



ANNUAL
REPORT

2021 - 2022

EMPIRE THEATRES PTY LTD



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ANNUAL REPORT

2021 - 2022

EMPIRE THEATRES PTY LTD

EMPIRE THEATRES FOUNDATION

CORPORATE INFORMATION

AS AT 30 JUNE 2022

EMPIRE THEATRES PTY LTD

ACN 086 482 288
ABN 83 086 482 288

REGISTERED OFFICE:

56 Neil Street Toowoomba
Queensland 4350

PO Box 1227 Toowoomba
Queensland 4350

Phone: 07 4698 9900

e: empire@empiretheatre.com.au

empiretheatre.com.au

 [EmpireTheatre](https://www.facebook.com/EmpireTheatre)

 [@empire_theatre](https://www.instagram.com/empire_theatre)

 [EmpireTheatre](https://www.youtube.com/EmpireTheatre)

BANKERS:

Heritage Bank, Heritage Plaza
Ruthven Street Toowoomba
Queensland 4350

AUDITORS:

Queensland Audit Office
53 Albert Street Brisbane
Queensland 4000

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OUR VISION

**WE WILL LEAD BY
EXAMPLE.**

WE NURTURE,

ENABLE AND

**INSPIRE DYNAMIC
CULTURAL GROWTH,**

CHAMPIONING

EXPERIENCES FOR,

WITH AND BY

COMMUNITY.

OUR PURPOSE

Our fundamental business is Theatre. As custodians and managers of the largest performing arts precinct in regional Australia, we ensure the Empire Theatres' significant suite of arts and entertainment venues are valued, maintained and activated. We work with our industry partners, our collaborators, our audience and patrons to:

- Develop dynamic, inclusive and exceptional opportunities for performing arts and community activities
- Deliver diverse, world-class performing arts experiences, anywhere
- Connect people, ideas and stories to shape and inspire imagination and creativity.

OUR VALUES

INNOVATION We are vibrant, adventurous, entrepreneurial and bold

COLLABORATION We cannot achieve our goals on our own

TRANSFORMATION We stimulate change for the better

CREATIVITY We are champions for the Arts

EXCELLENCE We embrace quality and best practice in all we do

OUR PRIORITIES

ENRICHING EXPERIENCES to produce invigorating programs which captivate, inspire and enhance visitor experience.

TELLING OUR STORY to expand our reach and consolidate our reputation as a leading performing arts venue.

MAINTAINING ORGANISATIONAL STABILITY to grow and sustain our operational integrity, financial resilience and quality services.

The Empire Theatres acknowledge the First Nations whose songlines traverse these lands we meet and work on, including the Western Wakka Wakka, Giabul, and Jarrowair, Jagara, Yuggera and Ugarapul peoples. We also honour the First Nations people who now call the Toowoomba region home.

EMPIRE THEATRES PTY LTD BOARD

AS AT JUNE 30 2022

Board of Directors Empire Theatres Pty Ltd

Chairman	Mr Andrew Wielandt
Deputy Chair	Mrs Sheena Liley
Company Secretary	Mr Bill Armagnacq
	Ms Janelle Fletcher
	Mr Mark O'Connell
	Mr John Pearson
	Mrs Amanda Tolson
	Mr Brad Rush
	Mrs Suzie Byrnes

Trustees of the Empire Theatres Foundation

Chair	Ms Janelle Fletcher
Deputy Chair	Dr Kate Foy
	Dr Sharyn Donaldson
	Mr Ben Gouldson
	Mr Richard Chiverrell
	Mrs Suzie Holt
	Mr Ian Sharpe
	Mr Rob Schatz

EMPIRE THEATRES PTY LTD STAFF

GENERAL MANAGER

KERRY SAUL

DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER AND ADMINISTRATION MANAGER

HELEN OLDHAM

OPERATIONS AND TECHNICAL SERVICES MANAGER

TIM PANITZ

PROGRAMS AND ENGAGEMENT MANAGER

JEANETTE WEDMAIER

MARKETING AND DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

EMILEE NICHOLS

SENIOR MARKETING COORDINATOR/ACTING MARKETING MANAGER

MADDISON GANGI

MARKETING COORDINATOR

CHUNXI LI

PUBLICIST

SARAH FLEMING

MARKETING COORDINATOR

ISABELLA TANNOCK (RESIGNED)

YOUTH ARTS DIRECTOR

NICOLE HAEUSLER

MANAGEMENT SUPPORT OFFICER AND FOUNDATION OFFICER

KATE BRENNAN

ACCOUNTANT

ANTHONY NUNN

FINANCE OFFICER

ALISON MURRELL

REGIONAL ARTS SERVICES MANAGER

MICHELLE BLAIR

PATRON SERVICES COORDINATOR

DAVIS LAMONT

CLIENT LIAISON OFFICER

KRIS STEWART

HEAD OF AUDIO

STEVE ALEXANDER

HEAD OF STAGING

ROBERT DARVALL

HEAD OF LIGHTING

BEN HUNT

THEATRE TECHNICIAN

ANDREW TAYLOR

TECHNICAL TRAINEES

LUCAS KUMMEROW

EMMILYNE MAJOR

BOX OFFICE

KERRY POLITCH | ORA WHITLEY

CASUAL STAFF

WESLEYNE DRIMLEY

MICHAELA FRANCIS

CECILE KENEALY

LEIGH-ANNE JEFFRIES

BRYDIE SYMONDS

JAMIE GALLEY

MIRANDA WALKER

Z BARTLEY

SHIANNE BRACECKMANS

CHRISTINE CRONK

EMMA ERDIS

ABBY HESS

HENRY HOLDSWORTH

AMY JOHNSON

JACK MULLINS

CAITLIN NASS

JACKI SPARK

MELISSA TARBUCK

WILLIAM THOMAS

TOBY THELANDER

LINA VATKESAKY

JIORDIE LOBWEIN

CHERISH ZIMMERLE

MATTHEW SKERMAN

AARON HANNANT

RILEY SILK

LOUGHLIN JEFFRIES

LEIGHTON GLANVILLE

CHRISTOPHER DARVALL

JACK HICKEY

SHANNON YENDALL



DID YOU KNOW?

According to [collinsdictionary.com](https://www.collinsdictionary.com), 'A silver jubilee is the 25th anniversary of an important event such as a person becoming King or Queen, or an organization being started'

A fitting definition, given in 2022, the Empire Theatres celebrated 25 years since its reopening in 1997 and is often aptly described as *the jewel in Toowoomba's crown*.

Also, a common tradition for a 25th Anniversary is a gift of silver. Silver is radiant and brilliant - two words which beautifully describe the magnificence of the Empire Theatres architecture!

The Empire Theatres also has over 100 active volunteer members of the Friends of the Empire Theatres Inc. performing duties including front of house, ushering, ticket collecting, biscuit baking and other services.

EMPIRE THEATRES SPONSORS AND DONORS

THE EMPIRE THEATRES' BUSINESS PARTNERS ARE LIKE-MINDED ORGANISATIONS

with a shared commitment towards quality, innovation and inspiration in delivering their own customer focused performance within our community. These mutually beneficial partnerships enable the Empire Theatre to expand its programming diversity...

BUSINESS PARTNERS



FUNDING PARTNERS



FOUNDATION SPONSORS



SUPPORTERS

MEDIA PARTNERS



THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING DONORS for their very generous support and to our many other donors for helping nurture, enable and inspire the cultural capacity of our community...

- Clive and Conchita Armitage | Ron and Shelly Barclay | Michael Kelly | Ian and Lynn Sharpe | Ross and Fay Miller | Helen Vaughan
- Sharyn Donaldson | Ben Gouldson | Kirsten Sippel | Richard Chiverrell | Matt Cherry | Susan Dowe | Sheena Liley | Angela Ryan
- Brett Gredig | Kate Foy | Sophia Lamont | Judith Alexander | Noelene Brown | Philip Vitale | Paul & Kathie Hendon | Dianne Rozynski
- Australian Decorative & Fine Arts Society | Daniel Sisinni | St Ursula's College | Louise Hassall | Ross Lamont | Suzie Holt

EMPIRE THEATRES PTY LTD

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

As your Theatre (and indeed the broader community) emerges from the shadow of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is pleasing to report we continued to meet our objectives of nurturing, enabling and inspiring dynamic cultural growth, championing experiences for, with and by the community.

Empire Theatres Pty Ltd again delivered a positive result despite the constant business interruptions experienced over the financial year. This result is in part due to the resilience of our performers, hirers and audience who continue to support us. We continued to invest in the development, delivery and connection of arts across our region which is something we are very proud of.

During 2022, the Board set our three strategic priorities and objectives for the period 2022 - 2025: enriching experiences, telling our story and maintaining organisational stability. I look forward to sharing with you our progress against these goals in future annual reports

I thank our owners Toowoomba Regional Council, as well Arts Queensland (via the Queensland Government) for their ongoing support.

My sincere thanks also goes to Janelle Fletcher and the Empire Theatres Foundation Trustees for their tireless support of the Theatre. I remain grateful to Margaret Turnbull and the Friends of the Theatre for all they do.

To General Manager Kerry Saul, the Heads of Department and Empire Theatre staff, thank you for your ongoing professionalism and high-quality work you undertake.

I acknowledge Sheena Liley, who retires as Deputy Chair at the 2022 Annual General Meeting but remains as a Board member. I thank her for her support and I welcome Amanda Tolson as Deputy Chair-elect and wish her well in her new role.

Finally, to my fellow Board members, thank you for being part of a great team and I look forward to working with you into the future.

Andrew Wielandt

CHAIRMAN

EMPIRE THEATRES PTY LTD

EMPIRE THEATRES PTY LTD

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Empire Theatres and Empire Projects roles were combined into the one entity from 1 July 2021. This enables a better focus to be taken on company-wide programming and community engagement. We also celebrated 25 years since our opening in 1997 on the 28th of June with a morning tea and official celebration on 2 July 2022.

In July 2021, we managed to put some great shows together with Paul Kelly and The Ten Tenors having bumper houses. The period of August through December 2021 was impacted by the inability of cross state travel, and we focussed on Queensland based opportunities to keep performance opportunities available to the public during this time. We were able to manage most other events by postponing into the 2022 period. Many of these have now completed successfully. January saw us able to once again welcome out of state productions with the first being *Prada Clutch's All Drag Revue* on 29 January 2022 after going on sale in 2019.

A major highlight of the year was the Empire major production of *We Will Rock You*. The production was very well managed by the team to get the performances successfully to the stage, through a period where COVID-19 was an ongoing risk in our communities, and for staff and performers. Through the final quarter of the year activity continued to increase and forward bookings were very positive. Ticket sales recovered to 78,000 from the previous year's total of 56,000.

The Southwest Queensland Regional Arts Service Network (RASN) received a contract extension to the end of calendar year 2021 and we maintained the State Office for a six-month period. A new contract was issued to Empire Theatres for a further three years to operate the South Queensland RASN.

The role of the Empire Management Team, Helen Oldham, Tim Panitz, Emilee Nichols, Jeanette Wedmaier, is integral to the success of the Empire Precinct. Thank you to each of you and to all our excellent staff. I acknowledge the dedication and efforts of Chair Andrew Wielandt, our Board and Foundation trustees, our Friends of the Theatre and thank you for your support during the year. We appreciate the valued relationships that we have built with our loyal patrons, supporters, and clients and continue to be blessed with the enthusiasm they show in attending the theatre and supporting the arts in our region.

Kerry Saul

GENERAL MANAGER

EMPIRE THEATRES PTY LTD

FRIENDS OF THE EMPIRE THEATRE INC.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Thank you for the opportunity to present the President's report for the Friends of the Empire Theatre for the year 2021/2022.

I extend my thanks to the executive and members of our Management Committee for their never-ending support during the past year. I am fortunate to have this wonderful group beside me. I would like to especially thank Secretary Simon Pearl, Treasurer Gay Jorgensen and Vice-President Richard Chiverrell for doing all the "real" work behind the scenes. My thanks to Bill Armagnacq for attending our meetings as the Empire Theatre Board representative.

During the past financial year, I personally feel very proud of the ongoing success of the Empire Theatre and the part that the volunteers play in that endeavor. I would like to particularly thank Kate Brennan, our events and front-of-house staff and our Technical staff for their support and courtesy extended to the volunteers. You are all superstars in my opinion.

As the Theatre steadily climbs towards pre-covid conditions, it has been a privilege for all our volunteers to assist in many ways. It is such a pleasure to walk into our busy Theatre.

Donations from the Friends to the Theatre for 2021/2022 totalled \$23,500.00 and included sponsorship of *We Will Rock You*, assistance with lease payments for the Theatre utility, a new barbeque and tables for the Armitage Centre. This brings our total donations to \$831,405.87. We have just celebrated the 25th Anniversary of the re-opening of the Empire Theatre in 1997 and what a wonderful day that was, filled with many reunions and stories of our escapades and achievements.

Last, but certainly not least, my thanks to the Toowoomba Regional Council and the Empire Theatre Board of Directors for the ongoing support of the volunteers. This means the world to us.

Margaret Turnbull
PRESIDENT
FRIENDS OF THE EMPIRE THEATRE INC

EMPIRE THEATRES FOUNDATION

CHAIR'S REPORT

The past year has seen the Foundation continue to grow and evolve. In November 2021, we awarded 30 Youth Bursaries with recipients presenting from various parts of the Western, Southern and Darling Downs. In keeping with previous years, we received well over 62 applications from budding musicians, actors, dancers and the like from our region. A credit to the Foundation and its reputation in this still slightly bruised, COVID compromised, Arts world.

Earlier in 2022, we awarded our biennial bursary, the Brian Boak Outstanding Performer Bursary to British/Australia Operatic Soprano, Morgan Carter. This award will assist them in completing studies, a Master of Music in Opera Performance, at Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester.

In June, the Foundation welcomed a new sponsor, Shine Private. We are grateful to Shine Private for acknowledging the work of the Foundation and the importance of youth development in Performing Arts in this region by way of sponsorship. The Foundation is committed to supporting the Arts not only in this region but globally and will continue to do so with an innovative and creative approach.

Of course, none of this can be achieved and we would cease to exist without the unwavering support of our sponsors and donors. Thank you to Bernoth Properties, DP Wealth Advisory, Horizon Accounting, Clifford Gouldson Lawyers, Wearing Memories, Downlands College, Greenridge Group and Shine Private. This gratitude must be extended to Trustees for your efforts and support, Empire Theatres Board Chair, Andrew Wielandt and Directors, General Manager, Kerry Saul, Empire Staff and, crucially, Foundation Officer Kate Brennan.

