empower young people to explore their own creativity, 50% of on-site attendees engaged with an interactive performance or workshop. 70% of programs were free, with tiered ticketing pricing for social-educationally disadvantaged schools.

"As a low-SES school, being able to attend DreamBIG was an incredible and heartwarming opportunity. Many of our students would never normally have access to an experience like this, and the support provided made a huge difference. Thank you for making the arts accessible and meaningful for all children, regardless of background." – Teacher

This year, for the first time, DreamBIG surveyed over 200 young people about their feelings about the festival:

- 4 out of 5 students strongly agreed that it inspired them to do more arts activities at home
- 4 out of 5 students strongly agreed that participating instilled positive values that they wanted to share with their community
- 3 out of 4 students strongly agreed that attending the festival made them feel more creative
- 2 out of 3 strongly agreed that the festival helped them understand more about the world



DreamBIG Birthday Parade

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the festival, 1100 students gathered at Festival Plaza to open DreamBIG with one of the festival's most beloved traditions, the parade. Across South Australia, many other schools also threw their own parade supported by 94 free in-school workshops and digital resources provided by the DreamBIG team.

"Students still rave about the experience and how much they enjoyed [the festival]. It was listed in every one of the student comments in the mid-year report section. Even though it was over a term ago, students keep asking when the next DreamBIG festival will be." – Regional Teacher

Behind The Curtain

In response to a country-wide skills shortage of theatre technicians and other behind the scenes roles, DreamBIG and centrED invited Year 11 and 12 students to peek 'Behind the Curtain' of Her Majesty's Theatre and discover what it takes to bring a performance to life. 120 students participated in hands on workshops with some of Adelaide's best creatives, technicians and arts workers from companies such as Adelaide Festival Centre, Patch Theatre, Windmill Theatre Company, and State Theatre Company.

"Having the hands-on experience of pulling the ropes and going up in the rafters it has made me consider a career in this!" – Student

"Thanks for organising such an important event. I know participants had a powerful and formative experience... this type of connection has been missing in the theatre ecology." – Geoff Cobham, Artistic Director of Patch Theatre

Playbook

Playbook is a piece of promenade, acrobatic physical theatre by world renowned South Australian circus ensemble Gravity & Other Myths – and young people!

32 students from Para Hills High School engaged with a very special artist-in-residence program, working with acrobats from Gravity & Other Myths across eight weeks, culminating in performances at the Big Family Weekend. This is the longest running artist-in-schools program that DreamBIG has undertaken since being under Adelaide Festival Centre's custodianship.

These programs were funded by Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation, in partnership with Ahrens, the Carthew Foundation and Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation's Artistic Director's Fund.

*Top to bottom, left to right
Listen to Me – The Things that Matter to SA Kids – Photo by Kyahm Ross
Glow Lounge – Photo by Kyahm Ross
Behind the Curtain – Photo by Mikhaela De Kok*



Little Lanterns Day Out
Photo by Shaun Li

centrED

6,539

students participated
in centrED programs

52%

were from
social-educationally
disadvantaged schools

12%

regional and
remote participation

centrED is Adelaide Festival Centre's dedicated schools program, offering South Australian students and teachers meaningful opportunities to learn alongside professional artists. Through hands-on workshops, curriculum-linked arts experiences, and access to world-class performances, centrED supports creative learning across multiple subject areas.

Each year, the program curates a diverse calendar for both students and educators, encouraging engagement with Adelaide Festival Centre, its festivals, and resident companies. The annual program features:

- School matinee performances
- Workshops delivered on site
- In-school creative learning programs
- Career-focused initiatives
- Behind-the-scenes theatre tours
- Professional learning for teachers, and more

Equity and accessibility underpin centrED's work. Delivered in partnership with the South Australian Department for Education through the Outreach Education program, and supported by Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation, centrED ensures participation is within reach for all schools. This support enables subsidised ticket pricing for all centrED events, free programs for students experiencing socio-educational disadvantage, and targeted access for regional and remote communities through travel assistance, online learning, and locally delivered workshops.

In 2025, centrED facilitated over \$48,000 in transport funding supported by Department for Education South Australia and Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation. This supported over 3,000 student attendances across centrED and DreamBIG programs.



Power of Puppets
Photo by Shaun Li

Arts for All centrED School Subsidy Program

Thanks to funding provided by Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation and the generosity of touring companies, centrED was able to provide over 1,500 students and teachers with free tickets and travel to world class performances through the popular Arts for All centrED School Subsidy Program. Primary and secondary school students from Keith, Port Pirie, Challa Gardens and many other schools in between travelled to Adelaide Festival Centre to attend Disney's *Beauty & the Beast*, *DreamBIG Children's Festival*, *Looking for Alibrandi*, *The Nutcracker*, and *Troy Cassar-Daley and Nancy Bates*.

Many of these students had never attended a production let alone visited an Adelaide Festival Centre venue. The value of this program is priceless as it provides students who face financial and geographical barriers the opportunity to witness high quality productions.

"[Disney's] Beauty & the Beast was beautiful!! This encouraged me as a musician (vocalist) to become a triple threat! The choreography was gorgeous." Racquel, a student from Playford International College, who has since successfully auditioned for Class of Cabaret 2026!

"It was amazing! Coming from a rural town most of us don't get the opportunity to see shows like this. To see one of professional quality is always so fascinating and inspiring to watch. It keeps our passion for performing alive." – Student, Victor Harbor High School

"Subsidies are the only way we can offer an excursion like this to our classes. Without the subsidy we would need to charge the students for the excursion which divides our classes into those that can afford the show and those that can't. The subsidy allows all our students with an interest in the Arts an opportunity to experience world class productions." – Teacher, Riverbanks College

Power of Puppets

Founder and Artistic Director of Power of Play, Sulochana Dissanayake, visited three schools to introduce a vibrant family of puppets inspired by Sri Lankan culture and traditions, brought to life through stories, music and lots of laughter. Students designed and made their own puppets developing fine motor skills, cultural awareness, and creative expression along the way.

centrED's two in-school programs for OzAsia Festival 2025 were made possible thanks to Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation in partnership with the James & Diana Ramsay Foundation.



HuMan
Photo by Shaun Li

Little Lanterns Day Out

Moon Lantern Trail opened exclusively for over 100 Reception to Year 3 students from three schools to participate in playful, interactive sessions which included dress-ups, lantern making, cultural storytelling and a mini lantern tour. Bus subsidies were provided to ensure the learning opportunity was free for the participating students.

This free day of learning was made possible with the support from Ahrens in partnership with Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation.

"All children deserve excursions and to realise their potential in multifaceted areas of their learning and life, the access to arts experience from the workshop, to the financial support for the transport we took to the event, means that students with complex and diverse needs were able to access an experience that is so often just not a possibility to them and their families." – Teacher, Seaton Park Primary School



Little Lanterns Day Out
Photo by Shaun Li

Indonesian Music Workshops with Adelindo Angklung

The fun, hands-on in-school workshops for Year 2-6 had students playing the angklung (bamboo instrument) and immersed in spoken Bahasa Indonesia led by Yenny and Ferry Chandra. Adelindo visited four Adelaide schools, delivering workshops to over 400 students across twelve workshops in four days.

"A student with Indonesian heritage was SO excited to see her culture represented and to be able to speak with the presenters in her home language. The students loved the "hands on" nature of the session and that we got to make music together within minutes of meeting!" – Teacher, Wandana P-6 School

HuMan

In the enchanted *HuMan*, which means forest in Malay, kindergarteners and children from special options sites wiggled their fingers and toes through textured leaves, smelled the flowers, and played hide-and-seek with Hornbill among many other multisensory, inclusive adventures.

