

# ANNUAL REPORT 2020 – 2021

PP&VA



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Cover: Danielle's Vintage Lady Cave, Warrimoo – Outside the Stadium (2020). Photo: Lyndal Irons

Right: Blaxland High School students performing as part of the Annual Youth Theatre Festival (2021). Photo: Phyllis Wong.

Design: RaCreate RA1052a





# VISION

Penrith Performing & Visual Arts will be a dynamic force in the creative evolution of the Penrith region.

## Statement of Recognition

PP&VA values the unique status of Aboriginal people as the original owners and custodians of lands and waters, including the land and waters of Penrith City. We value the unique status of Torres Strait Islander people as the original owners and custodians of the Torres Strait Islands and surrounding waters. We work together for a united Australia and City that respects this land of ours, that values the diversity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage and provides justice and equity for all.

Bubs Club (2021). Penrith Regional Gallery.

Jamison High School students performing as part of the Annual Youth Theatre Festival (2021). Photo: Phyllis Wong.



# MISSION

To nurture, make and share great art for all.

We champion creativity and value artistic risk taking and we honour the role of the artist in society to reflect, celebrate and reveal truths.

We celebrate the centrality of life-long learning to our programs and its importance to our community. We respect diverse peoples, practices and cultures and acknowledge that we operate on unceded First Nations land.

We exercise an agile and responsive professionalism, valuing the assets which we hold in trust from the community and their role in shaping our shared identity and our future.

# THE YEAR AT A GLANCE

## COVID IMPACTS



**44**

**PERFORMANCES  
CANCELLED**



**2,235**

**TICKETS  
RETURNED**



**\$78,983**

**TICKET  
REFUNDS**



**55**

**DAYS OF  
CLOSURE**



**PATRON  
NUMBERS DOWN**

**↓ 50%**



**PERFORMANCES  
DOWN BY**

**↓ 39%**



**GROSS BOX  
OFFICE DOWN**

**↓ 55%**



**SEASONS  
DOWN BY**

**↓ 32%**

# THE YEAR AT A GLANCE

## ACHIEVEMENTS



**127**

PERFORMANCES  
WENT AHEAD



**13%**

TICKET VALUE  
DONATED BACK



**39**

TEAM MEMBERS  
SUPPORTED BY  
JOBKEEPER  
SALARY  
MAINTENANCE  
TO DECEMBER



**10%**

TICKET VALUE  
HELD IN CREDIT



**6**

CREATIVE CARE  
PACKS SENT

# STRATEGIC GOALS

## GOAL: ADVOCACY

PP&VA will be a leading advocate for the arts and creativity in the region.



**17,929**

**NEWSLETTER  
RECIPIENTS**



**210,562**

**WEBSITE VISITORS**



**17,547**

**MONTHLY AVERAGE**



**FOLLOWERS  
ON SOCIAL MEDIA**

**17,881**



**CREATIVE  
PARTNERS**

**11**



**INDUSTRY  
GROUPS**

**5**



**PENRITH  
ARTS LOVER  
PARTNERS**

**8**

# STRATEGIC GOALS

## GOAL: CREATION

PP&VA will be a catalyst for creation – making, learning, capacity building and sharing.

258



ARTISTS ENGAGED

9



COMMISSIONS

5



NEW WORKS

\$644,024



ARTISTIC EXPENDITURE

81



PERFORMANCES OF JOAN  
PRESENTED EVENTS

42



PERFORMANCES OF  
COMMUNITY EVENTS

4



PERFORMANCES OF  
COMMERCIAL EVENTS

13



EXHIBITIONS ACROSS  
4 GALLERY SPACES

11,044



CREATIVE LEARNING  
PARTICIPATION

2



ARTISTS-IN-  
RESIDENCE

1



YOUTH ORCHESTRA  
-IN-RESIDENCE

# STRATEGIC GOALS

## GOAL: AUDIENCE EXPERIENCE

PP&VA will deliver great audience experiences that enrich and extend the human condition.



**131,744**

**AUDIENCE AND VISITORS**



**1**

**STAKEHOLDER  
PLAN**



**4**

**FOCUS  
GROUPS**



**1**

**COMMUNITY  
RESEARCH SURVEY**



**12**

**UPGRADES TO  
BOOKING PLATFORM**



# STRATEGIC GOALS

## GOAL: WELCOME

PP&VA will provide open and welcoming creative environments.



**NEW**

**ONLINE VENUE  
CREATED**

**34**

**PRE-SHOW  
EDMS**

**NEW**

**GALLERY FLOOR  
UPGRADE**

**NEW**

**GARDEN  
PLANTINGS**

# STRATEGIC GOALS

## GOAL: SUSTAINABILITY

PP&VA will be sustainable and responsible.



**2**

**ACCESSIBILITY  
AUDITS**



**3**

**AUDIENCE  
OUTLOOK  
STUDIES**



**99.61%**

**STAFF  
RETENTION**



**69:31**

**FUNDING  
TO EARNED  
INCOME RATIO**

# REPORT FROM CEO

This year has been unusual. That is, PP&VA started the year opening up post lockdown 2020 and closed it back in lockdown – version 2021.

It was also a year of seismic shifts and change within the organisation, with the departure of long standing Board members and the election of a new Chairperson, Alison McLaren.

We saw the cancellation of a far greater number of events than in the previous year, with diminished capacities rendering activity non-viable and preventing rehearsals and tours from eventuating.

Whilst commercial promoters were slow to return, our community hirers flocked back, as did our Gallery visitors and our student numbers across all our programs.

This report, while not exhaustive, captures some highlights across the year, including the delivery of a diverse range of exhibitions, including commissions by local artists, at the Gallery; as well as an early post lockdown reopening of The Joan from August 2020.

Growth in new areas, particularly Gallery learning and engagement continued to build. Lifelong learning has been embraced – with babies and their carers being introduced to art and making activities through the new Bubs Club program, and artist-led workshops and masterclasses proving enriching for all ages.

Similarly, the enthusiasm for learning drama and music, through Studio Q and Penrith Conservatorium was consistent, through online and face-to-face phases, with Studio Q maintaining a creative learning offer every term; and the Conservatorium programs bouncing back to pre-COVID levels.