Janelle Fletcher
CHAIR
EMPIRE THEATRES FOUNDATION

REVIEWS & FEEDBACK



I would like to commend Empire Theatre on their accessibility and the efforts they have gone to in ensuring all members of our community may be included. *Inclusion Access*

Every aspect of my experience could not be faulted. A lovely theatre and atmosphere with friendly, professional staff. Thankyou.

The management should be congratulated for their programming during the past two years when no other theatre in the country was doing as much.

Keep up the high standard of service and performances



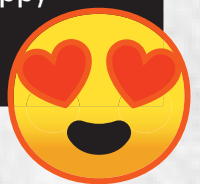
Thank you for providing the shows for our primary children to enjoy and being willing to keep the tickets at an affordable level. Keep up the wonderful entertainment opportunity.

I am never disappointed with any of the productions I go to see at the Empire.



The Empire Theatre is one of the reasons why we live in Toowoomba

We are continually impressed by the quality of the musicals we have attended at the Empire Theatre. Great talent in Toowoomba and we are happy to support it. Keep up the excellent work!



The live band in the *We Will Rock You* show were absolutely incredibly amazing. So great to see such a high level of talent, professionalism and quality in Toowoomba.

We are now planning monthly visits to Toowoomba AND the Empire Theatre

THE EMPIRE THEATRE IS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF THE TOOWOOMBA REGION

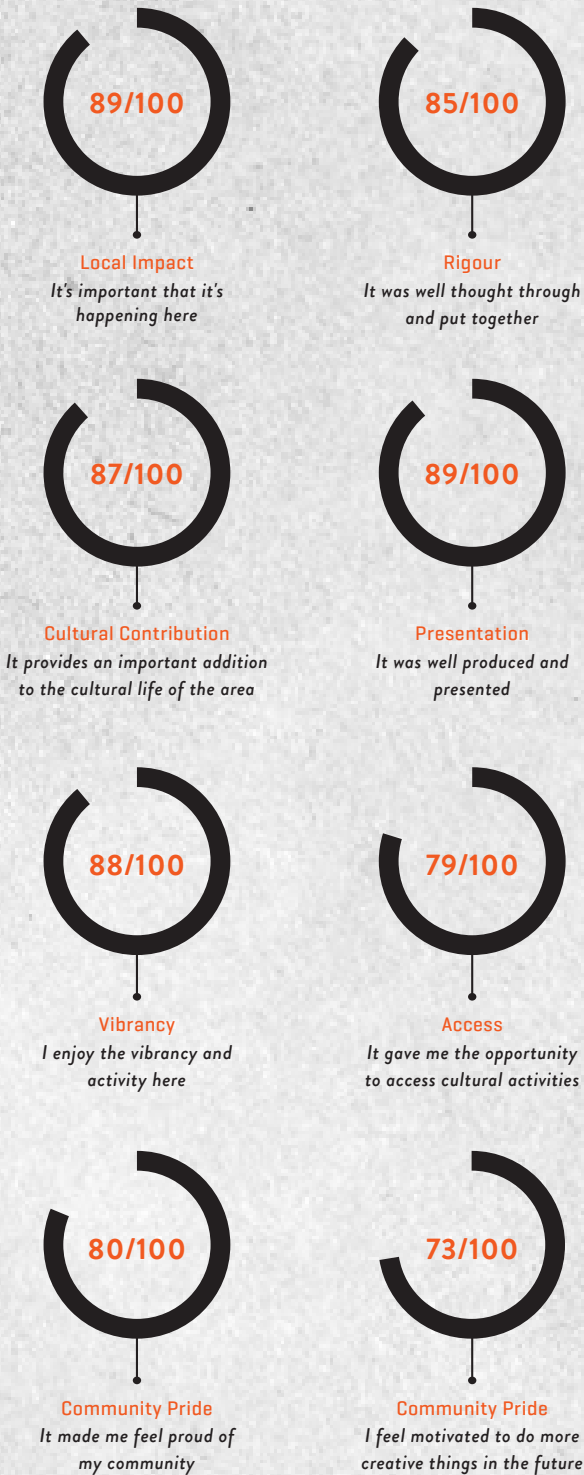
CULTURE COUNTS SURVEY RESULTS 2021-2022

Number of respondents: **2,649**

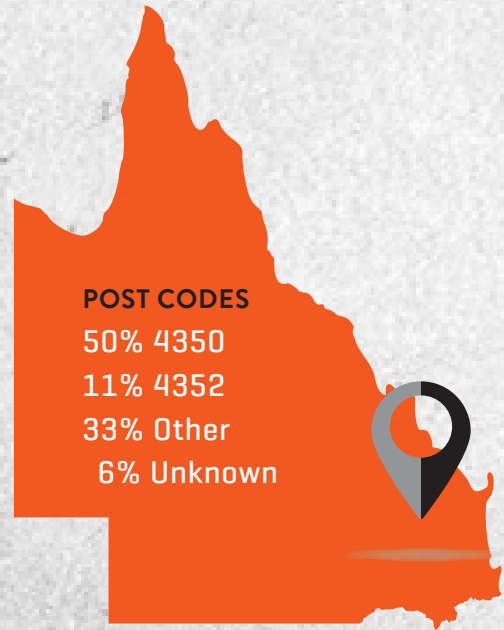
The evaluation framework applied by Culture Counts uses a standardised set of outcome metrics called 'dimensions' to measure the quality and impact of cultural events. They have been developed through extensive work with the sector, internationally tested and academically validated.

Attendees and participants who accessed Empire Theatre events, were surveyed about their experience. Surveys included a set of dimensions that were selected in alignment with Empire Theatre's strategic goals. Dimensions are responded to using a 100-point sliding scale. Respondents are asked to indicate how much they agree with a statement by sliding the marker between zero (Strongly Disagree) and 100 (Strongly Agree).

The resulting data is used to measure the unique cultural, social, civic and quality outcomes of Empire Theatres from 2021 - 2022.



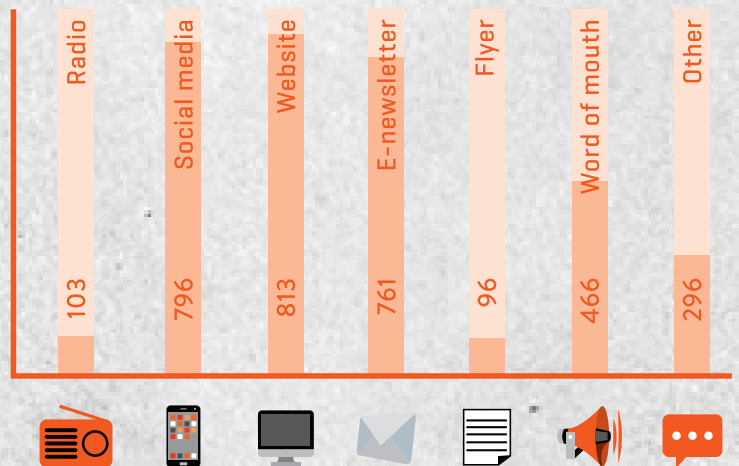
Net Promoter Score: **75**

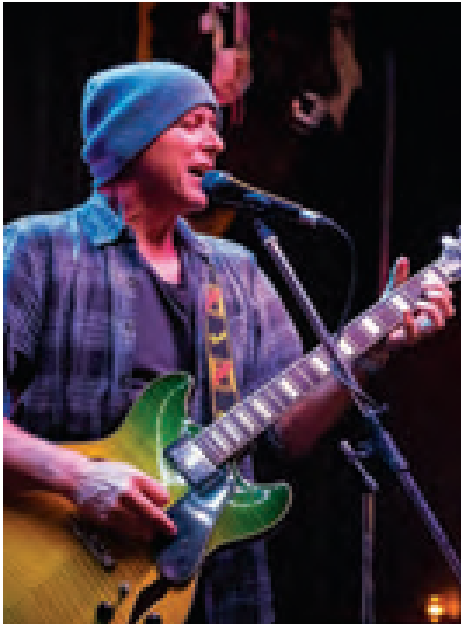


TOP 10 WORDS

ENJOYABLE	316
EXCELLENT	282
FANTASTIC	274
GREAT	228
WONDERFUL	153
FABULOUS	134
ENTERTAINING	112
AMAZING	102
GOOD	100
AWESOME	88

WHERE PEOPLE HEARD ABOUT THE EVENT





Regional Services Officer Michelle Blair accepting the position of Regional Manager with two additional staff recruited to fill the roles of Regional Arts Officers, commencing their roles in July 2022.

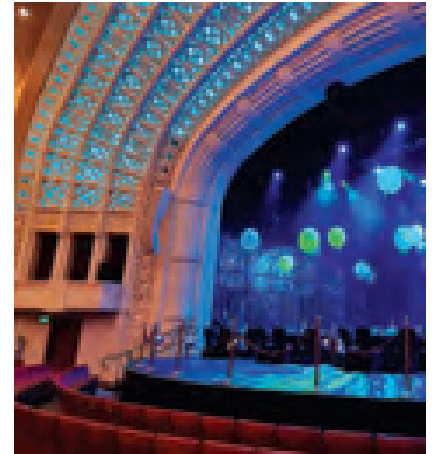
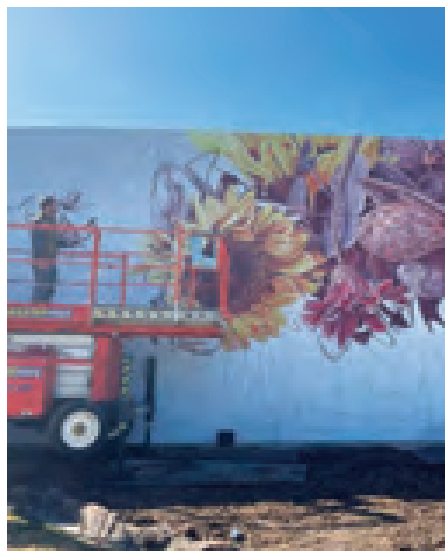
RASN's collaborations with organisations including Live Music Office, Young Bruthas, Cobb & Co Museum, Surat Aboriginal Corporation as well as local councils allows the funding and facilitation of a broad range of events and projects to be undertaken, including high quality live music events, visual art projects and cultural events.

RASN works to harness the power of the arts to grow opportunities for artists and organisations in regional communities.

REGIONAL ARTS SERVICES NETWORK WRAP UP

The Empire Theatre continues to be the service provider for the Regional Arts Services Network (RASN) for Southern Queensland after successfully tendering for the catchment, with the contract expanding the region from 8 to 16 local council areas, including Toowoomba, Lockyer Valley and Western Downs through to Maranoa, Quilpie, Ballonne and Gold Coast.

The Empire Theatres commenced this contract in March 2022, with former

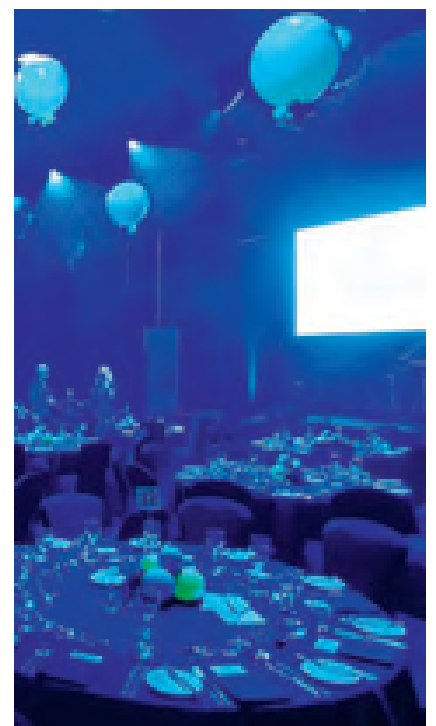


FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT AUSTRALIA CONFERENCE

The Floodplain Management Australia National Conference at the Empire Theatres precinct in May 2022 brought 200 delegates and guest speakers from all over Australia to attend.

Taking place from May 16 -20, 2022, the conference saw every venue within the precinct utilised.

As part of the conference, the Empire Theatre hosted a dinner on stage on Thursday 19 May, the very first dinner to occur on stage since the Empire Theatre had closed its doors in 2020 due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.



HIGHLIGHTS

Live & Local Music Program

WITH TRC & LIVE MUSIC OFFICE

Oakey Youth Mural Project

WITH TRC & YOUNG BRUTHAS

Bamba Gii Festival - Roma

WITH SURAT ABORIGINAL CORPORATION, OPEN AIR GRANT, OUTBACK TOURISM & LIFELINE

Toowoomba Arts Footprint Artist in Residence Program

FRIENDS OF COBB & CO, COBB & CO MUSEUM, EMPIRE THEATRE, TOOWOOMBA REGIONAL ART GALLERY, QASP

Lanescapes Public Art Event - Goondiwindl



ARTLANDS CONFERENCE 2021

The Empire Theatres hosted a celebration of Queensland regional arts practise as the Queensland Regional Venue hub for the national Artlands Conference in September 2021.

Around 50 delegates from the wider Queensland artistic community were on site for the conference as well as the local event being accessible safely to those out of state at other hubs or in isolation around the country via the streaming of conference sessions and panels.

The Empire Theatre hosted three streamed conference sessions as part of the national conference and attendees were able to take in the sessions and panels from other hubs around the country throughout the event, with some presenters and panel members on site at the Empire Theatre and some elsewhere streaming in.

Sessions streamed from the Empire Theatre included discussions in Collaborative Leadership in Disaster Recovery, ways

of working in the arts regionally and mapping cultural and creative industry hotspots in the regions. The event was partially funded by Regional Arts Development Funding through Toowoomba Regional Council.

Being a regional partner venue for the Artlands Conference allowed the Toowoomba Region to be showcased and its artistic community to be celebrated, with local artists having the opportunity to display on a national stage.

Artlands Local Artists

- Aaron Blades
- Barbara Walker
- Ben Tupas
- Rare Squid Creative

SHINING A LIGHT FOR THE COMMUNITY

Throughout the 2021/2022 financial year the Empire Theatre has lit up the impressive façade of the building in support of several important causes.

October 15, 2021

Pink and purple for the 'Light Up the Night' movement for Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month

August 19, 2021

Purple as part of the #WeThe15 campaign in support of inclusivity for those with a disability

September 9, 2021

Yellow for mental health initiative
R U Ok Day

February 4, 2022

Blue and orange for World Cancer Day

March 3-6, 2022

Blue and yellow in a show of solidarity with the people of Ukraine

May 17, 2022

Blue and green for Neurofibromatosis Awareness Month

August 6, 2022

Green and gold for the Olympic Games in Tokyo



THIS YEAR WAS ONE TO CELEBRATE!