"Our students at times are not afforded these opportunities, but the work, planning and delivery of the HuMan performance was absolutely brilliant for their level of inclusion. The students were allowed and supported to be themselves and express themselves in any way they wanted or needed to. The care and consideration that OzAsia organisers and the performers provided was refreshing." Teacher, Suneden Specialist School

On Stage Performing Arts Program

101
children

4
scholarship recipients

119
workshops

35
artists

Adelaide Festival Centre's On Stage holiday program continued to foster creative development for young people, offering engaging performing arts experiences led by some of South Australia's most respected practitioners.

Participants explored dance and musical theatre in 2025 alongside opportunities that highlighted the skills and careers within theatre production and stage management. This broad scope allowed students to gain insight into the full spectrum of theatre-making.

Support from Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation enabled the program to offer targeted scholarships to young people facing financial or geographic barriers.

Savannah Guidera (Regional SA) On Stage Scholarship Recipient

Jan 2025 School Holiday Program -
5 x day PLAY program (8-12 years)

*"We're so glad we did it
& forever grateful"*

Joshua North (Regional SA) On Stage Scholarship Recipient

Jan 2025 School Holiday Program -
5 x day Musical Moments program
2025 (10 to 17 years)

*"During my time in the On Stage
program, I discovered how powerful
hard work and dedication can be in the
performing arts. Growing up in a small
farming community has meant that I've
had limited opportunities to participate
in the arts and I am very grateful to
be a scholarship recipient. Thank you
for the chance to thrive in what
I love doing."*

On Stage Community Program

In 2025, the On Stage Community
Program continued in partnership
with the City of Adelaide and
Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation.

With a strong commitment to
First Nations children and cultural
connection, this free program supported
young people with lived experience
of out-of-home care by providing
accessible performing arts learning
in a safe, supportive setting. It built
confidence, encouraged participation,
and strengthened wellbeing.

*"I was able to participate in something
that I love doing without feeling
judged. In this program, I could be me
and built the confidence to not worry
about what others think."*

On Stage Community Participant



Photo by Kyahm Ross



Families at Adelaide Festival Centre

104
participants

Families at Adelaide Festival
Centre program provides low-cost
workshops led by prominent South
Australian artists. The workshops
provide immersive arts learning and
participation opportunities for children
and their families.

"You're The Best!" Trophy Making Workshops with Arlon Hall

During the January 2025 school
holidays, Arlon Hall delivered four
recycled-art workshops alongside
the *Making Space* exhibition by Tutti
artists. More than 80 young people
and families took part, activating

the Artspace and creating original
"trophies" to celebrate themselves
or someone they love. Participants
worked together, learned new skills,
and proudly took their creations home.

Abstract Art for Your Home Masterclass (Adult Workshop)

Participants were guided through
creating their own ink block prints
and abstract canvas paintings to take
home, all while enjoying a glass of Bird
in Hand wine. 24 people took part, and
the workshop sold out for the second
year in a row.

"You're The Best!" Trophy Making Workshops
with Arlon Hall. Photo by Kellie Nicol

Artspace

165

young artists

42

professional artists

53

schools

13,065

gallery visitors

Artspace is a welcoming hub where everyone, especially children and community members, can create, learn, and enjoy art. The program collaborates, teaches, and listens so young people and marginalised voices can be seen, heard, and celebrated.

In 2025 the exhibition program presented:

Making Space

Showcasing collaborative artworks by lead artist Arlon Hall and Tutti Arts artists Lewis Constantine, Megan Long, Jasmine Jones, Scott Pyle, and Charlie Taplin.

Black Women BACK in Focus

Celebrating the 40th anniversary of the First National Aboriginal Women's Arts Festival.

Listen to Me – The Things that Matter to SA Kids

As part of DreamBIG Children's Festival 2025, Artspace worked in partnership with the SA Commissioner for Children and Young People, and Designer, Bianka Kennedy to represent what matters most to children aged 8-12 years old from all over South Australia.

SA Refugee Week Youth Poster Awards Exhibition 2025

Presented in partnership with the Australian Migrant Resource Centre featuring artworks by children and young people in Primary, Secondary and Tertiary education exploring themes of harmony, freedom and welcome.

Artspace is supported by Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation and enriched through partnerships with organisations including Adelaide Central School of Art, Australian Migrant Resource Centre, Tutti Arts, Women's and Children's Hospital, and Renewal SA. Together, these collaborations expand opportunities for marginalised communities, children and young people, First Nations artists, CALD communities, and artists with disability or neurodiversity.



Making Space soft launch with artists and friends of Tutti Arts. Photo by Helen Trepa.



TIX for ALL Premium Experience
Disney's Beauty and the Beast



TIX for ALL Premium Experience
Sister Act



TIX for ALL Premium Experience
Sister Act

TIX for ALL Equity Ticketing Program

78
performances

984
attendances

51
organisations
registered

Adelaide Festival Centre's TIX for ALL initiative ensures everyone, regardless of social or economic barriers, can access and enjoy the arts. The program provides a limited number of free or discounted tickets to year-round performances and festivals for people who might otherwise miss out.

TIX for ALL "Night Out" Premium Experience Program

Proudly supported by Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation, the TIX for ALL "Night Out" Premium Experience Program offers free, exclusive performance packages to registered organisations. These VIP experiences give South Australians facing disadvantage the chance to enjoy red carpet arrivals, event programs, and meet-and-greets with performers.

Sister Act

In April with support from Crossroads Live and Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation, members of Youth Inc. were given the opportunity to attend *Sister Act* at Festival Theatre. For many this was the first time they had visited Festival Theatre.

"It's my first time in the theatre. It's amazing, the vibe in there was really nice, super electric."
Sam, 19

"The whole thing has been absolutely incredible. I've always actually wanted to go and see a musical live, but I've never had the opportunity."
Hannah, 20

Disney's Beauty and the Beast

In May, in partnership with Disney and with support from Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation, members of the Adelaide Festival Centre On Stage Community program and the Australian Migrant Resource Centre were invited to attend Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* at Festival Theatre.