We've demonstrated that it's possible to continue creating despite COVID, and although development sometimes looks a little different, it continues nevertheless.

Behind the scenes, significant progress in Collection Management continued apace, as did an ongoing enhancement of spaces and sites, with new garden plantings and a Gallery floor upgrade.

None of this could have happened without our team – all those staff who adapted to the changes and kept smiling; and our Board for their commitment to a vibrant and robust future for PP&VA, whilst providing support as we've weathered these conditions. Our perpetual innovators – which is after all what the arts does – who articulate the human experience by creation invention and exploration. And our audiences and community, the people of Western Sydney and beyond.

Whatever the future holds I am quite sure that together we can handle it.

**Hania Radvan**  
Chief Executive Officer

# REPORT FROM CHAIR

It has been a challenging and unique 12 months since our last AGM. It was a privilege to assume the role of Chair following the retirement of long serving Chair, Peter Anderson AM.

I assumed the role of Chair at a time that we thought we were emerging from the worst of COVID-19 and that the focus would be on recovery and ensuring the sustainability of PP&VA. I am proud that as a Board we pulled together to agree on the focus and develop a plan on our priorities for the future. Unfortunately, before we had the opportunity to turn ideas into actions, we faced four months of lockdowns and closures.

I would like to recognise the resilience and commitment of the staff. They moved quickly when the lockdown was announced to cancel performances, refund tickets and ensure that everything that needed to be taken care of was managed. They have worked tirelessly throughout the lockdown to ensure that we are well placed to reopen soon. A big thank you to Hania Radvan and the leadership team for their work during the last year. They have gone above and beyond to manage challenges that would have been unthinkable two years ago.

I acknowledge the significant contribution of Peter Anderson as the Chair of PP&VA since inception in 2005/06. Peter steered the organisation through many periods of change and challenge, and I am looking forward to the formal opening of the Anderson Atrium when the current COVID situation allows for a fitting celebration.

I also recognise the contribution of former Board members John Mullane and Christine Keeble and retiring Board member Tony Lackey. John, Tony and Christine each made a significant contribution to PP&VA and I wish them well in their future endeavours.

2022 will bring substantial challenges for the Arts Sector as we navigate the post-COVID world. I am confident that we have set the right framework to ensure that PP&VA has a healthy and vibrant future. I am excited by the imminent return of audiences to The Joan and Q Theatre and the new and exciting exhibitions that will be hosted by the Gallery.

As we emerge from the most unprecedented of times and welcome new members to our Board, the future of PP&VA looks bright.

**Alison McLaren**  
Chair



Lights in the Park (2021). A Q Theatre and ATYP Co-Production.  
Photo by Tracey Schramm



# CREATION

## Innovation and new work

Working to support new artistic works of relevance and daring.

PP&VA worked with partners, including Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre, on the development and production of *Kangaroo*, a new work by playwright Miranda Gott; and Australian Theatre for Young People, on the production of *Lights in the Park*, a new work by Alexander Lee Rekers.

In July 2020, Q Theatre being well adept at innovation and exploration, created a series of new works under the banner of *Short Message Service* – a moment of theatre, delivered to audiences, direct to their phones, over a series of text messages spanning an hour.

With funding from Create NSW, *Short Message Service* engaged playwrights to deliver compelling narratives under the theme of 'intimacy,' and offered a chance for audiences to experience the excitement of the unexpected. Although free, the project attracted nearly **\$1,000 in donations** from some **40 loyal patrons**. It also received significant media coverage both locally and on a broader scale, and by the day of the first 'show' on 31 July, had already been covered in **28 publications** with a total **circulation of 12,552,199**. *Short Message Service* also attracted a sizeable digital audience, with **1,582 tickets booked**.

"Each word chosen with care"

**Reviews by Judith,  
on *Short Message Service*,  
*The Angel Code* by  
Margaret Davis (pictured)**



Q Theatre Artist, Margaret Davis.  
Photo supplied by Margaret Davis







Window Stories. A creative participation project, 24/7 Art Gallery, The Joan.  
Photo by Lyndal Irons



**Window Stories**, developed to enliven the exterior façade of The Joan, using the building's large windows as an exhibition space, was launched out of lockdown. The project was initially made possible with donations from returned tickets under-writing the artist fees, and its success ensured its ongoing place in the PP&VA creative program.

The project enabled PP&VA to employ artists, engage the community, and activate a creative space, with the first Window Stories iteration, *Outside the Stadium*, installed in November 2020.

For *Outside the Stadium*, photographer Lyndal Irons was **commissioned** to capture the excitement and creative passions of Penrith Panthers fans in the lead-up to the 2020 NRL Grand Final, and resulted in large scale photo-stories displayed for a three month period. The project involved staff working across PP&VA in a joint endeavour between both sites, the Gallery and The Joan; with a digital display and deeper storytelling online.

Following Deborah Pollard's **Artist Residency Q Theatre** committed to further development of the work, *Slow Burn*, with a view to producing a full length piece in 2022 as part of The Joan's Salon events; while maintaining ongoing support to development projects *The Village* and *Jack of Clubs* through producing and dramaturgical oversight despite the disruption to their developments cycles brought on by COVID.

A further **commission** was research into a location-based media project following the success of *Short Message Service*. This ambitious new concept, *Express Service*, would see a new theatre experience created for people riding the train from Penrith to Central, while four small commissions commenced through the *10 Years from Now* project to support Western Sydney artists to collaboratively develop a vision for the future and to create work inspired by that vision.

PP&VA **commissioned** Mathew Lynn, an accomplished Blue Mountains artist, to complete a portrait of Maestro Richard Bonyng AC CBE, Dame Joan Sutherland's accompanist and husband, to hang in the Borland Foyer of the Richard Bonyng Concert Hall.

Mathew Lynn's portraiture has been accepted into several prestigious Prizes including the Wynne Prize, Sulman Prize, Dobell Drawing Prize, Doug Moran National Portrait Prize and Archibald Prize 17 times. He has twice been Archibald runner-up and won the People's Choice Award in 1997 and the Packers' Prize in 2013

*Slow Burn* by Deborah Pollard,  
presented by Q Theatre in  
association with Sydney  
Festival 2022 after the creative  
development at Q Theatre Lab  
residency in February 2021.  
Photo by Heidrun Lohr



# SHARING

## Presenting work to audiences

In 2020 as touring shows disappeared through border, we reopened the theatre with a series of smaller, intimate, more local musical events.