JULY 28, 2022 MARKED THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY SINCE THE REOPENING OF THE THEATRE IN 1997

2022 marks 25 years since the magnificent Empire Theatre was reopened following an award winning restoration. The original theatre opened on the Neil Street site on June 29, 1911, some 111 years ago as a picture theatre with the capacity to seat 2200 patrons.

The building was all but destroyed in a fire in February 1933, with only the northern and southern side walls left standing and was rebuilt in the popular art deco style of the era later that year, featuring world class acoustics and one of the largest stages in Australia. The theatre hosted everything from opera to vaudeville while continuing to operate as a picture house until it finally closed in 1971.

The building was used as a warehouse, and by the TAFE College until 1991 when the spotlight was turned to the Empire Theatre once again, eventually leading to the restoration of the stunning building, reopening in 1997.

The Empire Theatre is Australia's largest regional Theatre with several performance spaces within the precinct, including the Empire Church Theatre, the Armitage Centre and The Empire Studio Room.



OPEN DAY CELEBRATIONS

The 25th Anniversary was celebrated with a formal morning tea on stage on Saturday July 2 with close to 200 people including board members, trustees, local councillors both current and former, members of Parliament, Empire Theatre volunteers, donors, business partners, sponsors and regular ticket buyers who have supported the theatre through the years.

The doors to the theatre were opened to the public for the afternoon, allowing the public to wander freely through the front of house, taking in the building and the architecture at their own pace, as well as enjoy the exhibition and memorabilia pieces on display, piano recitals onstage and auditorium lighting displays.

Empire Theatres Chairman Andrew Wielandt said the celebration was a wonderful day.

“To celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Empire Theatre with former Toowoomba City Mayor Ross Miller, who was instrumental in saving the Empire Theatre for the city before it

was restored to its former glory, was a fitting way to acknowledge his legacy,” Mr Wielandt said.

“We celebrated the significant contribution to the operation of the building by the Friends of the Empire Theatre and were able to see and speak to many of our supporters from the past 25 years throughout the day,” he said.

“It was a chance to celebrate the achievements of the Theatre and look to the future and what we will continue to provide to our community.”

Empire Theatre Life Members

- Ross Miller
- Don Stevens
- Merv Bond
- Beris Broderick
- Col Muller
- Sheena Liley

EXHIBITION

As part of the 25th anniversary celebrations, an exhibition of the Empire Theatre through the eyes of artists and photographers since its first opening in 1911 was curated and hung in the theatres of the main theatre from June 29 where it remained until October 2022.

The exhibition's selected works contain artistic representations of the building in a variety of mediums including photographs, paintings, drawings, site plans, digital and contemporary works inspired by the vibrant history of the theatre, designed to show the evolution of the building from 1911 to 2022 with a nod to the traditional owners of the land on which it stands.

Contributing Artists

- Jack Bade, Craig Berkman and the class of 4B at Toowoomba East State School in 1996
- Ute Braatz
- Lucy Robertson-Cuninghame
- Roslyn Hartwig
- John Hutton
- Cecile O'Mara

LIFE MEMBER

WE CELEBRATE A NEW INDUCTEE

Long serving Empire Theatre advocate Sheena Liley OAM was made a Life Member of the



Empire Theatre at the 25th Anniversary celebrations. Current Deputy Chair of the Empire Theatres Board, Mrs Liley has served as a Director on the Empire Theatres Board for 23 years, and as Deputy Chair for 15 years.

She was also a founding Trustee of the Empire Theatres Foundation and served as Chair of the Foundation for nine years until she stepped down in 2019.

She retires as Deputy Chair as of the Annual General Meeting in 2022, retaining her position on the board. Mrs Liley said the award, presented on such a celebratory occasion, was both a

wonderful honour and complete surprise.

"I have served with all the previous life members, been inspired by their skills and integrity, and am grateful to be in such good company," she said.

"Early in the Board's history, it recognized the value of establishing a Foundation. The Foundation continues today and one of my great joys as a Director and former Foundation Trustee is to hear of the achievements of past Bursary recipients, be in touch with them and from time to time welcome them to the Empire to perform for us.

"The Empire's extensive work in skills development in the performing arts is, to my mind, its greatest gift to our community."

In her time as Foundation Chair, Mrs Liley assisted in facilitating more than 400 young people to develop their skills in their artistic disciplines with the Youth Arts Bursary program as well as giving many developing and established performers a boost in their careers via the prestigious Brian Boak Bursary.



EMPIRE YOUTH ARTS

A TEN YEAR REVIEW

In October 2021, a research report into the Empire Youth Arts (EYA) initiatives housed at Empire Theatres was released, the results of which have provided significant insight into the impact of Empire Youth Arts programs.

The report, commissioned to accompany the ten year anniversary of Empire Youth Arts, found that Empire Theatres is setting the standard for regional investment that champions and includes new transformative theatre practice for young people. The research indicated EYA programs improved mental wellbeing in the young participants, provided transferable skills as well as establishing a lifelong creative lifeline.

Ms Wedmaier said the study points out some shortfalls in diversity within the program that will be addressed in future, while also validating the methodology and ethics the Empire Youth Arts program has built its excellent reputation on.

“It’s important to reflect on all work as it informs how you move forward. This report brought together things we have long suspected but had only anecdotal evidence of. The information gained here will help us to shape the direction of Empire Youth Arts for years to come as well as assist in securing ongoing financial and community support.

Recommendations to come out of the report include considerations for continued partnering locally across sectors and nationally within the youth arts industry, internal and external evaluation to help develop and promote the value of EYA, and publishing opportunities for EYA script assets and further research/articles regarding pedagogical practice.

The report was collaboratively researched and written by former Empire Youth Arts Director Ari Palani, Associate Professor Janet McDonald (USQ) and then Projects Manager, Jeanette Wedmaier.



10 YEARS OF EMPIRE YOUTH ARTS CELEBRATING ITS ‘IMPACT’

Empire Youth Arts celebrated a decade of enriching and empowering the young people of the Toowoomba region and beyond in 2021, and continues to provide drama workshops, educational support, holiday workshops and elite performance program opportunities.

Established in 2010 and commencing work with young people in 2011, EYA marked the anniversary of IMPACT at the Senior Ensemble production, *Off With Your Head* in October 2021, ending the performance with a recap of every IMPACT performance.

Off With Your Head was produced in collaboration with Empire Theatres Lead Teaching Artist Nicky Haeusler and former Youth Arts Director, award-winning author and playwright, Claire Christian who began work with the Empire Theatre in 2011 when the IMPACT program was added to the Youth Arts program.

Off With Your Head was an original 72 minute theatre piece created by the ensemble, worked from the classic text *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll.

During the 2021/2022 financial year, the IMPACT Junior Ensembles performed twice in the Armitage Centre, with *The Trolleys* by Sara West on

July 15-16, 2021 and the award-winning *Charlie Pilgrim (or a Beginner's Guide to Time Travel)* by Sam O'Sullivan from June 23-24, 2022.

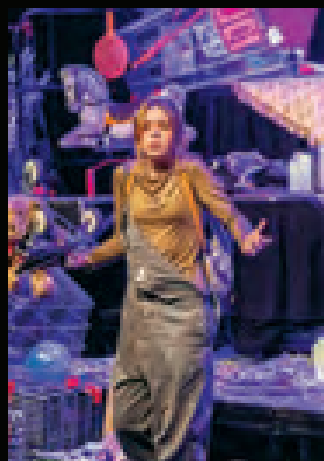
This year's Junior Ensemble (ages 10-14) took the research side of their process seriously, taking part in a zoom interview with Dr Karl Kruszelnicki on April 6 regarding the physics of time travel and the science behind the time travelling machine in their performance.

The Trolleys was a special project, coming to the stage after COVID-19 caused the cancellation of the 2020 Junior IMPACT Ensemble.

Director Nicky Haeusler said that youth voices are so often underestimated in their capability to excite change and action.

"In a story that thrusts young people right in the centre of danger and challenge, we get to see these kids learn how to find their voices, speak their minds, and follow their gut."

Empire Youth Arts and the IMPACT program continue to provide content for, with, and by young people.



SING ON CARRIES ON

Closures industry wide in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic meant a temporary halt on choral singing. Close to \$30,000 in funding by the Australian Government Regional Arts Fund kickstarted a project to bring local voices back to the stage. *Sing On* was designed to challenge local classical singers with interesting repertoire and provide performance opportunities that had not been available in the year before.

With three rounds of six week rehearsal blocks, all of which had their own Vocal Leader and performance, culminating in a final concert at the Empire Theatre in October 2021, *Sing On* was a project a long time in the making, crossing over two financial years.

The project was undertaken by 30 participants and vocal leaders, Cherie Vera, Calista Walters and Joshua Clifford, with performances taking place at Opera at Jimbour in July 2021 and the Artlands National Conference Toowoomba hub (Empire Theatres) in September 2021. For the finale of the project, participants were joined on stage in the

Armitage Centre on October 23-24 2021, by members of the Toowoomba Philharmonic Society Choir, along with emcee ABC Southern Queensland presenter David Illiffe, and featured soloist, West End Tenor and former Brian Boak Bursary recipient, Paul Tabone.

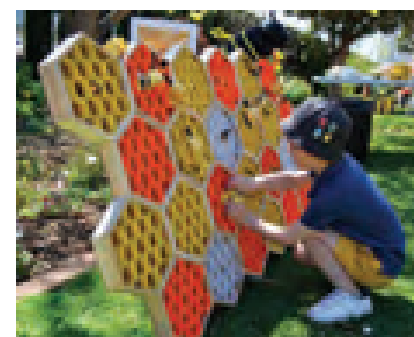
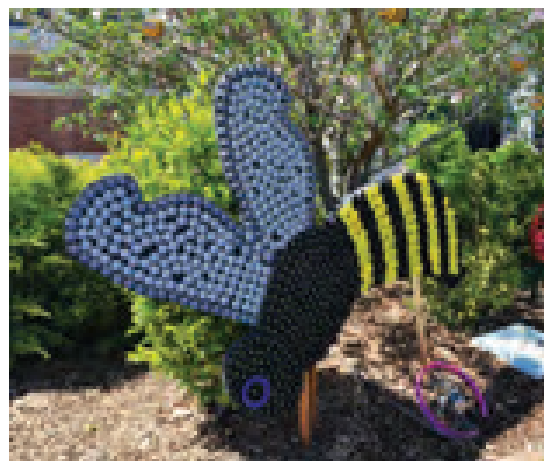


THRIVE ON ARTS

A MUST BEE THERE EVENT!

Empire Theatres annual *Thrive on Arts* festival for 2021 focused on all things bees!

Thrive on Arts performance entertainment included magic shows, performances by acclaimed circus company Circa Zoo, a screening of *Bee Movie*, roving clowning by You Me Three Clown Co. and informative talks provided by Southern Beekeepers Association.



Children of all ages had something to offer with storytime sessions under the magnolia tree daily, Ready, Set, Dance and Circa Workshops, a fantastic bee garden display of items made from recycled materials by Junk Made, and a reading of popular children's book *The Bear of Who Loved to Dance* accompanied by music played by Toowoomba Concert Orchestra.

Thrive on Arts was once again supported by C&K Kindergarten and Childcare and Toowoomba Libraries through the First 5 Forever program.

EMPIRE YOUTH ARTS STUDENT NAMED YOUNG PLAYWRIGHT OF THE YEAR

Former Empire Youth Arts IMPACT Ensemble member and Empire Theatres Youth Bursary recipient, Ma-Janneh (Sandra) Miller was awarded the Queensland Theatre Young Playwright's Award in 2021 for her deeply moving, coming of age story, *Paradise Dreaming*.

Paradise Dreaming won the top prize in what Queensland Theatre described as one of the strongest pools of entries seen in almost 20 years of the award.

Ma-Janneh received an Empire Youth Bursary in 2018 for Queensland Theatre Residency Week and was a member of the auditioned IMPACT ensemble in 2019 and 2020 before receiving the Young Playwright's Award last year, her final year of high school.

As part of the award, Ma-Janneh received an all expenses paid trip to Queensland Theatre Residency Week in 2021, which included dramaturgy sessions to develop her script and a professional reading of her work.

Since receiving the award Ma-Janneh has been accepted into the Australia Theatre for Young People's National Studio program, where she receives formal mentorship in playwriting, creating scripts for performers aged 14-17, as well as her full time Law and International Relations studies.

Ma-Janneh said it was an emotional experience to win the award and to have her work recognized at such a level was both validating and humbling.

"This play is about my family. It tries to capture our first few moments in Australia, although it is fragmentally presented because I was only four when we moved. It's special to me as it's like I'm trying to paint a picture that we all remember differently."

She was the fourth Empire Theatre affiliated winner of this award.

Former Empire Theatre's Young Playwright Award Winners

- Tom Glassey (2013)
- Grace Jervis (2016)
- Blake Hohenhaus (2018)
- Zoe Hulme-Peake (2018)
- Sandra Miller (2021)



PARADISE DREAMING READING AT EMPIRE THEATRES



MA-JANNEH (SANDRA) MILLER WITH QUEENSLAND THEATRE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR LEE LEWIS

YOUTH BURSARY RECIPIENT

LANDS ROLE IN MAJOR PRODUCTION

After first being introduced to the stage of the Empire Theatre at the age of ten, Kate Hudson James locked in her place as a rising star when she played leading role Scaramouche in the 2022 Empire Theatres production of Queen musical, *We Will Rock You*.

Kate first came to the theatre for Empire Youth Arts classes and has participated in seven IMPACT Ensemble programs and completed work experience at the theatre before being cast in two major productions, performing on the Empire Theatre mainstage.

Kate was also a Youth Bursary recipient, attending Queensland Theatre Youth Residency week in September 2021, an experience that was a deciding factor in her decision to pursue musical theatre. In an incredible display of one door opening as another one closes, Kate received a rejection email from the musical theatre course she had applied to, the day she also received the call offering her the role of Scaramouche.