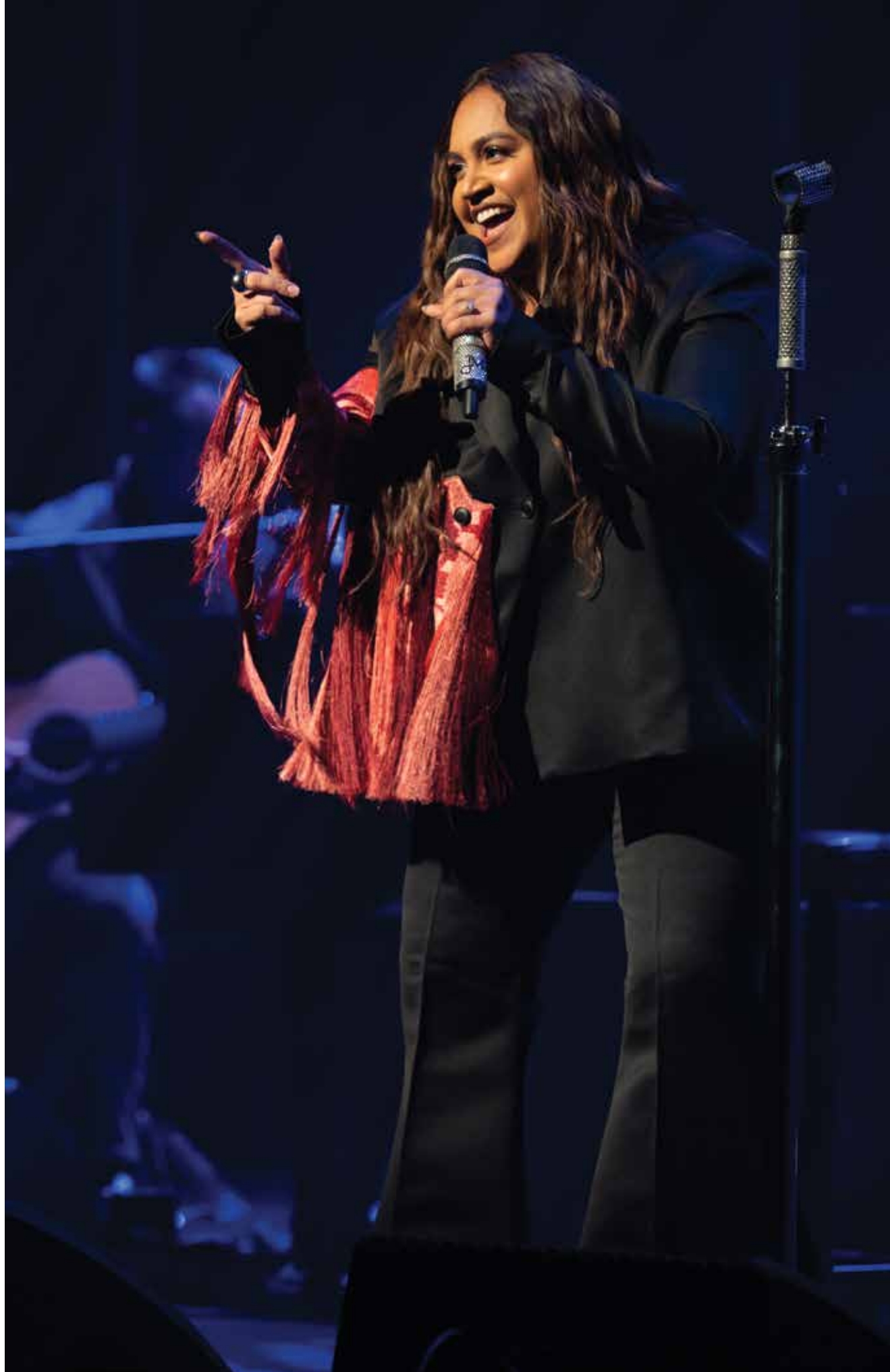
"What a wonderful opportunity you provide to people in the community. It was a truly memorable experience, thank you."
Anonymous participant

Riverland Youth Theatre attends DreamBIG Children's Festival 2025

As part of DreamBIG Children's Festival, TIX for ALL and Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation provided travel and accommodation support for six young members (aged 15–18) of Riverland Youth Theatre in Renmark to attend the festival as delegates during Big Family Weekend. The group saw four ticketed performances, attended three VIP events, and fully immersed themselves in the festival experience.

"It truly means a lot to be able to give these brilliant young regional artists the chance to see these kinds of works and I'm very excited to support them to keep imagining and creating, and then hopefully even have their own wonderful works to present at DreamBIG".

Sam - Artistic Director,
Riverland Youth Theatre



Jessica Mauboy performing at Her Majesty's Theatre
Photo by Claudio Raschella

Adelaide Cabaret Festival

77
performances

11
world premieres

9
Adelaide premieres

219
artists

In 2025, Adelaide Cabaret Festival celebrated its 25th anniversary in style, reaffirming its place as the world's largest and most influential cabaret festival, and a highlight of both the international and Australian arts calendars.

For her second program as Artistic Director, award-winning Australian actor, writer, and personality Virginia Gay curated a program that showcased world-class singers and storytellers throughout 77 performances over 12 nights, including 11 world premieres and 9 Adelaide premieres by international artists from the USA and United Kingdom, plus Australia's best contemporary cabaret acts.

Program highlights included Grammy award-winner Jacob Collier, Carlotta (winner of the 2025 Icon Award), Jessica Mauboy, former Artistic Director David Campbell, and incoming Artistic Director Reuben Kaye, as well as festival favourites Trevor Jones, Rizo, and the annual Variety Gala.

Tired Ass Showgirls

A co-production between Adelaide Cabaret Festival and Hayes Theatre Co, created by performers Seann Miley Moore and Brendan de la Hay, with writer/director Jared Jekyll. Supported by Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation, the project championed emerging artists developing new cabaret work by connecting them with industry professionals, strengthening relationships across both companies, and broadening networks locally, nationally and internationally.

Trio

Jess Hitchcock, Fanny Lumsden and Alice Keath joined forces in a vibrant tribute to the iconic album *Trio* by Dolly Parton, Linda Ronstadt and Emmylou Harris. Audiences experienced the magic of these classic songs, brought to life with soaring vocals and extraordinary chemistry between three immensely talented Australian performers. Presented with support from Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation's Artistic Director's Fund.



Early Career Artists at Adelaide Cabaret Festival

Support from Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation Vanguard enabled two independent works by rising stars, Frankie McNair and The Burton Brothers to be showcased at Adelaide Cabaret Festival. The artists received funding for flights and accommodation as well as full tech and marketing support in addition to a show fee.

"[...] Adelaide Cabaret Festival was easily one of our best festival experiences that we've had as performers. The staff were incredible, the audiences were excitable and up for our nonsense and the services provided by the festival were second to none!" – The Burton Brothers

"Being a part of Adelaide Cabaret Festival was a dream come true. Having the opportunity to connect with and introduce myself and my work to such a large audience was such an incredible privilege. I'm incredibly grateful for the opportunity to spread silly joy to a new community that I hope I have been able to now weasel my way into." – Frankie McNair

PRIMETIME

Local team Millicent Sarre and Joseph Simons finessed their work over five days before an in-development showcase that premiered their camp, colourful and competitive work about the secrets and scandals of television quiz shows. Generously supported by Sam Harvey and the late Frank Ford AM, founder of Adelaide Cabaret Festival.

"We are so thankful to the Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation and Adelaide Cabaret Festival for the opportunity to workshop and showcase our new work. The development was pivotal to the creation of PRIMETIME. Hearing the work spoken and sung aloud by a cast of local performers, and observing the audience's reaction to the material are critical steps in the writing process. With the first showing and development now complete, we look forward to returning to the writing process to finish the full libretto, with a view to presenting a second reading within the next 12 months, and seeking avenues to create a full production of PRIMETIME in the coming years." – Millicent Sarre and Joseph Simons

The Smart Girl's Guide to Breaking Up

The Smart Girl's Guide to Breaking Up, recipient of the 2025 Frank Ford Commission, is a light and lively cabaret by Joanne Hartstone. Featuring exquisite harmonies, this step-by-step musical guide offered audiences a roadmap for recovering self-worth and building resilience.

"I allowed myself to take risks. I wrote with instinct and translated music with purposeful emotion. The commission allowed me freedom to try, but with a deadline to keep me focused. I am very proud of the result and I carry this pride forward into more creative endeavours." – Joanne Hartstone

Class of Cabaret Nathaniel O'Brien Scholarship

Funded by Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation, this scholarship enables a regional Year 10 or 11 student to participate in Adelaide Cabaret Festival's Class of Cabaret program, covering travel, accommodation and private vocal tuition. Students engage in rehearsals and workshops that culminate in a performance at Adelaide Cabaret Festival. With guidance from renowned artists, a leading Adelaide vocal coach, and SACE accreditation support through Adelaide Festival Centre's CentrED program, participants gain a transformative arts education experience. This year's scholarship recipient was Donella Smart from Navigator College in Port Lincoln.