Audiences were wary to sit in a venue alongside others – masked – or unmasked.

Capacity was limited and so was financial viability – but the artists and those who patrons who came were grateful for the normality – and for our precautions.

We also learned a lot – how to operate safely – how to program at short notice, how to focus on the experience and to loosen up our practices in an era when a long-term plan and subscription season evaporate overnight.

*Live & Unlocked* – a new season to herald a COVID-safe reopening launched with *No Cabaret for Old Men* on 21 August.

Penrith Regional Gallery reopened following the 2020 COVID lockdown, celebrating 40 years since its beginnings, with the exhibition suite *Dream Realised: Our Community Victory* (28 June – 1 November 2020).



No Cabaret for Old Men (2020).  
Photo supplied by Jonathan Biggins and Phil Scott

The centrepiece of the suite was *Chasing the Light*, the first solo regional gallery exhibition of acclaimed artist and founding President of the Friends of Penrith Regional Gallery, Warwick Fuller. Filled with Fuller's captivating landscapes, created using an outdoor painting (plein air) technique, many capturing the Blue Mountains as well as the myriad other colours and textures of our evocative Australian landscape.

*Art Lives Here*, in Ancher House, celebrated the creative partnership of Margo and Gerald Lewers; while Lewers House hosted *Circle of Friends*, showcasing acquisitions funded and supported by the Friends of Penrith Regional Gallery.

Penrith Regional Gallery presented the Art Gallery of NSW's touring exhibition *Fieldwork – Landscapes West of Sydney* (13 March – 9 May 2021).

New restrictions were creeping in as June drew to a close, impacting the **Annual Youth Theatre Festival**, on 25 June, with a 50% cap on patrons. Our team worked fast to avoid disappointing the young people who worked so hard for this day, as well as their parents, grandparents and friends, who were excited to see them.

The very next day on 26 June, Sydney's nearly four month lockdown began.

Hindsight was indeed 2020, the lessons of which prepared us for 2021.



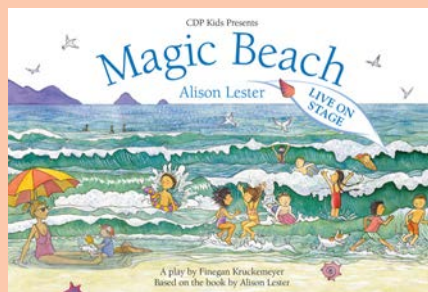
Elioth Gruner (New Zealand; Australia, b.1882, d.1939) 'Spring Frost' (detail) 1919 oil on canvas, 131 x 178.7 cm Art Gallery of New South Wales Gift of FG White 1939. Photo: Mim Stirling, AGNSW



## Families and Schools

*The Midnight Gang* (570 over three performances).

*Magic Beach* (814 including associated book reading sessions in partnership with Penrith City Library).



Magic Beach (2021). Illustration by Alison Lester

## Seniors

Morning Melodies on the 4th Wednesday morning of every month six matinee performances of mainstage shows three enlightening talks on art and music subjects.



The Vallies (2021). Photo supplied by The Vallies



30 Something (2021). Photo supplied by Roadcase

## Comedy Lovers

One performance of our fledgling stand-up comedy season before lockdown stalwart favourites *The Wharf Revue* and *Melbourne International Comedy Festival Roadshow* alongside returning crowd-pleaser *The Gospel According to Paul* (481).



The Gospel According to Paul (2021). Photo by Brett Boardman

## Drama and Music Fans

*Lamb*, *Appleton Ladies Potato Race*, *30 Something*

With a performing arts season including productions for families and schools, seniors, comedy lovers, drama and music fans, The Joan managed to present a well-rounded program throughout the 2020/21 year; gradually building back audiences as confidence grew.

This culminated in a sell-out performance of *The Vallies*, Morning Melodies, on 23 June, just days before we were plunged back into lockdown.



The Wharf Revue: Good Night and Good Luck (2021). Photo by Rene Vaile

## Attended tonight's performance. Brilliant!

We have seen each show for at least the last 5 years, and we are very sorry it is closing. Each member of the cast is very talented. So much work has gone into it.

Fantastic script and Drew Forsythe's legs are worth the ticket price alone. Hope the cast appears again in the future perhaps in a different vehicle. Best wishes to them all.

**Audience feedback via Facebook**



Lamb (2021). Photo supplied by Red Stitch Actors' Theatre and Critical Stages

## ***Lamb* is dotted with songs the way dry dams dot a drought-struck sheep farm.**

Penned by Hunters & Collectors' Mark Seymour, they frame the play's sepia tone of love and life gone wrong, and the slow pace at which this happens.

**John Shand, Sydney Morning Herald. 15 March 2021**

Just wanted to let you know that my husband and I thoroughly enjoyed our winning tickets to see the play ***Lamb*** last Saturday afternoon.

Again, thank you for choosing us as your winners. We are now looking forward to visiting **The Joan** regularly throughout the year and bringing our friends and family.

**Audience feedback via email**



# CAPACITY BUILDING

Creative Practice Pathways, focusing on building skills through professional opportunities including exhibition, performance, creative development, workshop/masterclass and curation.

**Q Theatre Lab** – Q Theatre's Artist-in-Residence program – generated a high calibre of applications in February 2021, with two artists selected from a competitive pool. For the first time in 2021, the residency included the public presentation of the work in development over two nights, 25 & 26 March. The Artists-in-Residence were actor and theatre-maker Thomas Campbell, working with Director Kate Gaul, and director, performance maker and artist, Deborah Pollard. The works developed were *Betty is a Butcher*, by Thomas Campbell, an unsettling personal narrative filled with dark humour; and *Eighteen Years On*, by Deborah Pollard – another personal story, of a family who lost their home during the 2003 Canberra bushfires.

With partners, the Australian Chamber Orchestra, and Penrith Symphony Orchestra, we continued to grow and develop the Penrith Youth Orchestra.

Q Theatre's annual **Originate** Ensemble Project brought together 11 early career artists to devise a work for presentation in October. In another first, the bulk of the creative development

process took place online, as COVID conditions throughout this phase prevented the opportunity for the usual in-person workshops.