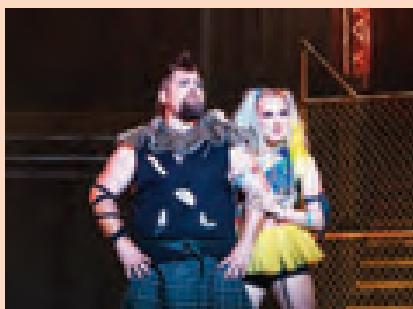
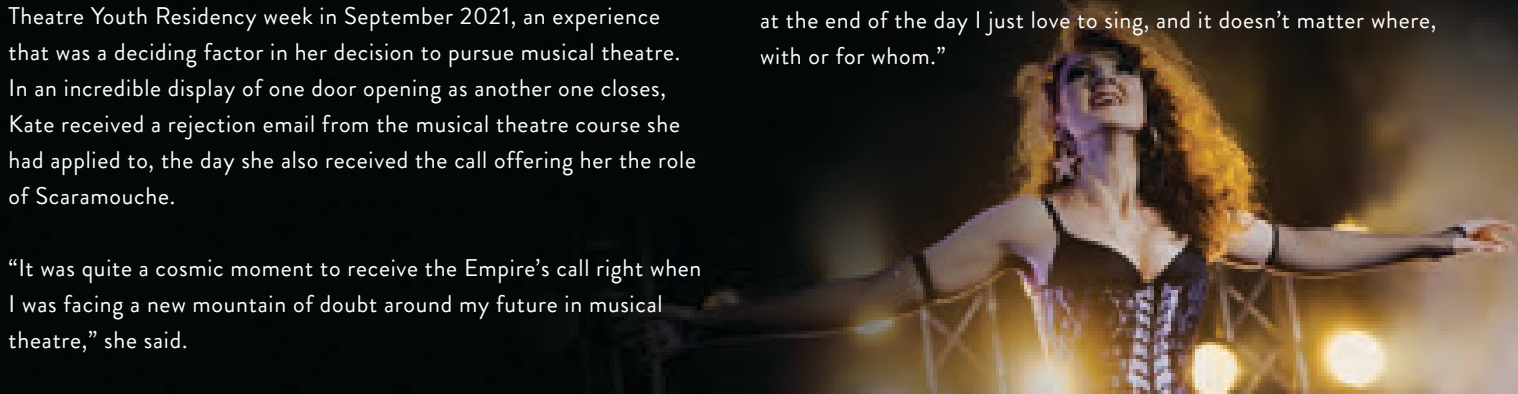
"It was quite a cosmic moment to receive the Empire's call right when I was facing a new mountain of doubt around my future in musical theatre," she said.

"Scaramouche was this huge, strong, self-assured character, and stepping into her shoes and songs made me feel empowered onstage like never before."

As she looks to the future, Kate has plans to study musical theatre but has learned a valuable lesson about following your passions.

"If opportunities to perform professionally arise, I will leap at them, but I am happy for now to take a breather after the intensity of high school to just enjoy musical theatre without the pressure to always be reaching for the next thing," she said.

"*We Will Rock You* was a massive challenge and a timely affirmation of my passion for theatre, but most importantly it reminded me that at the end of the day I just love to sing, and it doesn't matter where, with or for whom."



HIGHLIGHTS

We Will Rock You
Presented by Empire Theatres

MUSICAL THEATRE



🕒 Friday 18 - Saturday 26 March | 2022

🎫 Number of Performances 6

📍 Empire Theatre

👤 Total Attendance 6638

About

Music and Lyrics by QUEEN | Story and Script by Ben Elton
By Arrangement with David Spicer Productions

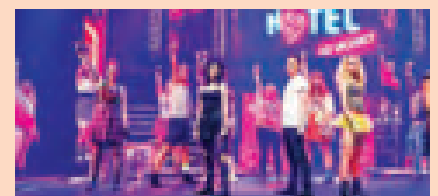
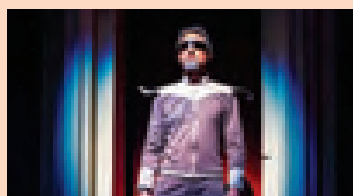
We Will Rock You was the first Empire Theatre produced major musical to be presented since the impact of COVID-19 on the performing arts industry forced the theatre to forego the annual musical in 2021.

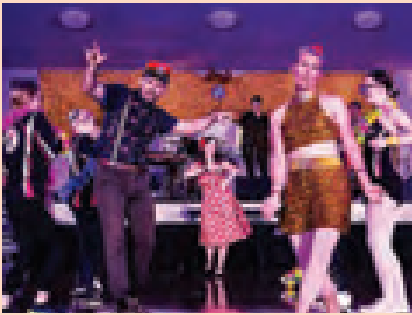
Featuring music by rock band Queen including *I Want to Break Free*, *Somebody to Love*, *We Will Rock You*, *Bohemian Rhapsody* and more, as well as a hilarious futuristic dystopian story by Ben Elton (*The Young Ones*, *Blackadder*), as well as an outstanding and talented local cast, an incredible band made up of local musicians, *We Will Rock You* was a huge hit with audiences.

The musical takes place in a future age on a planet once called Earth that is now controlled by a mighty corporation... rock music is unheard of and all musical instruments are banned. The hope of breaking free rests with an unlikely resistance- an alliance of rebel Bohemians...



- *We Will Rock You* has been seen in six of the world's continents





Inaugural Annual Dance Affair Presented by Empire Theatres



DANCE

🕒 Friday 13 & Saturday 14 May | 2022

🎫 Number of Performances 2

📍 Toowoomba Indoor Bowls Hall

👤 Total Attendance 156

About

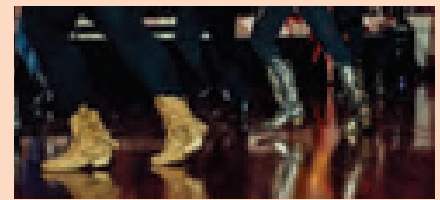
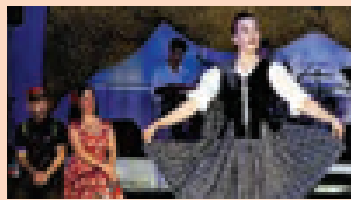
The Inaugural Annual Dance Affair is a project by Everybody NOW! Presented by Empire Theatre, with support by Queensland Government through Arts Queensland and the Australian Government's Regional Arts Fund, provided through Regional Arts Australia, administered in Queensland by Flying Arts Alliance.

Part theatre performance, part dance hall, the Inaugural Annual Dance Affair (IADA) had an open invitation to get up and show your moves in an all ages evening of dance, from the classics of yesteryear to the best of today's dance styles.

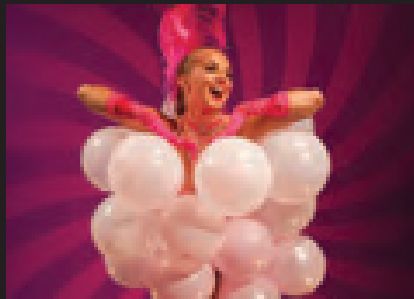
Created with and for the local greater Toowoomba community, IADA was a celebration of Toowoomba's rich dance culture featuring a live band, stories from local legends and guest stars from all the corners of the Toowoomba dance scene: ballroom couples from Dance Connection, a rocking performance from Just Rock Toowoomba, boot scooters from Toowoomba Line Dance, Rich Virsa Bhangra, Mayhem Dance, Radiance Dance Academy and Highland Dancing as well as a lively display from Toowoomba Senior Citizens Centre.



- There were 86 dance participants aged between 4 – 93 years old
- The Empire Theatres was able to secure a total of \$82,928 in funding from state and federal government departments for this event.



IMAGES BY THERESA HALL



Spiegelesque Presented by Empire Theatres



CABARET

🕒 Saturday 19 February | 2022

📍 Armitage Centre

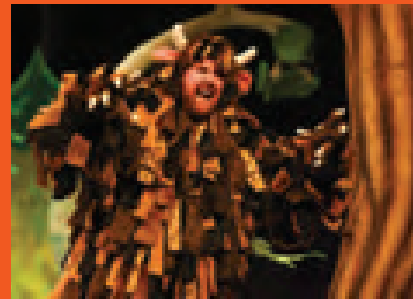
🎫 Number of Performances 1

👤 Total Attendance 313

About

A hilarious adventure into the majestic world of vaudeville, burlesque and cabaret, combining song, dance, and slapstick to create a theatrical sensation.

Starring Edinburgh Fringe Festival Award Winner, Wayne Scott Kermond and a cast highly skilled international cabaret, circus and comedy performers, *Spiegelesque* was daring, quirky, funny and a hit with Empire Theatre audiences!



The Gruffalo

Presented by Empire Theatres



CHILDREN'S THEATRE

🕒 Tuesday 19 & Wednesday 20 Oct | 2021

📍 Empire Theatre

🎫 Number of Performances 3

👤 Total Attendance 1941

About

A CDP with Tall Stories' Magical Musical Adaptation

Based on the picture book by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler

Following Mouse on a daring adventure through the deep dark wood in a magical and musical adaptation of the beloved classic children's picture book.



- This performance starred USQ Theatre graduate and Empire Theatre's 2019 production of *Kinky Boots* principal cast member, Sophie Kleinschmidt, as Mouse!



Queensland Ballet *Giselle*



DANCE

📅 Thursday 3 & Friday 4 March | 2022

📍 Empire Theatre

🎫 Number of Performances 2

👤 Total Attendance 1158

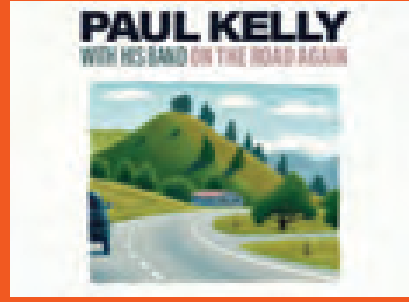
About

Queensland Ballet's stunning *Giselle* is a supernatural tale of passion, vengeance, and the power of love complete with luminous costumes, an enchanting score and stunning choreography.

Giselle has held audiences spellbound since its premiere 150 years ago.



- Queensland Ballet's *Giselle* originally made its world premiere on the Empire Theatre's stage in 2013 under the tenure of artistic director Li Cunxin, who had been appointed the year before
- Queensland Ballet's performance in 2022 was luckily able to go ahead and was unaffected by the devastating flooding in Brisbane just days before



Paul Kelly

With His Band - On the Road Again



MUSIC

📅 Friday 2 July | 2021

📍 Empire Theatre

🎫 Number of Performances 1

👤 Total Attendance 1323

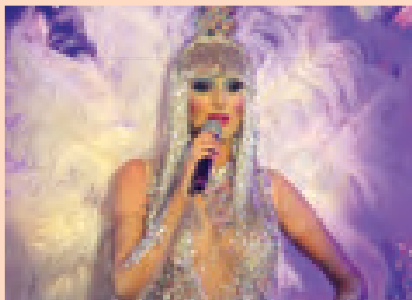
About

Legendary Australian singer-songwriter, Paul Kelly was joined by his band for the *On the Road Again* tour, including Vika and Linda Bull, Bill McDonald, Peter Luscombe, Ash Naylor and Cameron Bruce.

The tour was off the back of Kelly's album *Forty Days* which was performed recorded and posted via his socials from home in lockdown, exploring themes of cooking, dry pubs, hope, insomnia and separation and commemorating singers and poets like Bill Withers, John Prine and Bruce Dawe.



- This performance was completely sold out in six days, with the majority of the tickets already sold after two days of presale and two days of being on sale to the general public



Prada Clutch's : All-drag Revue Presented by Sydney Drag Queen



CABARET

📅 Saturday 29 January | 2022

📍 Empire Theatre

🎫 Number of Performances 1

👤 Total Attendance 732

About

Headlined by one of Australia's most in demand live singing drag queens, Prada Clutch's, this show revisited the good old days with Les Girls in the 60s, celebrating the inspirational music icons like Dusty Springfield, Patti La Belle, Bette Midler & Cher. This revue, created by original Les Girls of King Cross member Monique Kelly, featured a cast of seven, jam packed with feathers, wigs, headpieces, costumes and glittering performances.



Kitty Flanagan

Presented by A List Entertainment



COMEDY

📅 Friday 8 & Saturday 9 April | 2022

📍 Empire Theatre

🎫 Number of Performances 2

👤 Total Attendance 2316

About

You've seen her on *Fisk*, *Utopia* and *Have You Been Paying Attention?*. She wrote a best selling book called *488 Rules for Life*. But now, after a year at home drinking hand sanitiser and tonic, Kitty Flanagan is finally back on stage doing what (she thinks) she does best, solving the world's problems.



- Kitty Flanagan performed at the Empire Theatre in 2022 after postponing her 2021 shows multiple times due to COVID-19 border restrictions and quarantine

ATTENDANCE 2021 - 2022

PLEASE NOTE: IN ADDITION TO THE PERFORMANCES LISTED IN THE FOLLOWING TABLE, SEVERAL WORKSHOPS, FUNCTIONS AND PROJECTS OCCURRED IN THE 2021/2022 FINANCIAL YEAR

VENUE	EVENT	SOLD	COMP/FREE EVENTS	TOTAL
July 2021				
Empire Church Theatre	Livestream Ticket Landscapes	21	0	21
Empire Church Theatre	Landscapes	82	34	116
Empire Theatre	Paul Kelly and His Band	1293	30	1323
Empire Theatre	The TEN Tenors	1337	8	1345
Empire Theatre	Just So	903	78	981
Empire Theatre	The Tap Pack	818	10	828
Empire Theatre	Mary Poppins	1458	44	1502
Empire Theatre	Eisteddfod Sessions July 2021	955	1	956
Armitage Centre	The Dinomaniacs	566	2	568
Armitage Centre	Burlesque Lingerie & Corsetry Showcase	180	0	180
Armitage Centre	The Trolleys	228	31	259
Armitage Centre	Finesse Burlesque	198	18	216
Armitage Centre	A Night of Feeling Groovy	161	18	179
Aug 2021				
Empire Church Theatre	Dami Im	176	1	177
Empire Theatre	The Show Must Go On!	953	62	1015
Empire Theatre	Tutus on Tour: Qld Ballet	856	117	973
Empire Theatre	Paul Morton Choral Festival	351	3	354
Armitage Centre	Respect: Aretha Franklin Story	327	2	329
Armitage Centre	Awakening by Daniel Lammin	45	5	50
Sept 2021				
Empire Church Theatre	Cool Nights Big Band	122	0	122
Empire Theatre	Ziggy Alberts	609	11	620
Empire Theatre	Priscilla Queen of the Desert by The Toowoomba Choral Society	3569	260	3829
Empire Theatre	Disney's Aladdin Kids	871	5	876
Empire Theatre	Empire Presents 11 O'Clock Rock	533	74	607
Empire Theatre	Dance Festival Downlands 2021	172	8	180
Empire Theatre	The Naked Magicians	270	12	282
Armitage Centre	The Wonderworkers	765	6	771
Armitage Centre	Rockin' Through The Ages	175	3	178
Armitage Centre	TIGGA Senior Members	245	10	255
Armitage Centre	TIGGA Junior and Intermediate	116	3	119
Armitage Centre	The Conference of the Birds	194	63	257
Armitage Centre	Bee Movie Screening: Thrive On Arts	0	99	99
Armitage Centre	Christopher Wayne Magic Show	129	1	130
Armitage Centre	The Bear Who Loved to Dance	0	523	523
Empire Studio Room	The Knowing of Mary Poppins: Homegrown	111	1	112
Oct 2021				
Empire Theatre	Beethoven and Sibelius	151	3	154
Empire Theatre	A Night in Havana	299	11	310
Empire Theatre	The Gruffalo	1843	98	1941
Empire Theatre	Queen 50th Anniversary	525	22	547
Empire Theatre	Best of the Bee Gees	513	43	556
Armitage Centre	Elton John Tribute Show	143	14	157
Armitage Centre	Off With Your Head: IMPACT	375	33	408
Armitage Centre	Love and Other Lessons	203	10	213
Armitage Centre	Take Me To Paris	174	12	186
Armitage Centre	Toowoomba Physie & Dance	200	4	204
Nov 2021				
Empire Church Theatre	Cool Nights Big Band	142	0	142

