

CREATE NSW FUNDING FOR DRTCC



Image courtesy of Kristie Klaassens.

Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre (DRTCC) has received \$108,565 in funding from the Create NSW Performing Arts COVID-19 Support Package to be distributed to eligible clients who used the venue, and for the venue itself.

The aim of the package is to provide financial support to performing arts venues, producers and promoters directly affected by the

cancellation, postponement or restricted capacity of performances resulting from the NSW Government COVID-19 Public Health Orders from 26 June 2021 to 31 October 2021.

The application process was rigorous and competitive, but DRTCC Manager Linda Christof said their success ultimately benefits a number of recipients who will receive a share in the funding including the Dubbo Theatre Company which received \$16,000 for its production of *Mamma Mia!*

“It was an interesting application process and involved negotiation, budget forecasts for shows and agreement in writing with eligible promoters and producers,” said Ms Christof. “Between 15% and 35% of lost income could be claimed. All parties are happy with the outcome as it helps to offset the loss of income experienced as a direct result of Public Health Order restrictions. Whilst many shows chose to cancel their events, it was a credit to Dubbo Theatre Company who forged ahead to present their season production *Mamma Mia!* knowing it would be at 50% reduced seating capacity.

“It’s great that they now have an injection of funds to continue presenting quality local productions for our region.”

Dubbo Theatre Company Secretary and Director of *Mamma Mia!* Chris Bray said, “It is fantastic to be given this level of financial support by Create NSW. It certainly helps with the future viability of our volunteer-run theatre company.

“We are also grateful to the Management of DRTCC for submitting the application on our behalf. They did most of the leg work!”

Member for the Dubbo electorate Dugald Saunders commended the staff at the Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre for their efforts in securing funding.

“The arts have been hit hard by COVID restrictions and it’s great that these organisations are getting the support they need to bounce back,” said Mr Saunders. “I want to thank all the staff and volunteers across the arts sector who, even in times of crisis, are still dedicated to putting smiles on other people’s faces – we need them now more than ever!”

DRTCC has a jam-packed calendar of shows in 2022. The subscription season concludes on 28 January if you want to pre-purchase three shows and access discount prices plus benefits. Individual tickets go on general sale after 28 January.

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