Thomas Campbell, *Betty is a Butcher* (2021). Photo: Clare Hawley

Working with wireless headphone technology, this show was the outcome of a three month workshop process of collaboration. The resulting work, **The Big Blue**, was presented in the Borland Lounge and Mullins Studio, inviting audiences to take a seat and have a COVID-safe encounter with what lies beyond the horizon. This project spanned across capacity building, through the development of young artists, creation, with the devising of a new work; and sharing, bringing the work to an audience.

Nine Penrith Conservatorium Scholarships were awarded in late 2020, supporting young musicians. Offered through an application and competitive audition process, and supported by sponsors, these scholarships recognise talent and future potential and offer pathways for people to pursue a professional career in music.

Despite the radical disruption of COVID, **Studio Q** maintained a creative learning offer every single term with 3,082 students – including Drama classes, Access ensembles and the Agile Not Fragile senior dance group – participating across four terms. While participation rates dropped following the immediate lockdown, those numbers have slowly built back and confronting the second wave have proven more consistent as we adapted to online forms again.

At the Gallery, socially distanced holiday workshops were delivered in the September spring school holidays and then again over the summer break in January, engaging 254 students over 22 lessons. Term workshops, engaged 668 students across 42 classes of creative learning.

Music lessons continued at Penrith Conservatorium, Music students were led by their tutors in 6,087 individual music lessons across the year, while LaLa Lambs and Funky Monkeys early childhood group lessons were enjoyed 112 times.

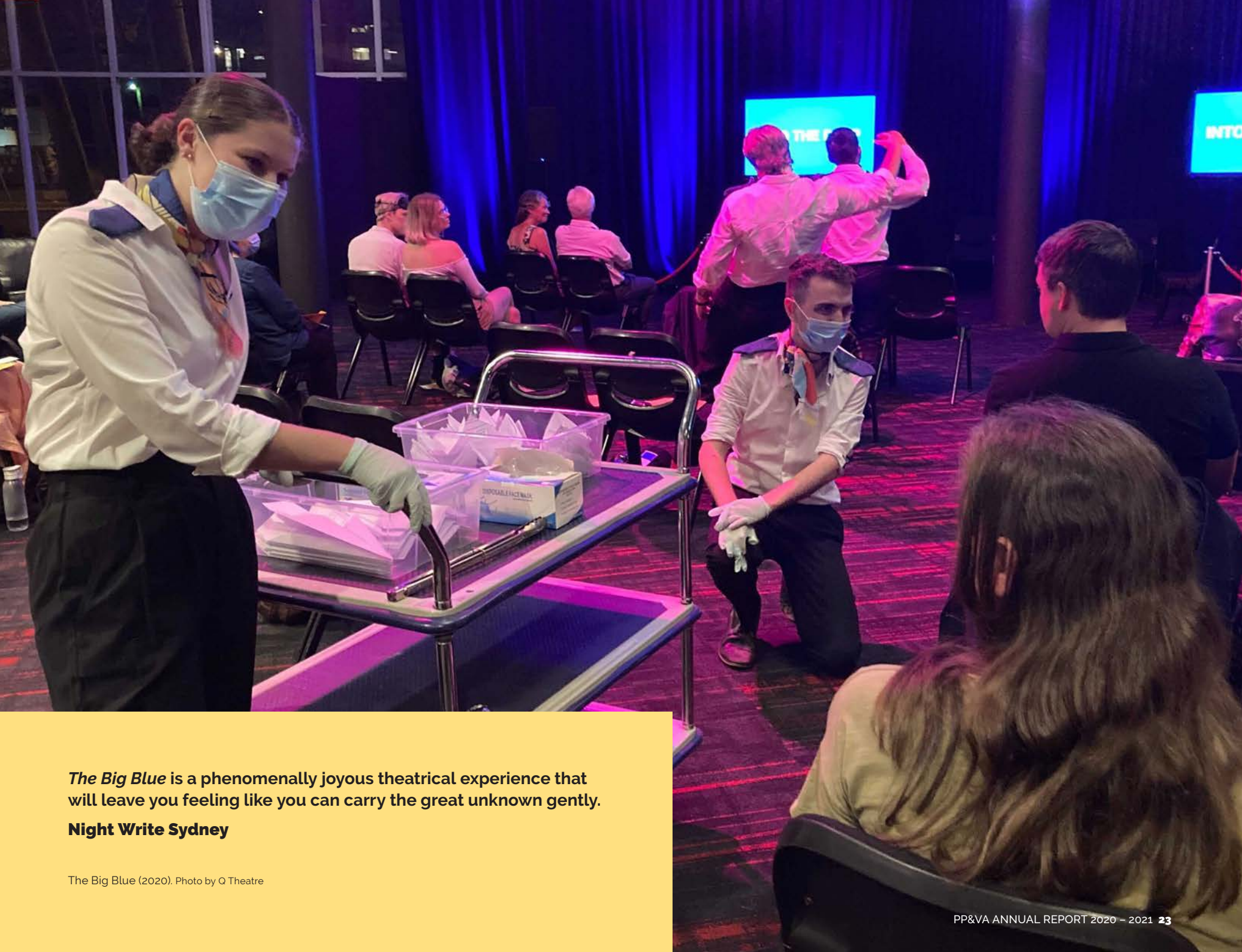


Clare Rowley – Voice Scholarship recipient. Photo by Claire Bernoth

**After the HSC and my high school years were behind me, I was quite anxious about whether or not I'd be able to return to singing lessons because of financial reasons. I was absolutely thrilled and very grateful to learn that I had been granted a half scholarship. I have also felt very privileged to be a student at The Joan. It is a great venue, and Penrith is so fortunate to have this wonderful Performing Arts Centre where people of all ages can go to learn and enjoy music and theatre.**