ATTENDANCE CONT. 2021 - 2022

VENUE	EVENT	SOLD	COMP/FREE EVENTS	TOTAL
Empire Theatre	Dirty Laundry	260	14	274
Empire Theatre	Seasons	875	5	880
Empire Theatre	Beauty and the Beast	1900	66	1966
Empire Theatre	NOEL	1662	54	1716
Empire Theatre	A Christmas Wish 2021	561	123	684
Armitage Centre	Creedence Clearwater Collective	344	6	350
Armitage Centre	Dreams Tribute Show	343	1	344
Armitage Centre	Rockaria The ELO Experience	251	11	262
Armitage Centre	Motown II Millennia	344	1	345
Dec 2021				
Empire Theatre	Tenori Daytime Series	582	94	676
Empire Theatre	Another Opening Another Show	808	29	837
Empire Theatre	The TEN Tenors	1173	9	1182
Empire Church Theatre	Christmas Together	214	0	214
Armitage Centre	The Nutcracker	757	27	784
Jan 2022				
Empire Theatre	Prada Clutch's All-drag Revue	711	21	732
Feb 2022				
Empire Theatre	Celtic Illusion Reimagined	474	3	477
Empire Theatre	Bjorn Again: Mamma Mia!	841	8	849
Empire Theatre	Murphy's Pigs	597	84	681
Empire Theatre	Leaving Jackson 2022	430	5	435
Armitage Centre	Poems Prayers and Promises	97	1	98
Armitage Centre	QSO Favourites Livestream 2022	126	4	130
Armitage Centre	Spiegelisque	304	9	313
March 2022				
Empire Theatre	Giselle: Queensland Ballet	1068	90	1158
Empire Theatre	Mark Vincent & Mirusia	429	8	437
Empire Theatre	We Will Rock You	6018	620	6638
Empire Theatre	Guess How Much I Love You	477	48	525
Empire Theatre	Anh Do	792	3	795
Armitage Centre	The Beatles' Rooftop Concert	243	19	262
April 2022				
Empire Studio Room	Tia Gostelow in Concert	22	25	47
Empire Theatre	Kitty Flanagan Live	2306	10	2316
Empire Theatre	The Little Mermaid	1334	39	1373
Empire Theatre	Mambo Italiano	359	51	410
Empire Theatre	The 13 Storey Treehouse 2022	1780	149	1929
Armitage Centre	Casting Off by A Good Catch	39	12	51
Armitage Centre	You & I Casus Circus Inter	31	27	58
Armitage Centre	Rhonda Burchmore	105	43	148
Armitage Centre	Flickerfest 2022	227	5	232
Armitage Centre	John Granger Fisher Pianist	151	4	155
Empire Studio Room	Snug Shorts Women in Harmony	35	2	37
Empire Studio Room	Snug Shorts Happy Place	71	1	72
May 2022				
Empire Church Theatre	Four Seasons Reimagined	131	64	195
Empire Theatre	World of Musicals	954	6	960
Empire Theatre	Shen Yun 2022	1578	91	1669
Empire Theatre	Eisteddfod May	3078	2	3080
Empire Theatre	ADC Three Lister Lane Shechter	135	12	147

ATTENDANCE CONT. 2021 - 2022

VENUE	EVENT	SOLD	COMP/FREE EVENTS	TOTAL
Empire Theatre	The King and Guy	303	4	307
Empire Theatre	Edward the Emu 2022	1763	192	1955
Empire Theatre	Xavier Rudd	335	10	345
Armitage Centre	Don Juan	66	8	74
Armitage Centre	Melinda Schneider Love Songs	128	3	131
Other	Inaugural Annual Dance Affair	155	1	156
Empire Studio Room	Kill All The Teachers	161	0	161
June 2022				
Empire Church Theatre	RnB Big Band Show	134	24	158
Empire Church Theatre	Paul Tabone	103	0	103
Empire Church Theatre	Orava Quartet in Mad Piper	94	10	104
Empire Theatre	The Addams Family	1691	37	1728
Empire Theatre	Shorrock & Cadd The Two Amigos	423	23	446
Empire Theatre	Sing Out 2022	1673	3	1676
Empire Theatre	Kasey Chambers & Busby Marou	869	31	900
Empire Theatre	David Strassman	1344	12	1356
Empire Theatre	Fanfare Regional Finals 2022	0	135	135
Empire Theatre	Mamma Mia	2053	38	2091
Empire Theatre	Ross Noble	491	1	492
Empire Theatre	The Robertson Brothers	1051	8	1059
Empire Theatre	Melbourne Comedy	579	38	617
Armitage Centre	The Mystery of Edwin Drood	585	0	585
Armitage Centre	Calendar Girls	857	46	903
Armitage Centre	TIGGA Junior and Intermediate	126	5	131
Armitage Centre	TIGGA Senior	209	9	218
Armitage Centre	IMPACT Charlie Pilgrim	372	24	396
Armitage Centre	Heart of Gold Film Festival	66	0	66
		74,005	4,361	78,366

PAID	
Empire Theatre	62,033
Armitage Centre	10,195
Empire Studio Room	400
Empire Church Theatre	1,219
Other	155
TOTAL	74,022

COMPS/ FREE EVENTS	
Empire Theatre	3,079
Armitage Centre	1,122
Empire Studio Room	29
Empire Church Theatre	133
Other	1
TOTAL	4,364

TOTAL ATTENDANCE: 78,366

Empire Theatres Pty Ltd and Controlled Entities
ABN 83 086 482 288

Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2022

Empire Theatres Pty Ltd and Controlled Entities
ABN 83 086 482 288

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These financial statements are financial statements for Empire Theatres Pty Ltd and its Controlled Entities. The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars.

Empire Theatres Pty Ltd is a company limited by shares, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. Its registered office and principal place of business is:

The Empire Theatres
54-56 Neil Street,
Toowoomba QLD 4350.

A description of the nature of the company's operations and its principal activities is included in the Directors' report on pages 1 to 2, both of which are not part of these financial statements.

The financial statements were authorised for issue by the Directors on 29 September 2022. The Directors have the power to amend and reissue the financial statements.

Directors' Report

The Directors present their report on the consolidated entity (referred to hereafter as the consolidated group or the group) consisting of Empire Theatres Pty Ltd (the company) and the entities it controlled at the end of, or during, the period ended 30 June 2022.

Directors

The names of the Directors in office at any time during, or since the end of the financial year are:

Mr A Wielandt (Chairman)
Mrs S Liley (Deputy Chair)
Mr T Armagnacq
Mr M O'Connell
Mrs J Davis
Mr D Pearson
Mrs A Tolson
Mr B Rush
Mrs S Byrnes

Directors have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

Principal Activities

The principal activity of the consolidated group has been to develop, foster, maintain and provide facilities for all kinds of artistic expression in the Performing Arts, pursuant to the Operating Agreement with Toowoomba Regional Council. The Empire Theatres Pty Ltd is the largest performing arts precinct in regional Australia and has several performance and function spaces. Revenue comes from theatre productions, hire of function spaces and sale of goods such as merchandise, food and drinks. The company receives grants, donations and sponsorship which allows the continuation of operations.

Significant Changes in the State of Affairs

On the 20 September 2021, it was resolved that the Empire Theatre Projects Pty Ltd be wound up. Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) published the voluntary deregistration with 23 November 2021 being the date of deregistration.

Empire Theatres Foundation is in the process of updating their trustee to Empire Theatres Foundation Ltd as trustee company. The Foundation will then be a controlled entity of Toowoomba Regional Council and no longer a controlled entity of Empire Theatres Pty Ltd. Until the change of trustees is formally processed, the Foundation will remain a controlled entity of Empire Theatres Pty Ltd.

Review of Operations

The consolidated profit of the group for the financial year ended 30 June 2022 was \$59,124 (2021: \$96,808). The consolidated group is exempt from income tax.

The consolidated group received a funding subsidy from the Toowoomba Regional Council of \$726,870 (2021: \$1,220,651) during the financial year.

Events Subsequent to the End of the Reporting Period

The Directors have made the decision to replace the individual trustees of Empire Theatres Foundation and appoint Empire Theatres Foundation Ltd as corporate trustee. This will have no impact on the operating capability of the remaining entities in the group.

Likely Developments and Expected Results of Operations

The future operations of the consolidated group are expected to relate to the principal activity outlined above. The consolidated group continues to be impacted by COVID-19 and the impact of this has been discussed further in Note 2.

Empire Theatres Pty Ltd
ABN 83 086 482 288

Directors' Report

Environmental Regulation

The consolidated group's operations are not subject to any significant environmental regulation under a law of the Commonwealth or of a State or Territory.

Dividends

No ordinary dividends were paid, recommended or declared during the year (2021: \$nil).

Indemnification of Officers

No indemnities have been given or insurance premiums paid, during or since the end of the financial year, for any person who is or has been an officer or auditor of the consolidated group. However Directors and Officers are insured under the Toowoomba Regional Council's insurance policy.

Proceedings on Behalf of Consolidated Group


No proceedings have been brought or intervened in on behalf of the company with leave of the Court under section 237 of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

Auditor's Independence Declaration


A copy of the Auditor's Independence Declaration as required under section 307C of the *Corporations Act 2001* is set out on page 3.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Directors:

Date: 29/09/22
Toowoomba



Andrew Wielandt
Chairman



Thomas Armagnacq
Director

AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

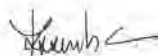
To the Directors of Empire Theatres Pty Ltd

This auditor's independence declaration has been provided pursuant to s.307C of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

Independence declaration

As lead auditor for the audit of Empire Theatres Pty Ltd for the financial year ended 30 June 2022, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- a) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit
- b) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.



Sri Narasimhan
as delegate of the Auditor-General

29 September 2022

Queensland Audit Office
Brisbane

Statements of Comprehensive Income
For the year ended 30 June 2022

	Note	Consolidated		Parent	
		2022 \$	2021 \$	2022 \$	2021 \$
INCOME					
Recurrent Revenue					
Revenue	3	2,993,884	1,696,123	2,993,884	1,696,123
Grants, Donations and Sponsorships	4	1,177,276	1,847,555	1,120,470	1,316,683
Total Recurrent Revenue		4,171,160	3,543,678	4,114,354	3,012,806
Other Income	5	31,217	147,602	27,215	137,857
Total Income		4,202,377	3,691,280	4,141,569	3,150,663
EXPENSES					
Recurrent Expenses					
Employee Benefits	6	2,089,239	1,802,459	2,076,978	1,724,852
Materials and Services	7	1,934,778	1,333,233	1,889,880	1,099,608
Occupancy		-	315,000	-	315,000
Finance Costs		27,090	63,016	27,090	62,892
Legal and Professional Fees	8	92,146	80,764	88,146	76,764
Total Recurrent Expenses		4,143,253	3,594,472	4,082,094	3,279,116
Net Result		59,124	96,808	59,475	(128,453)
Other Comprehensive Income		-	-	-	-
Total Comprehensive Income		59,124	96,808	59,475	(128,453)

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

Statements of Financial Position
As at 30 June 2022

	Note	Consolidated		Parent	
		2022	2021	2022	2021
		\$	\$	\$	\$
ASSETS					
Current Assets					
Cash and Cash Equivalents	9	3,631,415	2,373,643	2,773,717	2,262,982
Trade and Other Receivables	10	143,502	74,753	131,037	59,900
Financial Assets	11	-	1,250,000	-	500,000
Inventories		15,988	17,351	15,988	17,351
Total Current Assets		3,790,905	3,715,747	2,920,742	2,840,233
Non-Current Assets					
Investment in Subsidiary		-	-	-	1
Total Non-Current Assets		-	-	-	1
Total Assets		3,790,905	3,715,747	2,920,742	2,840,234
LIABILITIES					
Current Liabilities					
Trade and Other Payables	12	380,083	373,635	374,092	362,142
Other Liabilities	13	1,230,259	1,275,160	1,214,380	1,259,785
Provisions	14	466,739	420,761	466,739	420,761
Total Current Liabilities		2,077,081	2,069,556	2,055,211	2,042,688
Non-Current Liabilities					
Provisions	15	40,376	31,866	40,376	31,866
Total Non-Current Liabilities		40,376	31,866	40,376	31,866
Total Liabilities		2,117,457	2,101,422	2,095,587	2,074,554
Net Assets		1,673,448	1,614,325	825,155	765,679
EQUITY					
Contributed Equity		1	1	1	1
Accumulated Surplus		1,673,447	1,614,324	825,154	765,678
Total Equity		1,673,448	1,614,325	825,155	765,679

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

Statements of Changes in Equity
For the year ended 30 June 2022

	Contributed Equity \$	Accumulated Surplus \$	Total \$
CONSOLIDATED			
BALANCE AT 1 July 2020	1	1,517,515	1,517,516
Comprehensive Income			
Net Result	-	96,808	96,808
Total Comprehensive Income for the year	-	96,808	96,808
BALANCE AS AT 30 JUNE 2021	1	1,614,323	1,614,324
Comprehensive Income			
Net Result	-	59,124	59,124
Total Comprehensive Income for the year	-	59,124	59,124
BALANCE AS AT 30 JUNE 2022	1	1,673,447	1,673,448
PARENT			
BALANCE AT 1 July 2020	1	894,130	894,131
Comprehensive Income			
Net Result	-	(128,453)	(128,453)
Total Comprehensive Income for the year	-	(128,453)	(128,453)
BALANCE AS AT 30 JUNE 2021	1	765,678	765,679
Comprehensive Income			
Net Result	-	59,475	59,475
Transfer Received		1	1
Total Comprehensive Income for the year	-	59,476	59,476
BALANCE AS AT 30 JUNE 2022	1	825,154	825,155

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Statements of Cash Flows
For the year ended 30 June 2022

Note	Consolidated		Parent	
	2022 \$	2021 \$	2022 \$	2021 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES				
Receipts from Customers	2,898,561	2,498,172	2,896,349	2,498,172
Funding Received - Community Service Obligation	726,870	1,220,651	726,870	1,220,651
Receipts from Grants, Donations and Sponsorships	451,087	619,860	393,600	96,032
Interest Received	12,210	28,973	8,208	19,228
Payments to Suppliers and Employees	(4,080,957)	(3,540,526)	(4,014,292)	(2,785,951)
Net Cash Inflow from Operating Activities	7,771	827,130	10,735	1,048,132
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES				
Maturity/(Purchase) of Investments	1,250,000	(250,000)	500,000	722,385
Net Cash Inflow/(Outflow) from Investing Activities	1,250,000	(250,000)	500,000	722,385
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES				
Transfers to Parent Entity	1	-	-	-
Net Cash Inflow from Financing Activities	1	-	-	-
Net Cash and Cash Equivalents Held	1,257,772	577,130	510,735	1,770,517
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the Beginning of the Financial Year	2,373,643	1,796,512	2,262,982	492,465
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the End of the Financial Year	9 3,631,415	2,373,643	2,773,717	2,262,982

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements cover the consolidated financial statements and notes of Empire Theatres Pty Ltd and its controlled entities ('Group'), and the separate financial statements and notes of Empire Theatres Pty Ltd as an individual parent entity ('Parent Entity').