"I had the most wonderful experience during Class of Cabaret. I was honoured and so so lucky to receive the Nathaniel O'Brien Scholarship. With it, I was able to learn from incredible industry professionals and forge close connections with my peers. I have learnt so much and improved as an artist and performer and I'm so grateful for the program and the scholarship. The program is once in a lifetime and the experiences it provides are invaluable." – Donella Smart

pg 20, top to bottom, left to right
Trio
Tired Ass Showgirls
1925
PRIMETIME
Tabitha Booth
Photos by Claudio Raschella



Adelaide Guitar Festival

11,210
total attendances

13
international artists

40
interstate artists

134
South Australian artists

73
community performers
aged between 10-79

Led by Artistic Director Slava Grigoryan, Adelaide Guitar Festival hosted the ultimate celebration of the world's most popular instrument in our UNESCO City of Music and across South Australia's beautiful regions. Featuring Australian debuts, world premieres, performances by guitar icons and rising stars, the festival showcased exceptional talent and artistry, and played a crucial role in nurturing emerging musicians, providing a platform to grow, learn and connect with audiences across the state.

Highlights of the 2025 ticketed program included John Butler's sold out Adelaide Guitar Festival debut with his *PRISM* Tour in Her Majesty's Theatre; Troy Cassar-Daley and Nancy Bates in a profoundly moving evening of songs and stories and the sold-out world premiere of Led Zeppelin's *Physical Graffiti* Live in Concert, celebrating the 50th anniversary of the iconic album. Beloved troubadour Lior returned with his band for a double bill with global rising star Lau Noah, who had the audience in her palm throughout her enchanting Australian debut. South Korea's Young Taek Jo and firecracker Brazilian Duo Siqueira Lima saw the crowd erupt into standing ovation, and the festive line up for *Consonance – Instrumental Conversations with Guitar* including Aleksandr Tsiboulski, Elizabeth Layton, Slava & Sharon Grigoryan, plus the 2025 Adelaide Guitar Festival Orchestra with special guest Lior played to a packed Elder Hall.



Adelaide International Classical Guitar Competition

The Adelaide International Classical Guitar Competition was held in Elder Hall, with 16 semifinalists and 6 finalists from across the globe. After finishing second place in last year's final, Japan's Nene Yokomura returned to secure first-place, taking home \$10,000, and a coveted Jim Redgate Guitar valued at \$23,000, proudly supported by Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation. Coming in second and third place were Brett Gómez and Jeffery Cheah respectively, both from Sydney, Australia.

Nene Yokomura
Photo by Kyahm Ross



Troy Cassar-Daley and Nancy Bates

With the generous support of Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation's Artistic Director's Fund, Troy Cassar-Daley and Nancy Bates graced Her Majesty's Theatre stage, captivating the audience from start to finish with heartfelt stories, soaring vocals and guitar brilliance. Adelaide Guitar Festival was thrilled to welcome back one of Australia's most prolific musicians, Troy Cassar-Daley. A proud Gumbaynggirr/Bundjalung man, Troy demonstrated his transcendent songwriting and storytelling, as well as his sublime guitar playing, capping off an epic night of connection and culture. Barkindji songwoman Nancy Bates opened the show, weaving heart, vision and the power of collaboration through the performance of her latest album *Share Your Love*, and accompanied by a cast of stellar musicians.

Nancy Bates & Troy Cassar-Daley
Photos by Naomi Jellicoe



Adelaide Guitar Festival Winter Schools

Proudly supported by Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation, the Leon and Gill Pitchon Memorial Fund and the Ian and Pamela Wall Fund, Adelaide Guitar Festival ran a five-day Winter School intensive across two streams, with participants aged 10-79 and some of the most decorated mentors in the country. The Blues and Roots stream focused on chord progression, song writing and collaborative development and blues techniques, while the Adelaide Guitar Festival Orchestra honed their classical technique, ensemble playing, music reading and interpretation. This year, the Adelaide Guitar Festival Orchestra was joined by beloved singer, songwriter and guitarist Lior in a bespoke festival event.

Adelaide Guitar Festival Orchestra
Photo by Kyahm Ross



On The Road

This year, Adelaide Guitar Festival took its award-winning regional program *On The Road* to the beautiful Ngarrindjeri, Bindjali and Boandik country in South Australia's South East. Supported by Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation and the John Bishop AO and Jean Bishop Fund, *On The Road* presented 58 free performances and two ticketed shows, with 59 individual artists across two weekends in Keith, Naracoorte, Coonawarra, Robe and Mount Gambier. Events took place in 23 venues, including three in aged care facilities, a professional development workshop for regional artists and a school-holiday masterclass and reached more than 6,000 attendances.

Kyarna Rose, *Blak Country*, *On The Road*, Mount Gambier
Photo by Adam Johnstone Photography

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Hiromi
Photo by Tyr Liang at Xplorer Media

OzAsia Festival

over
210,000
attendees

over
50
events

over
300
local, national and
international artists

1
world premiere

3
Australian premieres

7
Adelaide premieres

OzAsia Festival is Australia's leading contemporary arts and culture festival celebrating engagement with Asia. Known for its ambitious, boundary pushing program, the festival consistently attracts strong audiences and critical acclaim. Showcasing exceptional artists from across the world, it has firmly established itself as a highlight of the state's arts calendar.

In 2025, OzAsia Festival spanned four vibrant weekends, showcasing the best in theatre, dance, music, visual arts, literature, cuisine, and cultural events from Asia and Australia, in venues across Adelaide and beyond.

This year, OzAsia Festival celebrated its 18th year with over 210,000 attendances across more than 50 ticketed and free events. One of its most successful years yet, the festival featured over 300 local, national, and international artists, presenting one world premiere, three Australian premieres, and seven Adelaide premieres.

An impressive 550 local community members shared culture through performances and workshops at free community events. Sold out ticketed shows included *Opera for the Dead*, *Badieh*, *The Mixed-Race Tape*, *Hu 木 an*, *Two Blood* and *grentperez*.

Additional highlights included GRAMMY-winning pianist Hiromi in *The Piano Quintet*, and Asian Australian icon William Yang in *Milestone* at Adelaide Town Hall; world premiere of Australian Dance Theatre's *Two Blood* at The Odeon; stunning exhibitions at Nexus Arts gallery and windows, Adelaide Railway Station Historic Phone Booths and SkyCity. The much loved Lucky Dumpling Market, Adelaide's favourite food market, featured community performances and free live music from local, interstate and international artists, while the family favourite Moon Lantern Trail delighted almost 40,000 attendees with its dazzling displays, including an extended stay for the spectacular Hong Kong Dragon lantern.



Milestone: William Yang with Elena Kats-Chernin and Ensemble Lumen

Celebrating his 80th birthday, pioneering Australian artist William Yang reflected on his extraordinary life in *Milestone*. Weaving together an epic slideshow of documentary photographs from his vast collection with personal stories, this ambitious performance explored themes of family, sexuality and culture. Presented with support from Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation's Artistic Director's Fund.

Searching Blue (Singapore), Elsewhere in India: Return to Technopia (India), and Embarking on a Drift to the Unknown (Taiwan)

In partnership with Playking Foundation, Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation was proud to support the presentation of three international works.

In *Searching Blue*, Singapore's The Human Expression (T.H.E) Dance Company invited audiences to walk alongside them in a gentle and profound outdoor performance.

Transmedia artists, Murthovic and Thiruda (India), transported audiences to a speculative Indo-futuristic world where electro-classical Indian music collided with surreal visuals created through a fusion of 3D video games, AI-generated art and motion-captured dance in *Elsewhere in India*.

Taiwan's Antinomy Company told audiences the story of one woman's journey aboard a cargo ship to a place unknown in an intimate, audio-immersive solo performance that merged soundscapes, fragmented memory, archival media and carried through wireless headphones in *Embarking on a Drift to the Unknown*.