**Clare Rowley – Voice Scholarship recipient**



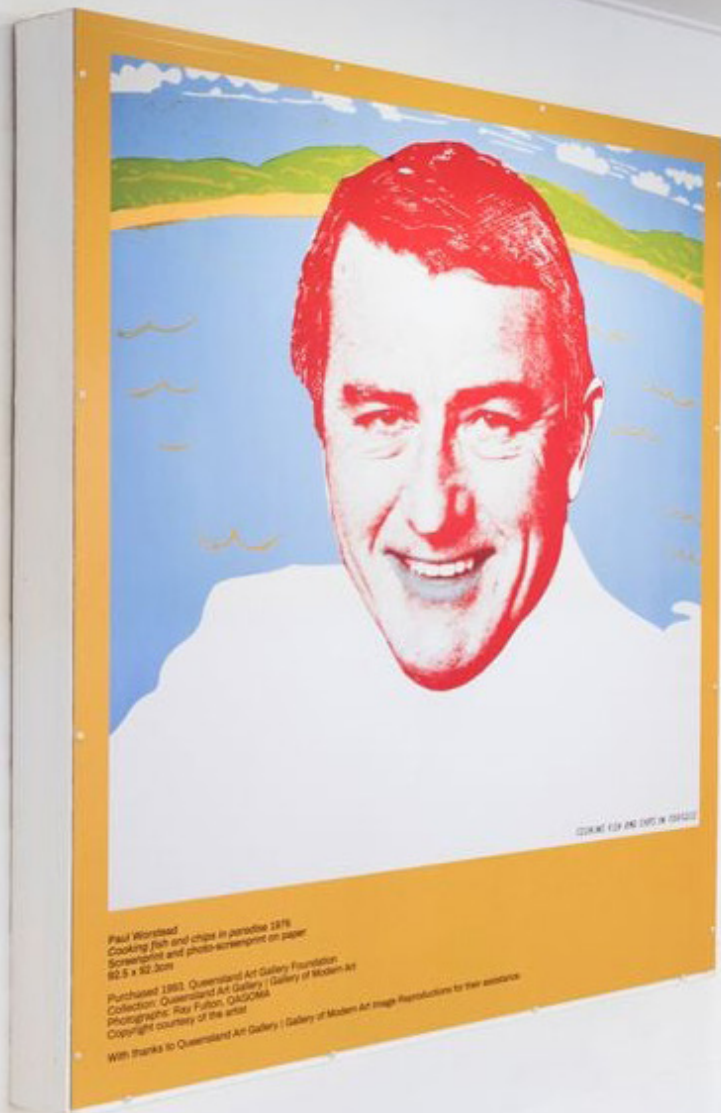


*The Big Blue* is a phenomenally joyous theatrical experience that will leave you feeling like you can carry the great unknown gently.

**Night Write Sydney**

The Big Blue (2020). Photo by Q Theatre





Dream Realised: Our Community Victory (2020) . Paul Worstead. Cooking with fish and chips in paradise 1976. Collection: Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art Photographs: Ray Fulton, QAGOMA. Copyright courtesy of the artist. Photo by Silversalt Photography

# ADVOCACY for a thriving creative Penrith

Working with others to amplify the importance of arts and culture.

PP&VA averaged 11 active partnerships per quarter over the reporting period, and participated as a member of the Western Sydney Arts Alliance in strategic, coordinated advocacy projects. These included cooperative marketing activities to promote online activity during lockdown; and shared school holiday activity promotions.

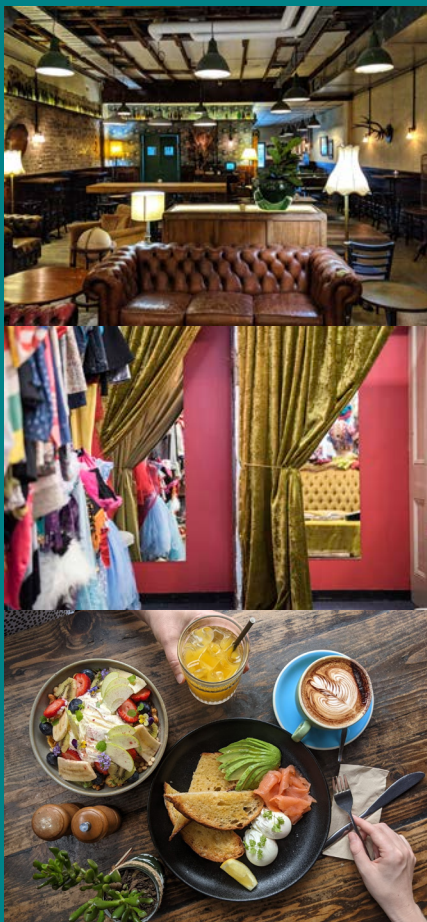
Through the Alliance, PP&VA also worked with local artists to create and share short videos discussing the importance of the arts in Western Sydney.

The Joan, through a partnership with the Penrith Valley Chamber of Commerce, hosted the *Lights on Penrith 2021 Growth Summit*. Held in the Q Theatre, the day involved bringing together

representatives from all levels of government, business leaders and developers to discuss the future of the region.

Our **Penrith Arts Lover (PAL)** program was established just before COVID struck, with the aim of connecting local businesses with arts and culture – and our audiences; and vice versa. What emerged was an ongoing relationship of mutual support, with Creative Care Packs – digital newsletters sharing updates on new activity in response to pandemic conditions (e.g. a switch to takeaway or online sales) and encouraging audiences to support their local businesses. A deeper appreciation for location connections has

developed out of the COVID crisis, with people staying close to home and supporting those around them. Core partners in the PAL program are Mr Watkin's, The Very Bazaar, Quest Penrith Apartment Hotel, Beefy's Burgers, Cafe at Lewers, Tins & Wood and Avli Greek Restaurant.



1. Mr Watkins. Photo supplied by Mr Watkins
2. The Very Bazaar. Photo by Christina Mishell
3. Cafe at Lewers. Photo supplied by Cafe at Lewers



## THE ARTS?



# SUSTAINABILITY & responsibility

Understanding and responding to audience needs to keep PP&VA relevant and robust into the future.

