

Sidney Myer Fund Annual Report 2022-23

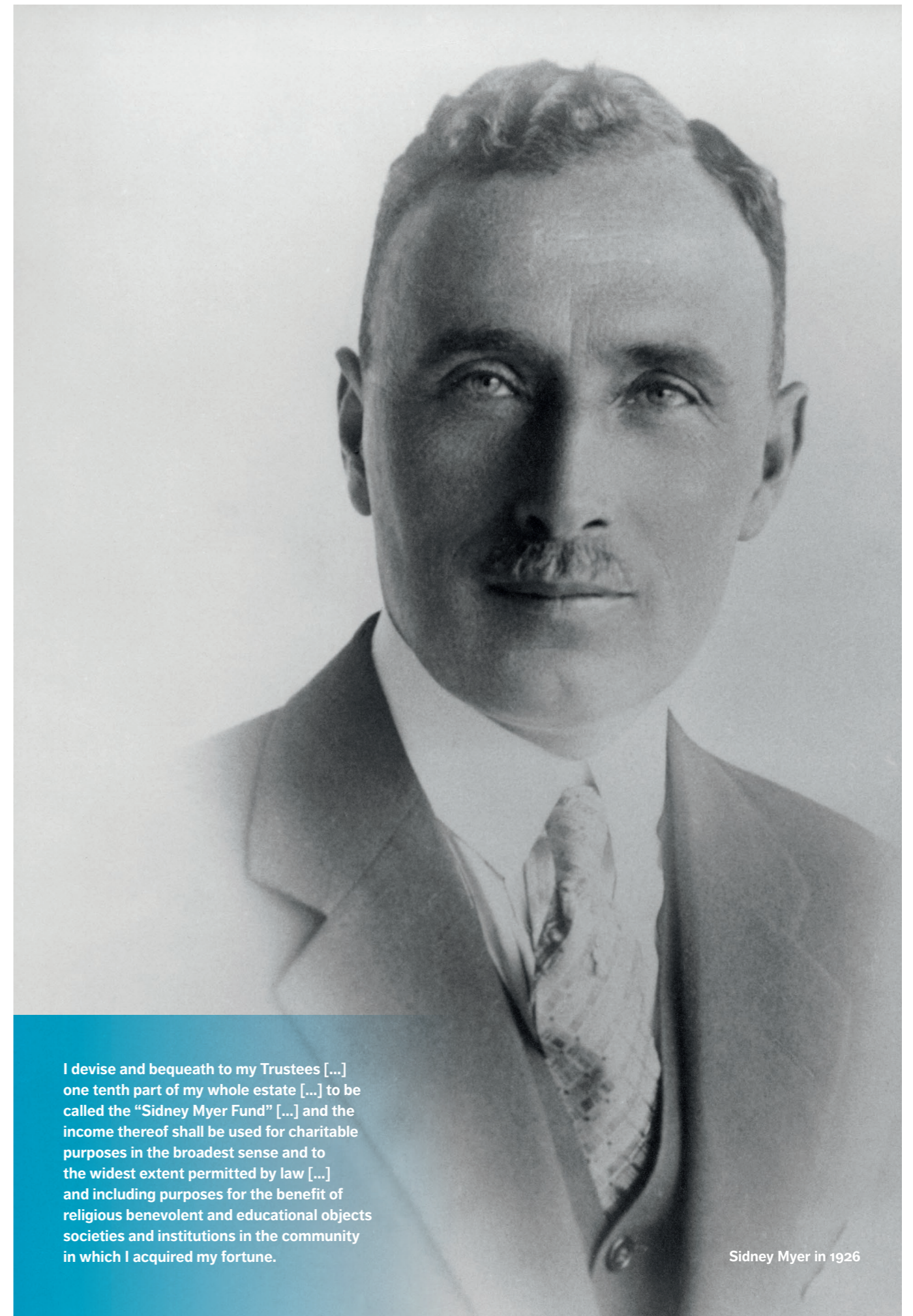


Sidney Myer

SIDNEY MYER FUND

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I devise and bequeath to my Trustees [...] one tenth part of my whole estate [...] to be called the "Sidney Myer Fund" [...] and the income thereof shall be used for charitable purposes in the broadest sense and to the widest extent permitted by law [...] and including purposes for the benefit of religious benevolent and educational objects societies and institutions in the community in which I acquired my fortune.

Sidney Myer in 1926

Sidney Myer Fund Chairman's Address

This annual report caps not only the end of a year, but also the end of a five-year strategic period. While looking ahead and shaping our strategy for the next five years, we have been reflecting on what has been working, where our attention should be, and how we refine and grow the positive impact Sidney Myer Fund has been making in our community for almost 90 years.

Our bedrock is family. I am the youngest grandson of Sidney Myer, and in the many decades since his death the responsibility for maintaining his philanthropic legacy has passed steadily from one Myer generation to the next. Across the various boards and committees of Sidney Myer Fund and The Myer Foundation, my siblings and cousins in the third generation of the family are now happily outnumbered by our children, nieces and nephews in the fourth generation. This inflection has happened across these last five years, a span of time in which we also sadly farewelled my uncle Sidney Baillieu (Bails) Myer AC.