Little Lanterns Workshops

With support from Carthew Foundation and Ahrens, OzAsia Festival presented *Little Lanterns Workshops* at Moon Lantern Trail, a daytime arts and culture workshop program for children and students, featuring 14 sessions led by festival artists and local Asian community groups.

Hu^木an

With thanks to Ahrens, 140 students and their teachers experienced *Hu^木an*, a multisensory, inclusive adventure for children with access needs and their friends. This work exploring the forest of the Singapore and Malay Peninsula was created by The Artground (Singapore) and Sensorium Theatre (Australia).

pg30 & 31 top to bottom, left to right
Milestone
Elsewhere in India
Little Lanterns Workshops
Searching Blue
 Photos by Tyr Liang at Xplorer Media



Moon Lantern Trail
Photo by Tyr Liang at Xplorer Media



OzAsia Festival's Weekend of Words

26

free sessions

58

speakers from Asia
and Australia

33

authors introduced
to South Australian
audiences

7

international writers

OzAsia Festival's Weekend of Words once again placed Asian and Asian Australian perspectives at the forefront of national cultural conversation. The 2025 edition, curated by acclaimed writer and comedian Sami Shah, unfolded over three dynamic days filled with sharp, engaging discussions and insightful panels. Audiences heard from leading authors, journalists and creatives as they explored themes spanning politics, memoir, fiction, romance, poetry, food and more.

As Australia's largest gathering of Asian and Asian Australian literary voices, the 2025 program

showcased 26 free events and featured contributions from more than 58 writers and thinkers. International guests included Ratih Kumala (Indonesia), Prasanthi Ram and Kirsten Han (Singapore), Malachi Edwin Vethamani (Malaysia), Hansda Sowvendra Shekar and Beni Sumer Yanthan (India), and Joo Dong-geun (South Korea), enriching a vibrant celebration of writing, culture and creativity.

OzAsia Festival's Weekend of Words is proudly supported by Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation in partnership with Dr Geoff Martin.

OzAsia Festival's Weekend of Words
Speaking In Tongues
Photo by Tyr Liang at Xplorer Media



Pipe Dream by Samuel Matthewman, 2025.
Photo courtesy of artist.



Top to bottom – Ellen Steele, *See You At the Dance*, 2025,
Luke Wiltshire, *Squid*, 2025 – Photos by Tim Standing

inSPACE Development Program

9
creative
developments

35
artists

1,312
hours of artist
engagement

250
audience attendances

Now in its 23rd year, Adelaide Festival Centre's inSPACE Development Program continues to be a vital platform for independent South Australian artists to explore, experiment, and take creative risks.

Proudly funded by Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation, the program supports artists from theatre and dance to hybrid performance and new writing, providing space, time, and expert feedback to develop bold new work at its earliest stages.

Ellen Steele and Luke Wiltshire undertook recent inSPACE residencies, using the opportunity to push the boundaries of their practice and connect more deeply with audiences.

For theatre maker Ellen Steele, the residency offered a unique chance to test a large-scale participatory work in front of live audiences and refine it through dialogue and experimentation.

"One of the things that makes inSPACE so beneficial is the opportunity to trial elements of the work in development for audience feedback. The audiences that frequent inSPACE showings are diverse and eclectic, which furthers the capacity to test elements of the work against a broad spectrum of interests and abilities, and leads to incredibly beneficial conversations afterwards with participants and within the creative team." – Ellen Steele

Playwright and actor Luke Wiltshire found the residency to be transformative for his creative development and career trajectory. Working alongside acclaimed director Stephen Nicolazzo, Luke refined his script to a new level and gained valuable industry connections.

"I would love to say thank you to the donors! Adelaide can only continue to have such a strong and diverse arts sector because of your generous support. To invest into the arts means the absolute world, not to just me but to every young person who is wanting to pursue this career. There are life-changing stories that come out of these developments, and the work is incredibly vital. Thank you, thank you, thank you!" – Luke Wiltshire

Arts Leadership Program

162
applicants from
11 countries

116
Australian applicants

46
overseas applicants

20
participants selected

The third year of the Arts Leadership Program, supported by Richard Ryan AO and presented by Adelaide Festival Centre provided a comprehensive professional development experience for aspiring arts leaders. The four-day intensive curated by Christie Anthoney offered participants tailored leadership guidance, curated workshops led by sector experts, and global strategic thinking for the sector.

Designed to cater to arts professionals from across Australia, New Zealand, and Asia, the Arts Leadership Program gave participants the opportunity to develop personalised leadership tools, gain essential knowledge about the arts sector, receive valuable peer support, and build a national and international network.

Further networking opportunities were incorporated into the experience with participants joining an evening with the Australia-Singapore Cultural Leaders' Forum at OzAsia Festival's Lucky Dumpling Market, as well as connecting with industry and education professionals at the Flinders University International Symposium.

"It was a privilege to be selected as part of the 2025 Adelaide Festival Centre Arts Leadership cohort; an inspiring week learning from industry leaders, fostering connections with sector peers, and participating in reflective leadership practice. I loved the way the course was structured - with a real emphasis on introspection, to lead with authenticity."

Alice Farley, Arts Leadership Program participant



2025 Participants

- Adam Santilli
The Australian Ballet, NSW
- Alice Farley
DarkLab, TAS
- Brigette Uren
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- Christie Chua
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- Courtney Sumner-Kimlin
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- Elizabeth McCall
Chamber Music Adelaide, SA
- Elizabeth Rogers
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- Felicia Cindyagatha
Biennale of Sydney, NSW
- Grace Low
Esplanade - Theatres on the Bay, Singapore
- Ioanna Salmanidis
Adelaide Festival Centre, SA
- Kultar Ahluwalia
Independent Artist/Nexus Arts, SA
- Kwan Leong Andy Lo
TS Crew, Hong Kong
- Kylie Baker
HOTA, Home of the Arts, QLD
- Magali De Moor
Arts Northern Rivers, NSW
- Polly Dance
Adelaide Festival Centre, SA
- Sabrina Alday
Asialink, VIC
- Vanessa Immink
Vanessa Immink Productions, NZ
- William Lane
Hong Kong New Music Ensemble
- Zoe Gay
Motus Collective, SA

2025 Arts Leadership Program participants
Photo by Shaun Li



First Nations Fellow: Jayda Wilson

Adelaide Festival Centre's First Nations Fellowship provides an important opportunity for emerging First Nations arts professionals. The most recent fellow, Jayda Wilson, made a significant impact during her time in the program.

Proudly supported by Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation, the First Nations Fellowship offered Jayda invaluable insights into the intricacies of arts administration. She learned the procedures for delivering significant events and gained crucial skills in managing artist cohorts and navigating challenging situations.

The Fellowship provided Jayda with a deeper understanding of the relationship between artists and arts administrators, and has significantly expanded her leadership skills.

"As a practicing artist, I have developed a deeper understanding of the work that happens to platform artists and the delivery of events. I have formed a new appreciation for that relationship between artist and arts administrators."

"To those that have supported this program, thank you. It was an incredible opportunity as working in the arts sector felt unattainable and it would be incredible to see this continue."

Jayda Wilson
Photo by Sia Duff



Black Women BACK in Focus

2025 marked the 40th anniversary of the First Aboriginal Women's Arts Festival, a key moment in Australia's contemporary cultural history. *Black Women BACK in Focus*, was a retrospective exhibition at Adelaide Festival Centre's Artspace which celebrated its legacy and the women behind it.

Proudly supported by Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation, the exhibition brought together rare photographs, archival materials, and firsthand stories from the Aboriginal women who were at the forefront of the festival in 1985. Curated festival memorabilia, historical photographs, and personal accounts allowed visitors to experience the groundbreaking event that united Aboriginal women nationwide to celebrate their culture and songlines through visual arts, dance, music, theatre, and ceremony.