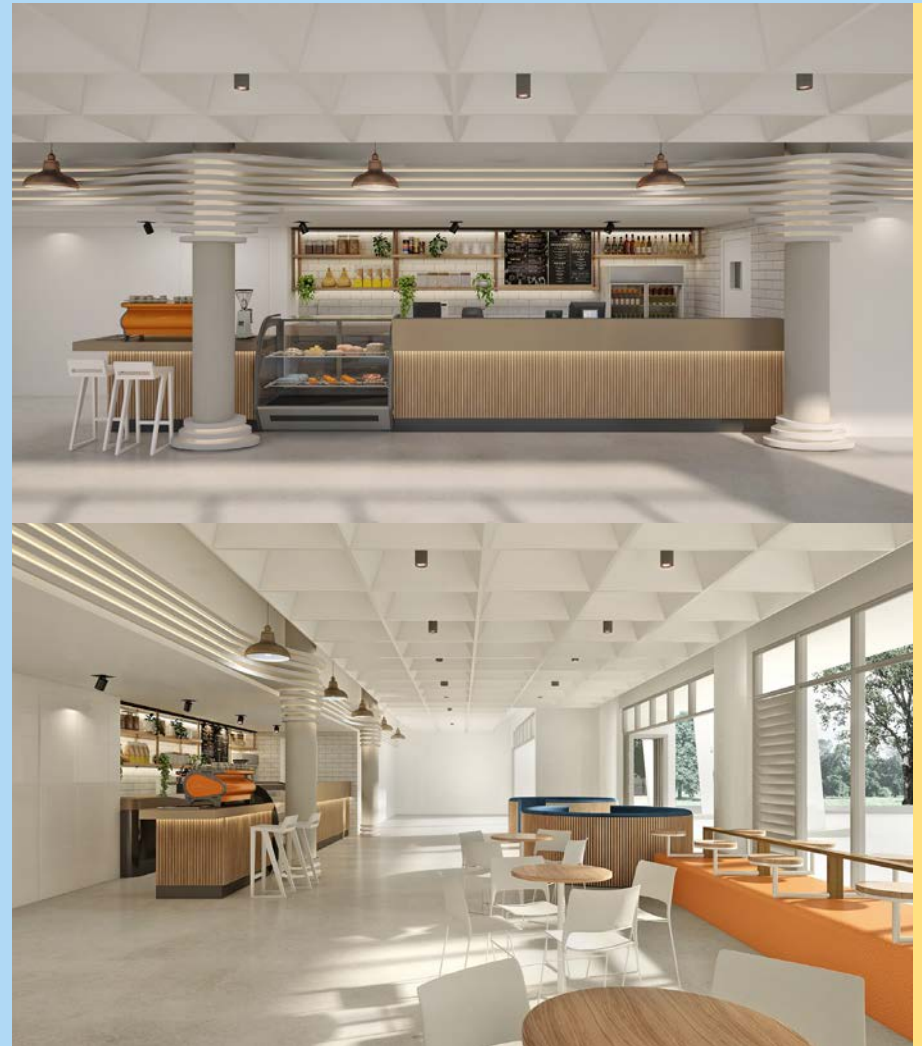
Research has been fundamental to understanding audience sentiment throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. As this sentiment shifts with the changing public health landscape, repeated surveys are crucial. PP&VA has participated in five waves of the Audience Outlook Monitor Study conducted by Patternmakers and Wolf Brown, and supported by the Australia Council, Create NSW, Creative Victoria, and Arts Queensland.

Between July 2020 and March 2021, PP&VA and Penrith City Council worked in partnership to undertake a two phase community research project involving a survey and focus groups. The research evaluated programming, accessibility in terms of price-point, alternative

performance spaces such as the Mondo, and expected experience.

Findings indicated a strong audience appetite for contemporary music such as gigs by local musicians, comedy, drama, family entertainment, musicals and film. In terms of what people are looking for in a venue for an evening out – the majority of participants surveyed value entertainment, followed by convenience, convenient parking, a relaxed atmosphere and dinner options. Something The Joan is well positioned to deliver, with the addition of a café.

Artist impression of The Joan's cafe.



# WELCOME

Providing open and welcoming creative environments for audiences, artists, staff and community.

Working in partnership with Penrith City Library on The Joan's Kids and Families Season shows that link to literature, we've been building awareness, activating our venue spaces and deepening audience engagement by enhancing the experience for families attending performances.

On 18 & 19 March 2021, The Joan presented *The Midnight Gang*, based on David Walliams' best-selling book. A pyjama party with best dressed prizes, judged by a panel comprising library and PP&VA staff, was enthusiastically received, with many families dressing up, matching sleep attire and soft toys making special guest appearances. Enlivening the foyers and creating a fun atmosphere helped ease families back into the theatregoing experience in an enjoyable way.

For *The Magic Beach*, Library partnership activities extended to a Colouring-In Competition, Alison Lester Book Search in the Library and *The Magic Beach* book-readings in the Mullins Studio. The readings, although free, sold out.

In June 2021, the Gallery rebranded the heritage loungeroom space as the Loungeroom Community Gallery, a space dedicated to the creation and display of works created by local artists and with local significance. The first exhibition in the Loungeroom Community Gallery was *Painting Up Country*, a display of works by First Nations artists based in the lower Blue Mountains. The project was developed in partnership with Katoomba TAFE, facilitated through contemporary artist Leanne Tobin, and focussed on creating a culturally safe space for

First Nations practitioners to share their cultural knowledge with local audiences.

Since February 2021, the Gallery has been hosting monthly art making workshops as well as site and exhibition tours for students from Halinda School, Whalan. The Halinda School is dedicated to equipping and supporting students with intellectual and physical disabilities to make a successful transition into a rich life. These visits and making sessions contributed to a sense of individual value and evidenced, for respective students, their own skills and progression.



Audience members dressed up for *The Midnight Gang* pyjama party (2021).





MAPBM:  
FABRIK

*in the fabric  
of society  
is connected  
to everything else.*

*of moa  
was de  
by wom*

Ebony Secombe: *Sitting With Fear and Empathy* (2020). Photo supplied by Ebony Secombe



# EXPERIENCES – keeping them close

Delivering great audience experiences that sit within the local context, respond to audience needs and reflect stories of relevance.

## **Keep Heart Penrith Creative Care Packs**

– This COVID initiative was started during the first lockdown in 2020 and then used again in 2021. It was designed as a community outreach program, sharing ideas to help our patrons dream, unwind and simply be happy while we all coped with being at home. There were links to performances and activities locally and further afield. The Creative Care Packs were sent weekly via email.