Basis of Preparation

These general purpose financial statements are prepared in accordance with the disclosure requirements of Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures. The financial statements comply with the recognition and measurement requirements of all Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations applicable to not-for-profit entities, the *Corporations Act 2001* and the presentation requirements in those standards as modified by AASB 1060.

The financial statements are prepared on an accrual basis, with the exception of the statement of cash flows which is prepared on a cash basis. The historical cost convention is used as the measurement.

Presentation matters

Amounts included in the financial statements are in Australian dollars. Amounts are rounded to the nearest dollar. Comparative information has been restated where necessary to be consistent with disclosures in the current period.

Assets are classified as 'current' where their carrying amount is expected to be realised within 12 months after the reporting date. Liabilities are classified as 'current' when they are due to be settled within 12 months after the reporting date, or the company does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement to beyond 12 months after the reporting date. All other assets and liabilities are classified as non-current.

Going Concern

The company is dependent upon continued funding from Toowoomba Regional Council to ensure that the entity can continue to operate as a going concern. Toowoomba Regional Council has agreed to provide ongoing financial support to ensure the company can meet its debts as they fall due.

Principles of Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the assets, liabilities and results of entities controlled by Empire Theatres Pty Ltd at the end of the reporting period. A controlled entity is any entity over which Empire Theatres Pty Ltd has the power to govern the financial and operating policies so as to obtain benefits from the entity's activities. The group consists of Empire Theatres Pty Ltd, Empire Theatre Projects Pty Ltd and Empire Theatres Foundation. Control of Empire Theatres Foundation is subject to compliance with the Empire Theatres Foundation Trust Deed.

In preparing the consolidated financial statements, all inter-group balances and transactions between entities in the group have been eliminated on consolidation.

Income Tax

No provision for income tax has been raised as the company is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2022

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the Statements of Financial Position are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the Statements of Cash Flows on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Key Accounting Estimates and Judgement

The preparation of the financial statements requires the determination and use of certain critical accounting estimates, assumptions and management judgements about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities. Such estimates, judgements and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised and in future periods as relevant.

Estimates and assumptions that have a potential significant effect are outlined in the following notes:

Employee benefits - Note 6, 14, 15

New and Revised Accounting Standards

The group adopts all of the new and revised Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) that are relevant to its operations and effective for the current reporting period. The adoption of the new and revised accounting standards has not resulted in any significant impact on the reported financial position, financial performance or cash flows of the group.

AASB 1060 General Purpose Financial Statements – Simplified Disclosures for For-Profit and Not-for-Profit Tier 2 Entities - AASB 1060 introduces the Simplified Disclosures framework for general purpose financial statements prepared by or for entities reporting under Tier 2 of the Differential Reporting Framework. This new disclosure framework applies to the group. While most of the disclosures remain the same as 2020-21, there have been some changes by way of additional or reduced disclosures reflected in these financial statements. The new accounting standard does not change any recognition or measurement requirements, and the group's financial statements continue to comply with the recognition and measurement requirements of all applicable accounting standards and interpretations.

No accounting pronouncements were adopted in the 2021-22 financial year. No voluntary changes in accounting policies occurred during the 2021-22 financial year.

Authorisation of Financial Statements for Issue

The financial statements are authorised for issue by the Directors at the date of signing the Directors' Declaration.

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 2: Impacts from COVID-19 Pandemic

Empire Theatres' operations continue to be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The largest impact was in reduced attendance of events, especially when there were lockdowns in South East Queensland which restricted travel to the region. Due to border closures during the first part of the year there were also instances of productions that were unable to take place.

Note 3: Revenue	Consolidated		Parent	
	2022	2021	2022	2021
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Sale of Goods	312,105	184,057	312,105	184,057
Rendering of Services	1,876,736	1,158,157	1,876,736	1,158,157
Productions	805,043	353,909	805,043	353,909
	2,993,884	1,696,123	2,993,884	1,696,123

Products and Services	Nature and timing of revenue recognition
Sale of Goods	Revenue from the sale of goods such as merchandise and drinks is recognised at the fair value of the consideration received at the point of sale.
Rendering of Services	Revenue recognition based on contracts to provide services is recognised in stages of completion often as a percentage of services performed to the total of services to be provided as stipulated in the contract.
Productions	Revenue from productions, functions and hires is recognised when the production takes place. If productions are postponed, for example, due to COVID-19, revenue is not recognised but the cash is held within the Statement of Financial Position under Box Office Ticket Prepayments until the event takes place.

Note 4: Grants, Donations and Sponsorship

Funding - Toowoomba Regional Council	726,870	1,220,651	726,870	1,220,651
Grants and Subsidies	325,292	541,548	325,292	62,532
Sponsorships	45,178	46,222	-	-
Donations	79,936	39,134	68,308	33,500
	1,177,276	1,847,555	1,120,470	1,316,683

Products and Services	Nature and timing of revenue recognition
Grants and subsidies	Grants and subsidies that are unrestricted are recognised as revenue when the company obtains control over them, which is usually upon receipt of funds. Where grants are received that are restricted in nature, revenue is recognised as the various performance obligations under the funding agreement are fulfilled.
Sponsorship	The Group receives sponsorship in relation to various events. Sponsorship is given in return for increasing the presence of the sponsoring entities in the community. In return, the sponsors receive ticketing for the event and recognition. Revenue is recognised on an accrual basis in line with the sponsorship contract.
Donations	Revenue from donations received is recognised on receipt.

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2022

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2022	2021	2022	2021
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Note 5: Other Income				
Interest Received	12,210	28,973	8,208	19,227
Other Income	19,007	118,630	19,007	118,630
	31,217	147,603	27,215	137,857

Products and Services	Nature and timing of revenue recognition
Other Income	Other income comprises revenue from marketing, projects and small immaterial income streams. This revenue falls in line with revenue from contracts with customers (AASB15) and is recognised at the fair value of the consideration received at the point of sale. Where projects span a period of time, revenue is recognised over the life of the project.
Interest Received	Interest received is recognised on a time proportional basis taking into account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

Note 6: Employee Benefits

Salaries	1,958,465	1,726,205	1,946,204	1,648,598
Annual Leave, Sick Leave and Long Service Leave	60,099	24,584	60,099	24,584
Employee Benefits - Other	70,675	51,670	70,675	51,670
	2,089,239	1,802,459	2,076,978	1,724,852

Note 7: Materials and Services

Repairs and Maintenance	254,591	175,945	254,591	175,945
Marketing	76,023	103,464	68,518	96,429
Office and Administration	342,826	524,974	305,433	138,384
Debt Forgiveness	-	-	-	160,000
Equipment	86,652	43,673	86,652	43,673
Vehicle Expenses	28,899	31,308	28,899	31,308
Donation Expenditure	3,320	4,278	3,320	4,278
Performance Fees	-	161,297	-	161,297
Equipment Hire	757,887	107,606	757,887	107,606
Catering	172,071	86,014	172,071	86,014
Stock Purchases	108,909	66,224	108,909	66,224
Royalties and Licences	103,600	28,450	103,600	28,450
	1,934,778	1,333,233	1,889,880	1,099,608

Note 8: Legal and Professional Fees

Audit Fees	30,000	30,000	26,000	26,000
Legal and Professional - Other	62,146	50,764	62,146	50,764
	92,146	80,764	88,146	76,764

Total audit fees payable to the Queensland Audit Office relating to the 2021/22 consolidated financial statements are quoted to be \$30,000 (2021: \$30,000) and for the Company, they are quoted to be \$22,000 (2021: \$20,000). Empire Theatres Pty Ltd paid for the audit fees on behalf of Empire Theatre Projects Pty Ltd \$4,000 (2021: \$4,000). There are no non-audit services included in this amount.

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2022

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2022	2021	2022	2021
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Note 9: Cash and Cash Equivalents				
Cash on Hand	6,901	7,201	6,901	7,201
Cash at Bank	3,624,514	2,366,442	2,766,816	2,255,781
	3,631,415	2,373,643	2,773,717	2,262,982

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with financial institutions, other short-term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

Note 10: Receivables

Trade and Other Receivables	143,502	74,753	131,037	59,900
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Receivables include amounts due from customers for goods sold and services performed in the ordinary course of business. Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

Note 11: Financial Assets

Held to Maturity Investment	-	1,250,000	-	500,000
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Held-to-maturity investments were invested at an interest rate of 0.50% (2021: 0.95%)

Financial assets contain held-to-maturity investments that have fixed maturities greater than three months, and it is the group's intention to hold these investments to maturity. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost. Gains or losses are recognised in the Statements of Comprehensive Income through the amortisation process and when the financial asset is derecognised.

Note 12: Trade and Other Payables

Trade Payables	152,576	119,500	152,576	114,745
Other Payables and Accrued Expenses	187,507	214,136	181,516	207,397
Bonuses Payable	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000
	380,083	373,635	374,092	362,142

Trade and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the group during the reporting period that remains unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amount normally being paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

Note 13: Other Liabilities

Security Deposits - Hires	129,200	156,055	129,200	156,055
Box Office Ticket Prepayments	889,993	849,374	889,993	849,374
Unearned Income	211,066	269,731	195,187	254,356
	1,230,259	1,275,160	1,214,380	1,259,785

Security deposits are recognised at the completion of the performance or function.

Notes to the Financial Statements
 For the year ended 30 June 2022

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2022	2021	2022	2021
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Note 14: Provisions				
Annual Leave - Current	116,019	99,647	116,019	99,647
Long Service Leave - Current	350,720	321,114	350,720	321,114
	466,739	420,761	466,739	420,761
Note 15: Provisions				
Long Service Leave - Non-current	40,376	31,866	40,376	31,866
	40,376	31,866	40,376	31,866

Provision is made for the group's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to balance date. Employee benefits that are expected to be settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled, plus related on-costs. Employee benefits payable later than one year have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits. In determining the liability, consideration is given to employee wage increases and the probability that the employee may satisfy vesting requirements. Those cashflows are discounted using market yields on national government bonds with terms to maturity that match the expected timing of cashflows.

Note 16: Related Party Transactions

Transactions with parent entity

The company is wholly owned by the Toowoomba Regional Council. During the year, Toowoomba Regional Council contributed \$726,870 (2021: \$1,220,651) to the company as funding from the Council.

During the 2022 financial year, the company paid \$30,940 (2021: \$390,422) to Toowoomba Regional Council for building rent, motor vehicle rent and insurance.

During the 2022 financial year, the company received \$131,123 (2021: \$99,946) from Toowoomba Regional Council for services provided.

Transactions between related parties are on normal commercial terms and conditions no more favourable to those available to other parties unless otherwise stated.

Transactions with controlled entities

During the year the Company received \$3,695 (2021: \$nil) from Empire Theatre Projects Pty Ltd.

During the year the Company paid \$42 (2021: \$nil) to Empire Theatre Projects Pty Ltd.

In the 2021 year Empire Theatres Pty Ltd forgave debt to the value of \$160,000 to Empire Theatre Projects Pty Ltd.

The company received \$22,467 (2021: \$8,004) for services provided from Empire Theatres Foundation. These transactions were at arm's length and were in the normal course of operations.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 16: Related Party Transactions (continued)

Transactions with Key Management Personnel (KMP)

KMP includes the Directors of the company and controlled entities and the executive management team. KMP compensation paid or accrued, during the 2021/22 year comprises:

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2022	2021	2022	2021
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Short-Term Employee Benefits	147,718	149,810	147,718	149,810
Post-Employment Benefits	16,661	16,020	16,661	16,020
Long-Term Benefits	3,379	3,303	3,379	3,303
	167,758	169,132	167,758	169,132

Directors Fees \$34,160 (2021: \$16,980)

Transactions with Other Related Parties

The consolidated entity received income of \$52,104 in 2022 year (2021: \$38,980) and incurred expenses of \$6,433 from companies that are related parties to Key Management Personnel. These transactions were at arm's length and were in the normal course of operations.

During year the consolidated entity received income of \$34,961 (2021: \$17,740) and incurred expenses of \$350 (2021:350) from Toowoomba and Surat Basin Enterprise Pty Ltd. These transactions were at arm's length and were in the normal course of operations.

Note 17: Events after the Reporting Period

Empire Theatres Foundation is in the process of replacing individual trustees of Empire Theatres Foundation Ltd with a corporate trustee. The Foundation will then be a controlled entity of Toowoomba Regional Council and no longer a controlled entity of Empire Theatres Pty Ltd.

Note 18: Economic Dependency

The consolidated group is dependent on the ongoing receipt of financial assistance from Toowoomba Regional Council to continue delivering its programs.

Empire Theatres Pty Ltd
ABN 83 086 482 288

Directors' Declaration

In the directors opinion:

- (a) The financial statements and notes set out on pages 4 to 14 are in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:
 - (i) complying with Australian Accounting Standards – General Purpose Financial Statements – Simplified Disclosures, the Corporations Regulations 2001 and other mandatory professional reporting requirements; and
 - (ii) giving a true and fair view of the consolidated entity's financial position as at 30 June 2022 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date, and.
- (b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Directors.

Date: 29/09/22
Toowoomba



Andrew Wielandt
Chairman



Thomas Armagnacq
Director

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of Empire Theatres Pty Ltd

Report on the audit of the financial report

Opinion

I have audited the accompanying financial report of Empire Theatres Pty Ltd (the parent) and its controlled entities (the group).

In my opinion, the financial report:

- a) gives a true and fair view of the parent's and group's financial position as at 30 June 2022, and their financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended
- b) complies with the *Corporations Act 2001*, the *Corporations Regulations 2001* and *Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures*.

