

FLINDERS QUARTET

Development Report

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May 28, 2020

Overview

The COVID-19 Pandemic crisis has had an unprecedented impact across all operations of Flinders Quartet from ticketing, programming, grants and philanthropy. Philanthropy Australia estimates that private donations will drop to 2012 levels or dwindle to nothing as people struggle with the economic impacts of social isolation and economic shutdown. Some donors have mentioned a 50% reduction in income, a result of the poor performance on the stock exchange. This is obviously going to have a major impact on their ability to give. Many Trusts and Foundations are experiencing a huge drop in income across equity and share portfolios. The COVID-19 crisis has come on the back of major giving towards the bushfire crisis earlier in the year which has depleted philanthropic organisations' funds. Many charitable foundations are dipping deep to find urgent funds to support the current crisis.

Many sectors have had targeted support from the federal government. The Arts unfortunately, has not been in this cohort. Many charitable trusts, foundations, federal and state funding bodies have recognised the hardship being experienced across the arts industry and have released special emergency COVID-19 focused grant rounds. The cost of these specialised rounds however, is the cancellation of future expected grant rounds.

FQ has been working hard and fast to find ways to share our work safely in the digital arena and to evolve our practice to embrace digital delivery. With the anticipated reduction in private giving, the fundraising focus has been on securing grants supporting organisational adaptation to the new COVID conditions. We will be mounting a light EFY campaign in the coming days focussing on transforming the quartet's digital capacity to ensure ongoing activity and audience engagement. This campaign will have a \$25,000 target.

Donations

\$40,195 has been received through private giving YTD. The majority of this was contributions from the Fifth String Donors, towards the Hear Her Voice Campaign championing women composers, but there has also been an upturn in smaller donations as patrons donated the price of their June concert tickets after COVID-19 closed venues.

Grants

Trusts and Foundations \$90,000

Regional Engagement Program	Robert Salzer Foundation	\$5,000
JNQP - Regional Mentoring	CYBEC	\$20,000
COVID-19 Relief Grant	Playking	\$40,000
Organisation Evaluation	HMST	\$25,000

The Robert Salzer Foundation and CYBEC support was achieved before COVID-19 for program activities.

Additional applications awaiting assessment include: Besen (\$10,000), Ian Potter (\$80,000), and William Angliss Charitable Fund (\$12,000).

Government Grants \$150,236

FQ has substantially increased government support from \$21,000 in 2019. This funding has come from across all levels of government (Federal \$67,236 - State \$41,000 - Local \$16,000) and to support both the Hear Her Voice initiative and COVID relief funding. We are also awaiting the outcome of our Creative Victoria - COVID-19 Sustaining Creative Workers application for \$10,000.

Hear Her Voice	CPA Plus1 (matched funding)	\$25,000
Hear Her Voice	City of Melbourne	\$12,000
Hear Her Voice	Creative Victoria	\$21,000
Future Focused (Hear Her Voice)	OZCO Future Focused	\$20,000
Touring support made available for general usage	Creative Vic Touring	\$10,000
Digital content	Monash	\$1,000
Organisational evaluation	HMST	\$25,000
COVID-19 Stimulus	Vic Business Grant	\$10,000
COVID-19 Loss of income support	OZCO Survive	\$5,000
Digital innovation	OZCO Adapt	\$17,236
COVID-19 Quick response	City of Melbourne	\$4,000

With the influx of COVID-19 support and the anticipated downturn in presented fees, ticket sales and private giving, our focus will be on attracting as much support as possible during this period to stabilise the reduction in income over the coming year or two. Seeking funding support to allow the quartet to fully explore and embrace digital delivery will build sustainability and organisational capacity regardless of the inability to perform live.