**“The garden and historical stories made me feel connected with place. I felt I was being invited to join some Western Sydney Art activities.”**

**Feedback from a Creative Care Pack recipient.**

**Women Out West** – PP&VA and Women with Altitude presented a special International Women's Day event with two very important panel discussions 'Rebuilding after Domestic Violence' and 'Women at Work'. Panelists included:

- Chandu Bickford Writer, Speaker, Business Coach and Domestic Violence Survivor
- Cr Tricia Hitchen Haven Women's Shelter Board Member and Deputy Mayor Penrith
- Alison McLaren Penrith Performing & Visual Arts Chairperson
- Trish Doyle MP Member of the Legislative Assembly Member for Blue Mountains, Shadow Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence

We invited people to come together to listen and learn and to be inspired and influenced – and be part of the continuing advocacy for safety, equality, diversity and growth.

An all female string quartet from Penrith Symphony Orchestra will perform as part of this event.



Penrith Regional Gallery gardens (2020).



Women Out West (2021). Photo by Penrith Regional Gallery, Home of The Lewers Bequest





Teen Studio: Drawing in the Garden (2021). Photo by Penrith Regional Gallery, Home of The Lewers Bequest



# GOVERNANCE

## Board of Directors:

The Hon Peter Anderson AM  
(Chairperson and Board member  
until 23 November 2020)

Ms Alison McLaren (Chairperson  
from 15 December 2020)

Mr John Mullane (Deputy  
Chairperson and Board member  
until 3 June 2021)

Ms Christine Keeble  
(until 12 April 2021)

Cr Ross Fowler OAM

Cr Kath Presdee

Mrs Cathy Jarman

Mr Tony Lackey

Cr Karen McKeown OAM

Mr Warwick Winn

## Sub-Committees

### Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee

Tony Lackey (Chair)

Cr Ross Fowler OAM

Warwick Winn

Alison McLaren

John Mullane

(Peter Anderson AM to Nov '20).

### Visual Arts Committee

Cl Karen McKeown OAM  
(Chairperson)

Mrs Lynda Henderson

Ms Naomi Oliver

Ms Jan Brown

Ms Cath Barcan

Ms Susie Beel

Mr David Conole

Ms Christine Keeble

Mr John Mullane

Ms Alison McLaren

## Performing Arts Committee

Cl Kath Presdee (Chairperson)

Ms Amanda Rudolf

Ms Charlene Pepper

Ms Dominique Haynes

Mr Mark Denny

My Suzie Beel

Mr Phil Stormer

Ms Jennifer Roberts

Mr Michael Webb

Ms Cathy Jarman (prior to  
establishment of Education  
Committee)

Ms Alison McLaren

## Education Committee

The establishment of an Education Sub-Committee was approved in late 2020, with a vision for a cross-art form body that will support PP&VA to conduct a review of the creative learning activities across the organization. Board member Cathy Jarman, a senior arts educator, will Chair the Committee. A callout for nominations took place in the second half of 2021, with membership confirmed in November.

## **PP&VA People**

### **Executive Leadership Team**

Chief Executive Officer  
**Hania Radvan**

Marketing Director  
**Krissie Scudds**

Director, New Work  
**Nick Atkins**

Executive Producer  
& Director  
Penrith Conservatorium  
**Cath Dadd**

Operations Director  
**Dave Garner**

### **PP&VA Staff**

PR Coordinator  
**Lisa Finn Powell**

Marketing Manager  
**Malvina Tan**

Marketing Coordinator  
**Fleur Wells**

Administration Manager  
**Lisa Rose**

Finance Manager  
**Shand Smith**

Finance Officer  
**Lauren Nash**

Finance Assistant  
**Daisy Gallagher**

Cleaner  
**Nicole Coen**

Producer,  
Music Programs  
**Valda Silvy**

Coordinator, Theatre Programs  
**Ian Zammit**

Producer, New Work  
**Melissa Cannon**

Venue Manager  
**Haydn Vredegoor**

Venue Coordinator  
**Jolene Harris**

Venue Coordinator,  
Front of House  
**Dale Morgan-Mawby**

Night Coordinator  
**Jaala Hallett**

Ticketing Services Coordinator  
**Angela Heckenberg**

Technical & Production Manager  
**Geoffrey Turner**

Technician  
**Benjamin Turner**

Technician & IT Support  
**Timothy Anikin**

Manager  
Penrith Conservatorium  
**Meena Ahn**

Music Coordinator  
**Brian Kjim-Lauratet**

PYO Assistant  
**Alexander Poirier**

Conservatorium Assistant  
**Catherine Delkou**

Manager, Curatorial Programs  
**Toby Chapman**

Venue Manager  
**Sophia Egarhos**

Registration Assistant  
**Camille Gillybœuf**

Learning Coordinator  
**Gemma McKenzie-Booth**

Registrar, Exhibitions  
& Collection  
**Peta Hendriks**

Coordinator Exhibition  
& Collection  
**Christine Smalley**

Heritage Gardener  
**Shayne Roberts**

Engagement Coordinator  
**Brittany Nguyen**

Lead Hand  
**Todd McMillan**

Gallery Assistant, Events  
**Kristin English**

Gallery Assistant, Retail  
**Anjum Olmo**



Penrith Youth Orchestra (2020).  
Photos: Claire Bernoth



### **Our wonderful team of Casuals**

Ernest Aaron  
 Michael Armstrong  
 Lauren Bacon  
 Pheany Ban  
 Kate Bobis  
 Layton Bryce  
 Annette Bukovinsky  
 Kathleen Cairney  
 Mary-Anne Cornford  
 Elizabeth Creixell  
 Prudence Cullen  
 Justin Davies  
 Troy Donaghy  
 Sarah Emerson  
 Corrigan Fairbairn  
 Sean Falconer  
 Paige Geerin  
 Lachlan Gracie  
 Simon Hearn  
 Caitlin Hespe  
 Friedrich Eric-Michael Hoenig  
 Belinda Jolley

Lydia Kelly  
 Victoria Knight  
 Taryn Leahy  
 Kirra Lovering  
 Natalie Maltese  
 Maree Manogue  
 Justin McCormick  
 Sean Moran  
 Vonne Patiag  
 Kieren Picking  
 Simon Rahtz  
 Sandon Rigg  
 Rene Rodriguez  
 Kathleen Routh  
 Madeline Rowley  
 Brigitte Schock  
 Rebecca Sim  
 Samuel Spragg  
 Michael Waite  
 Lauren Wallace  
 Bianca Yrure

### **Our valued Volunteers:**

Anne Atkins  
 Choon Chew  
 Mark Denny  
 Judith Gray  
 Jenny Hotop  
 Chris Hunter  
 Simon Lee  
 Sandra Nowiczewski  
 Pat Atkinson  
 Kay Anderson  
 Pheany Ban  
 Helen Morgan



Photos: Christina Mishell



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The generosity of spirit we've seen from our community, our audiences, and the many patrons who donated the value of their cancelled tickets back to PP&VA has kept us looking up during challenging times.