The financial report comprises the statements of financial position as at 30 June 2022, the statements of comprehensive income, statements of changes in equity and statements of cash flows for the year then ended, notes to the financial statements including summaries of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the directors' declaration.

Basis for opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with the *Auditor-General Auditing Standards*, which incorporate the *Australian Auditing Standards*. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of my report.

I am independent of the parent and the group in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's *APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code and the *Auditor-General Auditing Standards*. I am also independent of the parent and the group in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Other information

Other information comprises financial and non-financial information (other than the audited financial report). At the date of this auditor's report, the available other information in the Empire Theatres Pty Ltd's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2022 was the director's report.

Those charged with governance are responsible for the other information.

My opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with my audit of the financial report, my responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or my knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact.

I have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the company for the financial report

The company's directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, the *Corporations Regulations 2001* and Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures, and for such internal control as the company's directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

The company's directors are also responsible for assessing the parent's and group's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the parent or group or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

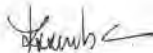
My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the parent's and group's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the group.

- Conclude on the appropriateness of the parent's and group's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the parent's or group's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. I base my conclusions on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the parent or group to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the group to express an opinion on the financial report. I am responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the audit of the group. I remain solely responsible for my audit opinion.

I communicate with the company's directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.



Sri Narasimhan
as delegate of the Auditor-General

29 September 2022

Queensland Audit Office
Brisbane

Empire Theatres Foundation
ABN 69 130 487 365

Financial Statements
For the period ended 30 June 2022

Empire Theatres Foundation
ABN 69 130 487 365

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These financial statements are financial statements for Empire Theatres Foundation. The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars.

Empire Theatres Foundation registered office and principal place of business is:

54-56 Neil Street
Toowoomba QLD 4350

The financial statements were authorised for issue by the Trustees on 29 September 2022.
The Trustees have the power to amend and reissue the financial statements.

Statement of Comprehensive Income
 For the year ended 30 June 2022

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
INCOME			
Sponsorships	3	45,178	46,222
Donations	3	11,628	5,634
Total Revenue		56,806	51,856
Other Income	4	4,002	7,138
Total Income		60,808	58,995
EXPENSES			
Materials and Services	5	57,159	24,606
Auditor's Remuneration	6	4,000	4,000
Total Expenses		61,159	28,606
Net Result		(351)	30,389
Total Comprehensive Expense/Income		(351)	30,389

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

Statement of Financial Position
 As at 30 June 2022

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	7	857,699	109,144
Trade and Other Receivables	8	12,465	12,642
Financial Assets	9	-	750,000
Total Current Assets		<u>870,164</u>	<u>871,786</u>
Total Assets		<u>870,164</u>	<u>871,786</u>
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Trade and Other Payables	10	5,990	7,764
Other Liabilities	11	15,879	15,375
Total Current Liabilities		<u>21,869</u>	<u>23,139</u>
Total Liabilities		<u>21,869</u>	<u>23,139</u>
Net Assets		<u>848,295</u>	<u>848,646</u>
EQUITY			
Accumulated Surplus		848,295	848,646
Total Equity		<u>848,295</u>	<u>848,646</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

Empire Theatres Foundation
ABN 69 130 487 365

Statement of Changes in Equity
For the year ended 30 June 2022

	Accumulated Surplus \$	Total \$
BALANCE AT 1 JULY 2020	<u>818,258</u>	<u>818,258</u>
Comprehensive Income		
Operating result	30,389	30,389
Total Comprehensive Income for the year	<u>30,389</u>	<u>30,389</u>
BALANCE AS AT 30 JUNE 2021	<u>848,646</u>	<u>848,646</u>
Comprehensive Expense/Income		
Operating result	(351)	(351)
Total Comprehensive Expense/Income for the year	<u>(351)</u>	<u>(351)</u>
BALANCE AS AT 30 JUNE 2022	<u>848,295</u>	<u>848,295</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

Empire Theatres Foundation
 ABN 69 130 487 365

Statement of Cash Flows
 For the year ended 30 June 2022

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts from Donations and Sponsorships		57,487	47,025
Interest Received		4,002	7,138
Payments to Suppliers		(62,933)	(28,907)
Net Cash Inflow/(Outflow) from Operating Activities		<u>(1,444)</u>	<u>25,256</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Maturity/(Purchase) of Investments		<u>750,000</u>	<u>(750,000)</u>
Net Cash Inflow/(Outflow) from Investing Activities		<u>750,000</u>	<u>(750,000)</u>
Net Cash and Cash Equivalents Held		<u>748,556</u>	<u>(724,744)</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the Beginning of the Financial Year		<u>109,144</u>	<u>833,888</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the End of the Financial Year	7	<u>857,699</u>	<u>109,144</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements cover Empire Theatres Foundation (the Foundation), a charity registered under the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

Basis of Preparation

These general purpose financial statements are prepared in accordance with the disclosure requirements of Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures. The financial statements comply with the recognition and measurement requirements of all Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations applicable to not-for-profit entities, the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013* and the presentation requirements in those standards as modified by AASB 1060.

The financial statements are prepared on an accrual basis, with the exception of the statement of cash flows which is prepared on a cash basis. The historical cost convention is used as the measurement.

Presentation matters

Amounts included in the financial statements are in Australian dollars. Amounts are rounded to the nearest dollar. Comparative information has been restated where necessary to be consistent with disclosures in the current period.

Assets are classified as 'current' where their carrying amount is expected to be realised within 12 months after the reporting date. Liabilities are classified as 'current' when they are due to be settled within 12 months after the reporting date, or the company does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement to beyond 12 months after the reporting date. All other assets and liabilities are classified as non-current.

Income Tax

The Foundation has been advised by the Australian Taxation Office that it is exempt from income tax. The Foundation is a registered deductible gift recipient as endorsed by the ATO for tax purposes.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues and expenses are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the statement of financial position are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

Key Accounting Estimates and Judgements

The Trustees evaluate estimates and judgements incorporated into the financial statements based on historical knowledge and best available current information. Estimates assume a reasonable expectation of future events and are based on current trends and economic data, obtained both externally and within the Foundation.

There are no key estimates. The trustees believe that all receivables will be collected in full, and therefore no provision for impairment has been made.

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

New and Revised Accounting Standards

The Foundation adopts all of the new and revised Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) that are relevant to its operations and effective for the current reporting period. The adoption of the new and revised accounting standards has not resulted in any significant impact on the reported financial position, financial performance or cash flows of the Foundation.

AASB 1060 General Purpose Financial Statements – Simplified Disclosures for For-Profit and Not-for-Profit Tier 2 Entities - AASB 1060 introduces the Simplified Disclosures framework for general purpose financial statements prepared by and for entities reporting under Tier 2 of the Differential Reporting Framework. This new disclosure framework applies to the company. While most of the disclosures remain the same as 2020-21, there have been some changes by way of additional or reduced disclosures reflected in these financial statements.

The new accounting standard does not change any recognition or measurement requirements, and the company's financial statements continue to comply with the recognition and measurement requirements of all applicable accounting standards and interpretations.

No accounting pronouncements were adopted in the 2021-22 financial year. No voluntary changes in accounting policies occurred during the 2021-22 financial year.

Authorisation of Financial Statements for Issue

The financial statements are authorised for issue by the Trustees at the date of signing the Trustee Certificate.

Note 2: Impacts from COVID-19 Pandemic

Impact of COVID-19 on the Foundation in the financial year were minimal. Bursaries are awarded to candidates to undertake specialist learning in their chosen disciplines. The candidates courses are paid for and no compensation is received by the candidate. During the financial year the Foundation awarded 30 bursaries, however only 24 recipients were able to attend their courses due to COVID-19 restrictions.

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Note 3: Sponsorships and Donations		
Sponsorships	45,178	46,222
Donations	11,628	5,634
	<u>56,806</u>	<u>51,856</u>

Sponsorships and Donations	Nature and timing of revenue recognition
Sponsorships	The Foundation receives sponsorship from a number of entities. In return for sponsorship, the Foundation must meet a number of requirements. For example, they are to include the sponsors logo in correspondence, mail outs and websites; they give access to the lounge bar during a major production in the year and provide drinks for their sponsors and guests; they provide tickets for non major events and give special invitations to events. Sponsorship revenue falls under the scope of AASB 15 as it is an enforceable contract with sufficiently specific performance obligations. Additionally, goods and services are transferred to the customer. The revenue is recognised over the contract period which is usually 1 year. Where invoices are received quarterly, revenue is recognised on a straight line basis over the quarter.

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 3: Sponsorships and Donations(Continued)

Donations	The Foundation receives donations from the public. These are used for Youth Bursaries which offer the opportunity for young creative people to undertake short courses at leading Australian performing arts educational institutes. There are no obligations around the donations and they are never refunded. Donations are recognised under AASB1058 when received.
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	2022 \$	2021 \$
Note 4: Other Income		
Interest - Cheque Account	1	3
Interest - Online Saver	741	2,743
Interest - Term Deposit	3,260	4,392
	<u>4,002</u>	<u>7,138</u>

Other Income	Nature and timing of income recognition
Interest received	Interest received is recognised on a time proportional basis taking into account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

Note 5: Materials and Services

Bursary Expenses	20,748	-
Course Expenses	17,136	3,093
Sponsorship Expenses	9,845	11,775
Administration Expense	9,430	9,738
	<u>57,159</u>	<u>24,606</u>

Note 6: Auditor's Remuneration

Remuneration of the auditor	<u>4,000</u>	<u>4,000</u>
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Total audit fees payable to the Queensland Audit Office relating to the 2021/22 financial statements are quoted to be \$4,000 (2021: \$4,000). There are no non-audit services included in this amount.

Note 7: Cash and Cash Equivalents

HBS - Cheque Account	4,977	41,200
HBS - Online Saver	513,891	60,381
HBS - Trading Account	337,645	3,433
HBS - Youth Bursary	1,186	4,130
	<u>857,699</u>	<u>109,144</u>

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with financial institutions, other short-term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value, and bank overdrafts.

Note 8: Trade and Other Receivables

Trade Debtors	12,465	8,250
Other Debtors	-	4,392
	<u>12,465</u>	<u>12,642</u>

Receivables include amounts due from customers for goods sold and services performed in the ordinary course of business. Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2022

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Note 9: Financial Assets		
Held to Maturity Investment	<u>-</u>	<u>750,000</u>

Held-to-maturity investments were invested at an interest rate of 0.50% (2021: 0.95%)

Financial assets contain held-to-maturity investments that have fixed maturities greater than three months, and it is the Foundation's intention to hold these investments to maturity. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost. Gains or losses are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income through the amortisation process and when the financial asset is derecognised.

Note 10: Trade and Other Payables

Trade Payables	-	1,045
Other Payables and Accrued Expenses	5,990	6,719
	<u>5,990</u>	<u>7,764</u>

Trade and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the Foundation during the reporting period that remains unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amount normally being paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

Note 11: Other Liabilities

Unearned Income	15,879	15,375
	<u>15,879</u>	<u>15,375</u>

Note 12: Related Party Transactions

Transactions with parent entity

The Foundation's operations are governed by Empire Theatres Pty Ltd, and it is also a controlled entity of Empire Theatres Pty Ltd. Empire Theatres Pty Ltd also controls Empire Theatre Projects Pty Ltd. Empire Theatres Pty Ltd is wholly owned by the Toowoomba Regional Council.

During the year the Foundation incurred expenses of \$22,467 (2021: \$8,004) for services provided by Empire Theatres Pty Ltd. These transactions were at arm's length and were in the normal course of operations.

Transactions between related parties are on normal commercial terms and conditions no more favourable to those available to other parties unless otherwise stated.

Transactions with Key Management Personnel (KMP)

KMP includes the Trustee's of the Foundation KMP compensation paid or accrued, during the 2021/22 year comprises:

During the year \$3,000 was paid to the trustee members for their service (2021: \$2,750).

Note 13: Events after the reporting period

The Trustees are not aware of any events after the 30 June 2022 that will have a material impact on this financial report.

Empire Theatres Foundation Ltd
ABN 69 130 487 365

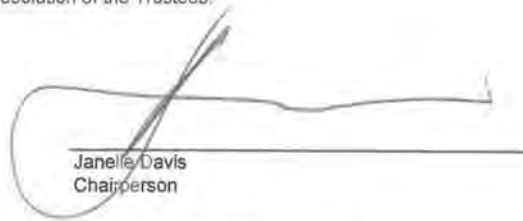
Trustee Certificate

The Trustees of the Foundation certify that:

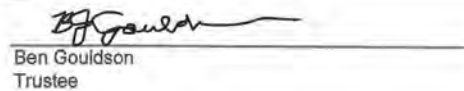
- 1 The financial statements and notes, are in accordance with the Australian Charities and *Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013* and comply with Australian Accounting Standards – General Purpose Financial Statements – Simplified Disclosures, and other mandatory professional reporting requirements; and
- 2 In the Trustees' opinion, subject to ongoing financial support from Empire Theatres Pty Ltd, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Empire Theatres Foundation will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This certification is made in accordance with a resolution of the Trustees.

Date: 29.09.22
Toowoomba



Janelle Davis
Chairperson



Ben Gouldson
Trustee

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Trustees of Empire Theatres Foundation

Report on the audit of the financial report

Opinion

I have audited the accompanying financial report of Empire Theatres Foundation.

In my opinion, the financial report:

- a) gives a true and fair view of the trust's financial position as at 30 June 2022, and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended
- b) complies with the Trust Deed dated 28 June 2021, *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013* and *Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures*

The financial report comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2022, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes to the financial statements including summaries of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the trustees' declaration.

Basis for opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with the *Auditor-General Auditing Standards*, which incorporate the *Australian Auditing Standards*. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of my report.

I am independent of the trust in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's *APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code and the *Auditor-General Auditing Standards*.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Responsibilities of the trust for the financial report

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with the Trust Deed dated 28 June 2021, the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013* and *Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures*, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

The trustees are also responsible for assessing the trust's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the trust or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the trust's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trust.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trust's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the trust's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. I base my conclusions on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the trust to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the trustees' regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.



Sri Narasimhan
as delegate of the Auditor-General

29 September 2022

Queensland Audit Office
Brisbane

Empire Theatre Projects Pty Ltd
ABN 61 135 705 878

Final Financial Statements
For the period ended 23 November 2021

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These financial statements are financial statements for Empire Theatre Projects Pty Ltd. The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars.

Empire Theatre Projects Pty Ltd is a company limited by shares, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. Its registered office and principal place of business is:

54-56 Neil Street
Toowoomba QLD 4350

A description of the nature of the company's operations and its principal activities is included in the Directors' report on pages 1 to 2, both of which are not part of these financial statements.