The First Aboriginal Women's Arts Festival was a transformative event that highlighted the resilience, talent, and spirit of Aboriginal women, many of whom are now regarded as leaders in their respective fields. The exhibition honoured and celebrated the continuing artistic legacy, showcasing how the festival paved the way for future generations of Aboriginal artists and performers.



Top to bottom
Aunty Jo Willmot, Aunty Sandra Saunders, Nici Cumpston
Nancy Bates and Aunty Betty Sumner
Cultural Consultant, Aunty Jo Willmot looking at the display of archival items
Photo by Colleen Raven Strangways.

Moving Image Program

16
works presented

24
artists –
3 international artists
(France & China)

20
South Australian
artists

Adelaide Festival Centre's Moving Image Program showcases digital artworks on Festival Theatre's King William Road entrance, featuring artists from across the globe.

2025 included:

- Two works celebrating Lunar New Year: *Lanterns* a paper cut animation work by established artist Tianli Zu; and *Black, White, and Redd All Over* by UniSA Bachelor of Design Illustration and Animation graduate and emerging 2D animator, Alice Lam.
- KICE Penneshaw Year 7/8 class, *Eight-Frame Walk* an animation work created by Kangaroo Island Community Education, Penneshaw Year 7/8 class.
- *UV Songlines: Illuminating Ancestral Roots* by Colleen Raven Strangways, part of a multi-site exhibition on the Outdoor Media Screens and in the historic Adelaide Railway Station Phone Booths.



Installation view of Colleen Raven Strangways,
UV Songlines, moving image (still)
Photo by Sarah Northcott



Let's Do It costume, 1989, Leigh Warren, Australian Dance Theatre, photo by Sam Roberts reproduced courtesy of After Images Linkage Grant, Performing Arts Collection, Adelaide Festival Centre.



Aurora costume, 1994, Meryl Tankards Australian Dance Theatre, photo by Sam Roberts reproduced courtesy of After Images Linkage Grant, Performing Arts Collection, Adelaide Festival Centre.



Pamela Harris, *Single Ladies Race*, 1986. Photo by Sam Roberts. Works of Art Collection, Adelaide Festival Centre.

Performing Arts Collection

115
new acquisitions

20
costumes digitised

100,000+
objects relocated
for Adelaide Festival
Centre's redevelopment

Tutus and Pointe Shoes

In June and July, thousands of visitors were captivated by *Tutus and Pointe Shoes*, an exhibition in the Festival Theatre Galleries supported by Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation. With exquisite costumes, objects, and footage generously loaned by The Australian Ballet alongside items from Adelaide Festival Centre's Performing Arts Collection, the exhibition offered an intimate look at the craft, beauty, and hard work behind ballet.

The project also created valuable learning opportunities for emerging arts professionals. Adelaide Central

School of Art students Caitlin Elliot and Sam Klæbe completed industry placements with the Exhibitions and Collections team, helping research, design, and write the exhibition labels. Both described the experience as inspiring, hands-on, and a rare chance to contribute to a major exhibition seen by thousands.

"Working on Tutus and Pointe Shoes was an incredibly insightful experience. I learnt so many valuable skills which will be very beneficial to my art practice."

Sam Klæbe

Works of Art Collection

15
exhibitions

90
artists exhibited

Adelaide Festival Centre's year-round program of free exhibitions features local, national and international artists, large-scale moving image works, and works from the Centre's expansive collection.

Highlights in 2025 included:

- *50 Years of Dreaming Big*. This exhibition celebrated 50 years of DreamBIG Children's Festival, tracing its 1974 beginnings through to its evolution into the Come Out Children's Festival and finally DreamBIG Children's Festival, highlighting five decades of creativity and imagination.

- *Claudio Raschella: 10 Years Photographing Adelaide Cabaret Festival*. For a decade, Claudio Raschella has been capturing Adelaide Cabaret Festival artists at their most candid and chaotic. This exhibition offered an unfiltered glimpse behind the curtain at the energy, mischief and passion of cabaret's brightest stars.
- *Adelaide Festival Centre Works of Art Collection*. Established in 1974, the Collection has grown into a significant assembly of Australian and international artworks displayed throughout Adelaide Festival Centre. This exhibition highlighted key pieces reflecting the Festival Centre's history and the strength of contemporary First Nations art.

A brighter future for artists and arts lovers for generations to come



In March 2025, in a landmark moment for Adelaide Festival Centre and South Australia's arts community, Dr Pamela Wall AO donated an extraordinary \$10 million to Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation. This is the largest performing arts donation in South Australian history and the most significant individual philanthropic gift ever made for programming to a performing arts centre in Australia.

For Pamela, Adelaide Festival Centre is more than just a venue, it's a place that has shaped her life and holds countless cherished memories.

"Ian and I have loved the theatre together for many years, sharing countless memorable performances that moved and inspired us," she reflects. "Adelaide Festival Centre is more than just a venue; it's a symbol of inspiration and possibility for our state."

Her connection to Adelaide Festival Centre runs deep. Since 2002, Pamela and her late husband Ian have been passionate supporters, contributing to projects including the redevelopment of Her Majesty's Theatre and establishing a fund to support the centre's youth arts programs. This latest donation is a continuation of their shared vision: to give back to a place that has brought them so much joy while creating opportunities for artists to create work and the community to experience the magic of live performance.

In recognition of their sustained and significant support over the years, Adelaide Festival Centre is proudly naming the ground floor of the Festival Theatre foyer the Ian and Pamela Wall Foyer. This permanent recognition, honouring their shared passion for the arts, will be officially unveiled when the Festival Theatre reopens in February 2026, cementing their legacy within the very heart of the building.

Pamela's \$10 million gift will have a transformative impact on South Australia's cultural landscape. The funds will support diverse arts programming, empowering artists to create, innovate, and share their work with audiences. Her generosity will also ensure sustainable funding for Adelaide Festival Centre's programs, strengthening its place as South Australia's cultural heart for generations to come.

"I hope this contribution helps secure the future of Adelaide Festival Centre as a vibrant cultural hub," Pamela shares. "I want young people to be inspired by the performances they witness, for artists to have the support they need to innovate, and for audiences from all backgrounds to experience world-class productions."

Pamela believes deeply in the power of the arts to unite communities: *"The arts have always been a source of inspiration and joy in my life," she says. "Supporting Adelaide Festival Centre is not only a way to give back but also a way to honour Ian and the passion we shared."*

Her vision extends beyond financial support, she hopes her gift inspires others to recognise how vital philanthropy is in keeping the arts alive. *"Government funding alone is not enough. It takes passionate individuals, businesses, and philanthropists to ensure that creativity is nurtured, risks are taken, and new stories are told."*

Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation Executive Director Abbie Taylor: *"This extraordinary gift will provide lasting financial support for the Festival Centre's programs, ensuring the arts remain a vital part of our community and are enjoyed by all South Australians for generations to come. We are deeply grateful for Pamela and Ian's belief in the power of the arts to connect, uplift, and inspire."*

Pamela Wall's donation is an investment in creativity, inspiration, and connection. It ensures that future generations will continue to gather at Adelaide Festival Centre to experience unforgettable performances. Pamela's passion for nurturing young talent and making the arts accessible is evident in every aspect of her giving.

"The arts are a gift to society," Pamela says. "My greatest wish is that this gift continues to enrich lives for years to come."