Thank you to everyone who took a moment to send messages of support; to our arts industry colleagues, with whom we stand in solidarity, and the local business community, of which we are a proud part.

## Government Partners

PENRITH  
CITY COUNCIL



## Sponsors and Partners



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Western Sydney University

Penrith City Library

Google Arts & Culture

Penrith Valley Chamber

## Penrith Arts Lover Partners



MR WATKIN'S



Tins & Wood

Nugan Estate

## Friends



Penrith CBD Corporation

Nick Croft, Piano Tuner

Red Cross Australia

## Accommodation Partner



## Media Partner

Nepean News

# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Bookended by COVID outbreaks, closures and lockdowns; the financial year was shadowed by upheaval and uncertainty.

Combined impacts on audience attendance and availability of creative product dealt a blow to box office revenue.

Special purpose government funding replaced earned income due to COVID measures.

Despite overall growth over the past five years, PP&VA finds itself – like much of the creative industries – in an environment of gradual, cautious and careful rebuilding.



Paul Smith, Composer, Jack of Clubs (2020). Photo: Teniola Komolafe

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

AS AT 30 JUNE 2021

	2021	2020
CURRENT ASSETS	\$	\$
Cash and cash equivalents	2,208,552	1,236,421
Trade and other receivables	18,506	226
Inventory	15,190	11,236
Other	48,232	163,558
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>2,290,480</b>	<b>1,411,441</b>
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Property, plant and equipment	2,040,768	2,094,577
Right of use asset	37,584	50,112
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>2,078,352</b>	<b>2,144,689</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>4,368,832</b>	<b>3,556,130</b>
CURRENT LIABILITIES	\$	\$
Trade and other payables	409,776	301,175
Other	872,064	537,792
Borrowings	12,528	12,528
Provisions	278,685	263,054
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>1,573,053</b>	<b>1,114,549</b>



PENRITH PERFORMING & VISUAL ARTS LIMITED  
(a company limited by guarantee)  
A.B.N 97 003 605 089

## Schedule 1 Continued

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 30 JUNE 2021

	2021	2020
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	\$	\$
Borrowings	25,056	37,584
Provisions	<u>50,365</u>	<u>67,246</u>
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	<u>75,421</u>	<u>104,830</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>1,648,474</u>	<u>1,219,379</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>2,720,358</u>	<u>2,336,751</u>
ACCUMULATED FUNDS		
Reserves	1,942,990	1,942,990
Retained surplus	<u>777,368</u>	<u>393,761</u>
TOTAL ACCUMULATED FUNDS	<u>2,720,358</u>	<u>2,336,751</u>

**INCOME STATEMENT**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

	2021	2020
<b>Revenue</b>	\$	\$
Sale of goods and services	748,065	922,579
Finance income	3,552	9,249
Government grants and other income	3,633,454	3,390,180
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>4,385,071</b>	<b>4,322,008</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Cost of sales	21,951	26,311
Depreciation and amortisation	106,798	102,607
Employee benefits	2,780,996	2,800,201
Insurance expense	20,906	21,589
Repairs and maintenance	44,288	63,230
Royalties	22,166	21,548
Performer/curator/artist fees	135,346	86,481
Light and power	116,664	131,491
Contractor expenses	61,012	72,628
Marketing advertising and promotion	83,558	175,771
Presenter/Producer fees	166,992	191,933
Other expenses	440,787	432,152
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>4,001,464</b>	<b>4,125,942</b>
<b>SURPLUS BEFORE INCOME TAX</b>	<b>383,607</b>	<b>196,066</b>
Income tax expense	-	-
<b>SURPLUS AFTER INCOME TAX EXPENSE</b>	<b>383,607</b>	<b>196,066</b>

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### Schedule 3

#### STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

	2021 \$	2020 \$
SURPLUS AFTER INCOME TAX EXPENSE	383,607	196,066
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		
Change in fair value of Artwork	-	266,732
TOTAL OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	-	266,732
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	383,607	462,798



**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

	2021	2020
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	\$	\$
Receipts from customers	1,202,545	1,523,370
Grants received	3,932,945	3,294,405
Payments to suppliers and employees	(4,113,922)	(4,397,602)
Interest received	3,552	9,249
NET CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	1,025,120	429,422
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Acquisition of plant and equipment	(52,989)	(69,401)
NET CASH FLOWS USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES	(52,989)	(69,401)
NET INCREASE IN CASH HELD	972,131	360,021
CASH AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR	1,236,421	876,400
CASH AT THE END OF THE YEAR	2,208,552	1,236,421

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

	Retained Surplus	Reserves (Note 14)	Total Equity
	\$	\$	\$
<b>As at 1 July 2019</b>	197,695	1,676,258	1,873,953
Surplus for the year	196,066	-	196,066
Transfer to reserves	-	-	-
Other comprehensive income	-	266,732	266,732
<b>As at 30 June 2020</b>	393,761	1,942,990	2,336,751
Surplus for the year	383,607	-	383,607
Transfer to reserves	-	-	-
Other comprehensive income	-	-	-
<b>As at 30 June 2021</b>	<u>777,368</u>	<u>1,942,990</u>	<u>2,720,358</u>

# PP&VA

ppandva.com.au

**PENRITH PERFORMING & VISUAL ARTS LTD**

ABN 97 003 605 089

the **Joan**

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**PENRITH  
REGIONAL  
GALLERY**

HOME OF THE LEWERS BEQUEST

Penrith Regional Gallery,  
Home of The Lewers Bequest  
86 River Road Emu Plains NSW 2750

Administration 02 4735 1100

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