The financial statements were authorised for issue by the Directors on 29 September 2022. The Directors have the power to amend and reissue the financial statements.

Directors' Report

The Directors present their report on the Empire Theatre Projects Pty Ltd (the company) for the period ended 23 November 2021.

Directors

The names of the Directors in office at any time during, or since the end of the financial year are:

Mr A Wielandt
Mr M O'Connell

Directors have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

Principal Activities

The company was established to increase the breadth and depth of the community's connection with the performing arts in the Toowoomba Regional Council area. The company was committed to delivering arts programs in the region providing excellent education resources to schools in the region, producing contemporary new work and facilitating community based events. Through the Empire Youth Arts Programme, the company offered workshops in Toowoomba and at regional centres including Dalby and the Lockyer Valley, holiday workshops, education resource programs and the elite youth performance program. Revenue streams come from productions, sale of merchandise, food and drinks, grants and sponsorship.

Significant Changes in the State of Affairs

On the 20 September 2021, it was resolved that the company be wound up. All members of the company agreed to the winding up of and cessation of the trading company.

The Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) published notice of the proposed voluntary deregistration, with 23 November 2021 being the date of deregistration of the company. As a part of this process, the company's assets and liabilities have been transferred to the parent at their carrying values. Consequently, the financial statements have been prepared on a basis consistent with going concern. This is the final financial report prepared for the company.

Review of Operations

The company reported \$nil profit for the period ended 23 November 2021, (2021: \$194,872 Profit). The company is exempt from income tax.

Environmental Regulation

The company's operations were not subject to any significant environmental regulation under a law of the Commonwealth or of a state or territory.

Dividends

The Directors did not recommend or declare the payment of a dividend during the year (2021: \$nil).

Indemnification of Officers

No indemnities have been given or insurance premiums paid, during or since the end of the financial year, for any person who is or has been an officer or auditor of the company. However, Directors and Officers are insured under the Toowoomba Regional Council's insurance policy.

Empire Theatre Projects Pty Ltd
ABN 61 135 705 878

Directors' Report

Proceedings on Behalf of the Company

No proceedings have been brought or intervened in on behalf of the company with leave of the Court under section 237 of the Corporations Act 2001.

Auditor's Independence Declaration

A copy of the Auditor's Independence Declaration as required under section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001 is set out on page 3.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Directors:

Date: 29.09.22
Toowoomba



Andrew Fieland
Director



Mark O'Connell
Director

AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

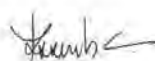
To the Directors of Empire Theatre Projects Pty Ltd

This auditor's independence declaration has been provided pursuant to s.307C of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

Independence declaration

As lead auditor for the audit of Empire Theatre Projects Pty Ltd for the period ended 23 November 2021, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- a) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit
- b) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.



29 September 2022

Sri Narasimhan
as delegate of the Auditor-General

Queensland Audit Office
Brisbane

Empire Theatre Projects Pty Ltd
 ABN 61 135 705 878

Statement of Comprehensive Income
 For the period ended 23 November 2021

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
INCOME			
Grants and Sponsorship	2	-	479,016
Total Revenue		<u>-</u>	<u>479,016</u>
Other Income			
Debt Forgiven		-	160,000
Interest Received		-	2,607
Total Income		<u>-</u>	<u>641,623</u>
EXPENSES			
RASN and RADF Expenses	3	-	445,363
Materials and Services	4	-	1,263
Finance Costs		-	124
Total Expenses		<u>-</u>	<u>446,750</u>
Operating result for the year		<u>-</u>	<u>194,872</u>
Other Comprehensive Income		-	-
Total Comprehensive Income attributable to the Members of the Company		<u>-</u>	<u>194,872</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

Empire Theatre Projects Pty Ltd
ABN 61 135 705 878

Statement of Financial Position
As at 23 November 2021

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	5	-	1,517
Trade and Other Receivables	6	-	2,212
Total Current Assets		-	3,729
Total Assets		-	3,729
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Trade and Other Payables	7	-	3,728
Total Current Liabilities		-	3,728
Total Liabilities		-	3,728
Net Assets		-	1
EQUITY			
Contributed Equity		-	1
Accumulated Surplus/Deficit		-	-
Total Equity		-	1

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

Empire Theatre Projects Pty Ltd
 ABN 61 135 705 878

Statement of Changes in Equity
 For the period ended 23 November 2021

	Contributed Equity	Accumulated Surplus/ Deficit	Total
	\$	\$	\$
BALANCE AT 1 JULY 2020	1	(194,872)	(194,871)
Comprehensive Income			
Operating Result	-	194,872	194,872
Total Comprehensive Income for the year	<u>-</u>	<u>194,872</u>	<u>194,872</u>
BALANCE AS AT 30 JUNE 2021	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>
Comprehensive Income			
Operating Result	-	-	-
Total Comprehensive Income for the year	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Transfers to Parent Entity	(1)	-	(1)
BALANCE AS AT 23 NOVEMBER 2021	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

Empire Theatre Projects Pty Ltd
ABN 61 135 705 878

Statement of Cash Flows
For the period ended 23 November 2021

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts from customers		2,212	476,804
Interest Received		-	2,607
Payments to Suppliers and Employees		<u>(3,728)</u>	<u>(725,868)</u>
Net Cash (Outflow) from Operating Activities		<u>(1,516)</u>	<u>(246,257)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Repayment of Loans		<u>-</u>	<u>(222,385)</u>
Net Cash (Outflow) from Investing Activities		<u>-</u>	<u>(222,385)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Transfers to Parent Entity		<u>(1)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Cash (Outflow) from Financing Activities		<u>(1)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents		<u>(1,517)</u>	<u>(468,642)</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the Beginning of the Financial Year		<u>1,517</u>	<u>470,160</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the End of the Financial Year	5	<u>-</u>	<u>1,517</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

Empire Theatre Projects Pty Ltd
ABN 61 135 705 878

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the period ended 23 November 2021

Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements cover the Empire Theatre Projects Pty Ltd (the company) as an individual

Basis of Preparation

These general purpose financial statements are prepared in accordance with the disclosure requirements of Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures. The financial statements comply with the recognition and measurement requirements of all Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations applicable to not-for-profit entities, the *Corporations Act 2001* and the presentation requirements in those standards as modified by AASB 1060.

The financial statements are prepared on an accrual basis, with the exception of the statement of cash flows which is prepared on a cash basis. The historical cost convention is used as the measurement.

Presentation Matters

Reporting period referred in the financial statements is the period ended 23 November 2021, as the company was deregistered on this date.

Amounts included in the financial statements are in Australian dollars. Amounts are rounded to the nearest dollar. Comparative information reflects the audited 2020 -21 financial statements.

Assets are classified as 'current' where their carrying amount is expected to be realised within 12 months after the reporting date. Liabilities are classified as 'current' when they are due to be settled within 12 months after the reporting date, or the company does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement to beyond 12 months after the reporting date. All other assets and liabilities are classified as non-current.

Going Concern and Continuation

As referred to in Directors' report, it was resolved that the company be wound up. As such, the financial statements have been prepared on a basis consistent with going concern. This is the final financial report prepared for the company.

Income tax

No provision for income tax has been raised as the company is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues and expenses are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the statement of financial position are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

Key Accounting Estimates and Judgement

The Directors evaluate estimates and judgements incorporated into the financial statements based on historical knowledge and best available current information. Estimates assume a reasonable expectation of future events and are based on current trends and economic data, obtained both externally and within the company.

There are no key estimates.

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the period ended 23 November 2021

Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

New and Revised Accounting Standards

The company adopts all of the new and revised Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) that are relevant to its operations and effective for the current reporting period. The adoption of the new and revised accounting standards has not resulted in any significant impact on the reported financial position, financial performance or cash flows of the company.

AASB 1060 General Purpose Financial Statements – Simplified Disclosures for For-Profit and Not-for-Profit Tier 2 Entities - AASB 1060 introduces the Simplified Disclosures framework for general purpose financial statements prepared entities reporting under Tier 2 of the Differential Reporting Framework. This new disclosure framework applies to the company. While most of the disclosures remain the same as 2020-21, there have been some changes by way of additional or reduced disclosures reflected in these financial statements. The new accounting standard does not change any recognition or measurement requirements, and the company's financial statements continue to comply with the recognition and measurement requirements of all applicable accounting standards and interpretations.

No accounting pronouncements were early adopted in the 2021-22 financial year. No voluntary changes in accounting policies occurred during the 2021-22 financial year.

Authorisation of Financial Statements for Issue

The financial statements are authorised for issue by the Directors at the date of signing the Directors' Declaration.

Notes to the Financial Statements
 For the period ended 23 November 2021

Note 2: Grants	2022 \$	2021 \$
Regional Art Services Network (RASN) Income	<u>-</u>	<u>479,016</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>479,016</u>

Products and Services	Nature and timing of revenue recognition
Grants	Grants, are recognised as revenue when the company obtains control over them, which is usually upon receipt of funds. Where grants are received that are restricted in nature, revenue is recognised as the various performance obligations under the funding agreement are fulfilled.

Note 3: RASN Expenses

RASN Expenses	<u>-</u>	<u>445,363</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>445,363</u>

Regional Arts Services Network (RASN) is a fund received from Arts Queensland and is an approach to delivering state-wide art services. They are to be distributed to different organisations who apply for funding to support regional arts. The expenses relate to the costs involved in delivering on-the-ground art services to the South West Queensland region to drive regional development and improve arts outcomes.

Note 4: Materials and Services

Other	<u>-</u>	<u>1,263</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,263</u>

Note 5: Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash at bank	<u>-</u>	<u>1,517</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,517</u>

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with financial institutions, other short-term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value, and bank overdrafts.

Note 6: Trade and Other Receivables

GST Refund	<u>-</u>	<u>2,212</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>2,212</u>

Receivables include amounts due from customers for goods sold and services performed in the ordinary course of business. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

Empire Theatre Projects Pty Ltd
ABN 61 135 705 878

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the period ended 23 November 2021

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Note 7: Trade and Other Payables		
Other Payables and Accrued Expenses	<u> </u>	<u>3,728</u>
	<u> </u>	<u>3,728</u>

Trade and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the company during the reporting period that remains unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amount normally being paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

Note 8: Related Party Transactions

Transactions with parent entity

The company was wholly owned by Empire Theatres Pty Ltd.

During the financial year, the company received \$nil (2021: \$12,832) from Toowoomba Regional Council for services provided.

During the financial year, the company received \$42 (2021: \$nil) from Empire Theatres Pty Ltd.

During the financial year, the company paid \$3,695 (2021: \$nil) to Empire Theatres Pty Ltd.

Transactions between related parties are on normal commercial terms and conditions no more favourable to those available to other parties unless otherwise stated.

Transactions with Key Management Personnel (KMP)

KMP includes the Directors of the company and the executive management team. The executive management team includes the General Manager. There was no remuneration paid to KMP in the year (2021: \$nil).

Empire Theatre Projects Pty Ltd
ABN 61 135 705 878

Directors' Declaration

In the Directors opinion:

- (a) The financial statements and notes set out on pages 4 to 11 are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, including:
 - (i) complying with Australian Accounting Standards – General Purpose Financial Statements – Simplified Disclosures, the Corporations Regulations 2001 and other mandatory professional reporting requirements; and
 - (ii) giving a true and fair view of the entity's financial position as at 23 November 2021 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Directors.

Date: 29.09.22,
Toowoomba



Andrew Vinjandt
Director



Mark O'Connell
Director

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of Empire Theatre Projects Pty Ltd

Report on the audit of the financial report

Opinion

I have audited the accompanying financial report of Empire Theatre Projects Pty Ltd.

In my opinion, the financial report:

- a) gives a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 23 November 2021, and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended
- b) complies with the *Corporations Act 2001*, the *Corporations Regulations 2001* and *Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures*.

The financial report comprises the statement of financial position as at 23 November 2021, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes to the financial statements including summaries of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the directors' declaration.

Basis for opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with the *Auditor-General Auditing Standards*, which incorporate the *Australian Auditing Standards*. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of my report.

I am independent of the company in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's *APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code and the *Auditor-General Auditing Standards*. I am also independent of the company in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Emphasis of matter – basis of preparation

I draw attention to Note 1 in the financial report, which identifies that the directors have wound up the company on 23 November 2021 and transferred the company's operations to the parent entity, Empire Theatres Pty Ltd. Because of this, the financial report is prepared on a basis that is consistent with a going concern basis. My opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Other information

Other information comprises financial and non-financial information (other than the audited financial report). At the date of this auditor's report, the available other information in the Empire Theatre Projects Pty Ltd's annual report for the year ended 23 November 2021 was the director's report.

Those charged with governance are responsible for the other information.

My opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with my audit of the financial report, my responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or my knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact.

I have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the company for the financial report

The company's directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, the *Corporations Regulations 2001* and Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures, and for such internal control as the company's directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

The company's directors are also responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the parent or group or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

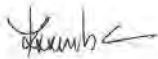
My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.

- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the company.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the company's directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.



29 September 2022

Sri Narasimhan
as delegate of the Auditor-General

Queensland Audit Office
Brisbane

This year's Box Office sales were **\$1,520,338**
Operating result for the year : Consolidated - profit of **\$59,124**



NUMBER OF BABIES BORN TO THE
MARKETING DEPARTMENT

VOICES ON STAGE FOR
43 SING ON

 **19,399** FACEBOOK
FOLLOWERS

**EMPIRE
25**

25 YEARS SINCE THE REOPENING OF
THE EMPIRE THEATRE IN 1997



NUMBER OF TIMES AN EMPIRE YOUTH ARTS
STUDENT HAS WON THE QUEENSLAND THEATRE
YOUNG PLAYWRIGHT AWARD AS OF 2021

 **5,091** INSTAGRAM
FOLLOWERS

111,824 
OVERALL ATTENDANCE

1100 
PEOPLE ATTENDED THRIVE ON
ARTS 2021 ACROSS THE 4 DAYS

 **1,609,015** EMAILS
SENT

 **WE WILL
ROCK YOU**
314 LIGHTS USED
537 LIGHTING CUES

4 DAYS IT TOOK TO
SELL OUT PAUL
KELLY'S SHOW

678 EVENTS
HELD THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

 **\$82,928**

IN FUNDING SECURED FROM STATE AND FEDERAL
GOVERNMENTS FOR THE INAUGURAL ANNUAL DANCE AFFAIR
FEATURED 86 DANCE PARTICIPANTS
AGED 4 YEARS TO 93 YEARS





ANNUAL
GENERAL MEETING

MONDAY 17 OCTOBER, 2022

56 NEIL STREET TOOWOOMBA, QUEENSLAND 4350