Top to bottom
 Evie 8, Dr Pamela Wall AO, Leila, 15, Emerson 10. Photo by Naomi Jellicoe
 The late Ian Wall AM and Dr Pamela Wall AO at the reopening of Her Majesty's Theatre in 2020. Photo by Daniel Blackman
 Dr Pamela Wall AO. Photo by Naomi Jellicoe

Miranda Starke’s personal declaration through giving

Encore Bequest Program

Miranda Starke has long understood the power of philanthropy. Having spent her career in for-purpose and philanthropic organisations, she regularly reviews her will and has always included bequests to the causes she loves most. Supporting Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation through a bequest felt like a natural extension of her commitment as both a regular donor and a long-time champion of the Foundation’s work. *“To me, including a bequest is an easy thing to do. I’m an active donor and give to a range of programs annually, so a bequest feels like an extension of that commitment,”* she says.

Miranda joined the Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation Board in April 2020, becoming Chair in January 2021. She felt privileged to contribute to a place that has shaped her life, *“I have so many memories growing up as a young performer and an audience member and now contributing as a donor and Foundation Board member, it’s a very special place,”* she reflects. Her connection is shared with her engineer husband Scott Brumfield, who played a key role leading the construction and redevelopment of Her Majesty’s Theatre; together, they feel deep pride in Adelaide Festival Centre’s iconic theatres and the artists and audiences they serve.

For Miranda, including the Foundation in her will is both an act of support and a personal legacy, an enduring declaration of what has mattered most to her throughout her life. *“I’ve seen firsthand the impact a bequest can have, and the joy it can bring for both the donor and their family after they’ve gone,”* she says. She hopes her gift will inspire others and contribute meaningfully to Adelaide Festival Centre’s future, helping ensure the place she loves continues to thrive for future generations of artists, audiences, and arts administrators.

“I don’t expect that my bequest will transform the fortunes of the Adelaide Festival Centre, but together with other donors, it can make a big impact. You never know the opportunities your gift might create and the lives you can touch through philanthropy.”

To find out more about leaving a bequest to Adelaide Festival Centre visit: foundation.adelaidefestivalcentre.com.au/bequests or scan the QR code.



Miranda Starke and Scott Brumfield (Trustees)
Photo by Naomi Jellicoe

Sustaining the stories that shape us

Heart of the Arts Regular Giving Program

Neil and Douglas Davidson-Freeman are long-time dedicated supporters of Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation who have recently joined the Heart of the Arts regular giving program. Their decision was a strategic one, aimed at strengthening the Foundation’s future.

“We believed it would be beneficial to the Foundation if we donated on a more regular basis, thereby allowing the Foundation to forecast their income more accurately and enhance their ability to plan for the future.”

For Neil and Douglas, the arts offer truly life-changing experiences. They were particularly moved at the 2024 Adelaide Cabaret Festival; *“The show, Homage... A show by queer artists sharing their own stories in a mainstream theatre and attended by such a diverse audience truly moved us. It was an occasion we never thought we would be able to experience within our lifetime.”*

Through their consistent, regular contributions, they aim to expand support for both established and emerging artists, as well as crucial outreach programs.

“We invite everyone to consider contributing to an organisation that provides so much to so many. The chance for individuals to express and experience personal stories can be transformative, offering a profound sense of belonging and community.”

To learn more about Heart of the Arts regular giving, visit: foundation.adelaidefestivalcentre.com.au/heart-of-the-arts or scan the QR code.



Douglas and Neil Davidson-Freeman (Trustees)
Photo by Naomi Jellicoe



Artistic Director's Fund

Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation's Artistic Director's Fund supports new artistic initiatives and bold programming.

In 2025, the Fund helped bring a range of works to life, including:

- *Behind the Curtain* and *Playbook* in DreamBIG Children's Festival
- *Trio* in Adelaide Cabaret Festival
- *Nancy Bates* and *Troy Cassar-Daley* in Adelaide Guitar Festival
- *Milestone* in OzAsia Festival

In April 2025, Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation hosted an exclusive long lunch in the Festival Theatre Galleries to celebrate the Artistic Director's Fund community. The event featured a special performance and Q&A with artist Gillian Cosgriff and Adelaide Cabaret Festival Artistic Director, Virginia Gay. Donors also participated in a Q&A with outgoing Chief Executive Officer and Artistic Director, Douglas Gautier AM and Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation Chair, Miranda Starke.

"It is a great pleasure to support the Artistic Director's Fund, because it provides an opportunity for emerging talents, allowing them the support to develop their skills. This is an essential area that ensures ongoing excellence for Adelaide's Arts community and inspires others to achieve their artistic goals." – Heather Caddick, Artistic Director's Fund donor

To learn more about the Artistic Director's Fund donor circle visit foundation.adelaidefestivalcentre.com.au/ad-fund or scan the QR code.



Left to right – top to bottom
Douglas Gautier AM (Trustee), Virginia Gay, Slava Grigoryan,
Georgi Paech and Joon-Yee Kwok
Alfie and Heather Caddick (Benefactors)
Paul and Anne Moroney (Fellows)
Barbe Pidcock, Ray Dahdah (Member) and Sibby Sutherland (Trustee)
Pandie and Lindsay Carthew (Trustees)
Ann Irwin (Companion) and Angus Irwin
Virginia Gay, Rosemary Milisits OAM (Trustee) and Allison Milisits
Christina Crosby and Kathy Crosby (Trustee)
Janet and Keith Crawford (Trustees)

Gillian Cosgriff performing for AD Fund donors
Dr Evelyn Yap OAM and Alex Hanin (Trustees)
Sue Haigh (Fellow), Vizma Hazel (Trustee) and Sibby Sutherland (Trustee)
Helen and Leigh Davis (Governors)
Pam and Paul Barlow (Companions)
Joan Penn and Pam McKee (Benefactor)
Wendy Purcell (Trustee) and Dr John Walsh
Pam Barlow (Companion), Jan Davis AM (Trustee) and Peter Davis (Trustee)
Sue and Alister Haigh (Fellows)
Photos by Naomi Jellicoe

Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation Vanguard

Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation Vanguard is a dynamic community of young arts supporters who are shaping the future of South Australia's creative culture through philanthropy.

In its first year, the Vanguard community collectively raised over \$150,000, thanks to the support of Vanguard donors and donor matchers; The Lang Family Foundation, Sheryn Foord, and Legh and Helen Davis.

In 2025, Vanguard helped open the doors to creativity and magic, providing arts access for South Australian students, nurturing early-career cabaret artists, and supporting a fellowship for an emerging First Nations arts professional.

"Being able to meaningfully contribute to Adelaide Cabaret Festival was incredibly rewarding. Knowing that we supported two emerging acts and hearing directly from them gave me a real sense of connection, not just to the Festival, but to the artists themselves. It made me reflect on how powerful the contributions of the Vanguard group are in supporting artists to share and grow their talents." - Anna Lacey, Vanguard donor

To learn more about Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation Vanguard visit: foundation.adelaidefestivalcentre.com.au/about-vanguard or scan the QR code.



Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation Vanguard Donors

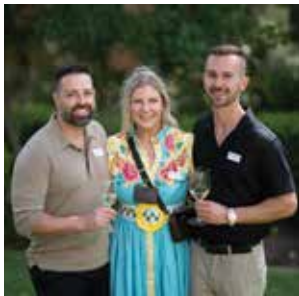
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|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Anonymous | Chloe McLeod |
| Ellen Ahrens | Daniel Milky |
| Ally Aoukar | Chelsea Morris |
| Ava Barrie | Beth Neate |
| Angelica Barrientos Opazo | Andres Orihuela Zarazua |
| Matthew Box | Phoebe Pitt |
| Jessica Chhabria | Rebecca Plummer |
| Sarah Cirillo | Kate Potter |
| Elise Cook | Mitchell Price |
| Cain Cooke | Lulu Pye |
| Chris Cooper | Emilie Rasheed |
| Reena Costello | Matthew Rasheed |
| Nick Costello | Brandon Reynolds |
| Emily Cousins | Aidan Rigoni |
| Stephen Craddock | David Rocca |
| Ray Dahdah | Adam Rocca |
| Leighlan Doe | Jasmin Shahin |
| Nerida Foord Box | Peta St Clair |
| Luke Gane | Brad Stubing |
| Grant Giordano | David Subroto |
| Johnny Graham | Taylor Swinstead |
| Rachel Harty | Abbie Taylor |
| Emma Humphries | Hien Tran-Mach |
| Naomi Jellicoe | Luke White |
| Yasmine Johnson | John Young |
| Anna Lacey | Ryan Zacharjak |
| Craig Linke | Lauren Zwaans |



Left to right
Adam Rocca (Member), David Rocca (Member) and Sarah Cirillo
Ava Barrie and Jessica Chhabria



Brandon Reynolds (Member) and Johnny Graham
Daniel Milky, Anna Lacey and Aharon Bartlett
Photos by Naomi Jellicoe



Left to right – top to bottom
Elise Cook and Emma Hart
Matthew Box (Member) and Nerida Foord Box (Member)
Emilie and Matthew Rasheed
Nick and Reena Costello (Members)
Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation Vanguard donors at Vanguard Social
Emily Cousins (Member), Ryan Zacharjak (Member)
and Grant Giordano (Member)
Emma Humphries, Chloe McLeod, Phoebe Pitt (Member)
and Nerida Foord Box (Member)

Rebecca Plummer, Jasmin Shahin (Member), Sara Annear
and Andres Orihuela Zarazua
Jessica Chhabria and Angelica Barrientos Opazo
Luke White (Member), Joe Taverna, Jenna Harkness
and Brad Stubing (Member)
Lauren Zwaans (Member) and Craig Linke (Member)
Stephen Craddock and David Subroto
Photos by Naomi Jellicoe

Foundation Events

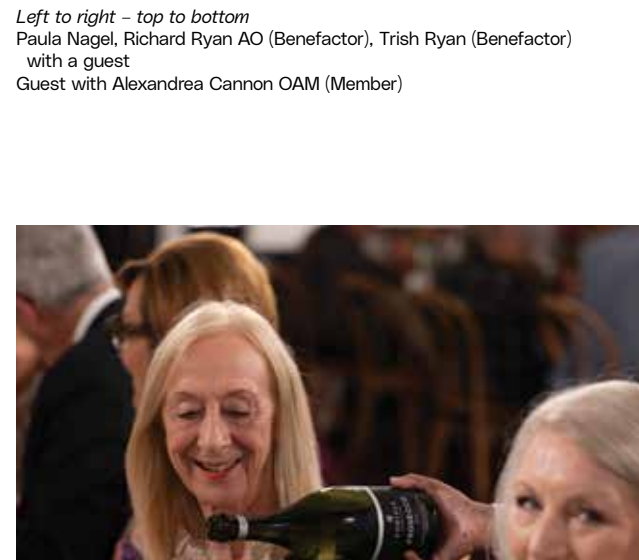
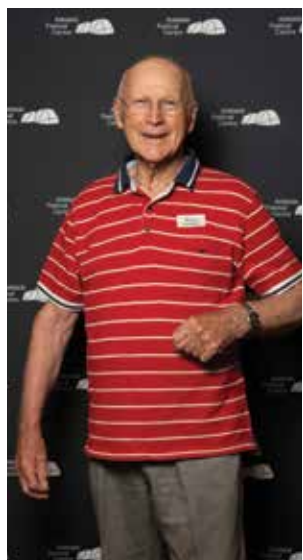
Supporters of Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation become part of a close community of friends whose generosity creates meaningful impact. In 2025, our supporters enjoyed a varied program of exclusive experiences, from bespoke Behind-the-Scenes moments to personal artist meet and greets, opening nights, access to private Corporate Suites and our signature end of year celebration, the Curtain Call Soirée.



Left to right – top to bottom
Anthea Wallace, Lachlan McMichael and Elise Cook
Sam Saunders, Legh Davis (Governor) and Naomi Jellicoe
Rainer Jozeps, Kate Gould, Vizma Hazel (Trustee) and Jim Hazel (Trustee)

Left to right – top to bottom
Lowen Patridge, Helen Fidock and Helen Davis
Nick House, Kathryn House AM, Karen Hayes AM and Graeme Hayes
Bunty Parsons, Debra Sarre, Beth Parkin, Rick Sarre
Ann Irwin (Companion), Barbara Sibley and Leon Pitchon (Governor)

Lesley Dansie (Member) and Lesley Smith (Member)
Maddie Thompson, Marjorie Fitz-Gerald OAM, Leslie Thompson
and Catherine Fitz-Gerald
Photos by Naomi Jellicoe



Left to right - top to bottom
Gail and Mario Maiolo (Members)
Sandra Gale and Roxanne Lines
Sibby Sutherland (Trustee), Norman Schueler OAM (Trustee)
and Carol Schueler (Trustee)
Terri and Paul Pamment
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Olivia Power and Alexandra McCarthy
Peta St Clair and Taylor Swinstead
Photos by Naomi Jellicoe



Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation extends our sincerest gratitude to Coriole Vineyards for their generous sponsorship of the Foundation's events throughout 2025. By providing excellent South Australian wines, Coriole Vineyards has helped us create special experiences for our supporters. We thank them for their commitment to the arts and for helping us bring the magic to life.

How you can help in 2026

Discover the ways you can invest in creativity, access and artistic excellence, and help shape the next chapter of Adelaide Festival Centre.

Every donation, no matter the size, makes a meaningful impact. Gifts of \$2 or more to Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation are fully tax-deductible and contribute to your lifetime giving recognition total.

To donate or to explore all your options for support, visit foundation.adelaidefestivalcentre.com.au, scan the QR code, or get in touch with the Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation team at foundation@adelaidefestivalcentre.com.au or (08) 8216 8816

Thank you for your support!



Provide arts access for South Australian children.

Your generosity will help ensure that every school-aged child in South Australia experiences the transformative power of the arts.

By supporting our ambitious goal to reach all school-aged South Australian children by 2035, you help remove barriers, so that every child and family can engage with theatre, music, visual art and cultural experiences, regardless of their circumstances.



Champion contemporary arts programs.

Your support helps bring world-class productions to Adelaide while championing bold, contemporary arts programs.

You can help enable a dynamic program of music, art and culture with an experimental edge, designed to captivate diverse audiences and inspire a lifelong love of the arts in younger people.



Join Adelaide's inner arts circle.

You have the power to shape the future of creativity in our city.

By joining the Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation Artistic Circle, you become part of a collective of visionaries helping to build the boldest artistic programs and strengthen the foundation of South Australian arts. Step behind the curtain and be part of our future.



Name a seat

Leave your personal mark on Australian theatre history.

Create a lasting tribute to a cherished person, a treasured memory or your lifelong love of theatre.

With a tax-deductible donation, your personalised plaque will become part of the story of Festival Theatre, Her Majesty's Theatre or Dunstan Playhouse.

Acknowledgments

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Chief Operating & Financial Officer
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Director, Programming
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Head of Programming – Public Purpose
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Director of Philanthropy
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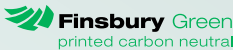
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And thank you to all the festival, program, industry, media and supporting partners who work with us throughout the year to help deliver our programs:

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**Adelaide Festival Centre is the
Heart of the Arts in South Australia**

Established in 1973 and located on Kaurua Yarta, Adelaide Festival Centre is Australia's first capital city arts venue and hosts more than one million people annually. As well as presenting theatre, dance, music, and exhibitions, Adelaide Festival Centre creates diverse festivals to inspire, challenge, educate, and entertain.