Our overarching grantmaking lenses for the last five years have been climate change and inequality. They remain of enduring criticality to our nation and our world. To paraphrase Epictetus, it is not enough for us merely to state our philosophy, we must embody it. And we have sought to do so in FY23, dedicating \$1.2 million to supporting organisations – ACOSS, First Nations Clean Energy Network and Sydney Alliance – that work at the intersection of climate change and inequality, recognising that our most disadvantaged communities will suffer disproportionately from the consequences of climate disaster and could easily be excluded from the benefits of decarbonisation. Also in FY23, a further \$695,000 was dedicated to climate action through

transfers to The Myer Foundation's Sustainability & Environment Committee, of which Sidney Myer Fund Trustee Dr Anna Foley is now a member.

We invest in talented, courageous people with big ideas. We develop leaders and support innovators. We give artists the time and space to grow our nation's culture. Our Arts & Humanities Committee's Sidney Myer Creative Fellowships have now been awarded to 100 exceptionally talented and courageous artists, creatives and cultural leaders. The Fellowships stand as the pinnacle of cultural awards in this country and have a transformative impact on the lives and creative practices of their recipients and the communities in which they work.

We support organisations with untied, multi-year funding to make them resilient and effective. We place our trust in them so that they can stay focused on achieving their mission and delivering benefit to our community. This isn't just theoretical, either. The COVID-19 pandemic was an unexpected proving ground for untied grants. The organisations we had funded in this way knew they had complete flexibility – without reference to us – to allocate or reallocate funds where they were most needed and with the urgency that the times required.

We look beyond symptoms and grantmaking to address underlying issues through public policy dialogue and advocacy, supporting organisations such as Climateworks Centre and A New Approach during this strategic period. We also look to scale the impact our funding can have through collaboration with others. Those collaborations comprise both major new strategic initiatives such as Social Impact Leadership Australia (SILA), which provides leadership



Andrew Myer AM
Chairman

development and capacity building for the for-purpose sector, and convening emergency response measures during the pandemic, including the National Assistance Program for the Arts, which provided emergency payments to 1,500 individuals left out of the Australian Government's support schemes.

We do all of the above because it is working. It is what is most needed but what is least common. To honour the legacy of the Myer family name and our history, and to maximise the benefit of our grantmaking for the community, our approach has been and will continue to be bold and forward-looking.

Since inception, Sidney Myer Fund has awarded over \$311 million of grants in today's money. Over the last five years alone, we have distributed \$44 million, while growing the corpus from \$205 million to \$262.5 million, ensuring the long-term strength and impact of Sidney Myer's legacy. It continues to be an honour and extraordinary privilege to build on that legacy today and for tomorrow.

Sidney Myer Fund CEO's Introduction

The last five years have seen us mobilise and leverage family engagement across generations, introduce a new approach to grantmaking with multi-year general operating support, support exceptional individuals, and influence policy and practice across a range of areas.

The Myer family's engagement will always be foundational to Sidney Myer Fund and The Myer Foundation – to their nature, operation and governance. Over the last five years, we saw fourth generation members of the family mobilise strongly, cohesively and effectively on the matter of climate change. Their advocacy enhanced the urgency of our commitment to climate action and embedded a collaborative approach to its funding, with Sidney Myer Fund Trustees augmenting the grantmaking budget of The Myer Foundation's Sustainability & Environment Program with over \$1.2 million in additional funds over the last three years and a forward commitment of an additional \$5 million, focused on improving our nation's climate-related public policy settings. Similarly, fourth generation advocacy around mental health saw Trustees contribute \$500,000 across the last two years to the budget of The Myer Foundation's Mental Health Program, with a forward commitment of a further \$2.75 million. Separately, in FY23, SMF Trustees honoured the extraordinary legacy of Baillieu Myer with a grant to Zoos Victoria, an organisation close to Mr Myer's heart, and an internship program dedicated to conservation that is named in his honour.

SMF Trustees' grantmaking funds organisations through multi-year general operating support grants. This approach ensures longer-term funding certainty and flexibility for the

organisations we support, and rightly respects their judgement as to the best deployment of funds. As an example, in FY23, Trustees supported a suite of complementary small to medium arts organisations dedicated to working with communities underrepresented in current cultural funding.

Our support of individuals takes many forms. The Kenneth Myer Innovation Fellowship was a pioneer in its field when it was introduced ten years ago. It has inspired other fellowship programs but remains an exemplar of untied support for individuals, enabling them to test and develop their ideas and initiatives for environmental and social impact.

Our support for change-making individuals continues with Social Impact Leadership Australia (SILA), which has so far provided 72 for-purpose CEOs with an unprecedented professional development structure that challenges them, connects them to their peers, and gives them the time and resources to reflect deeply on their role and organisation, and to return to the office refreshed.

SILA is also an excellent example of our strategic focus on what happens beyond grantmaking – the role of philanthropy to convene and collaborate, and support improved public policy dialogue and advocacy. SILA is an initiative that brings together funding from Sidney Myer Fund, The Myer Foundation, Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation and Paul Ramsay Foundation, and a wonderful delivery partner in the Centre for Social Impact UNSW, to address, through a powerful partnership, a capacity-building gap in the for-purpose sector. On a public policy front, timely support for ACOSS



Leonard Vary
CEO

in this strategic period enabled it to engage in patient advocacy over a number of years, ultimately leading to a legislated increase in the JobSeeker rate which will have meaningful impact across many, many lives. This work is a salient example of the opportunity that public policy advocacy can offer for deep, long-term structural solutions and impact across the community.

Working with SMF Chairman Andrew Myer and the Trustees in service of the critical work of the for-purpose sector continues to be both highly productive and most enjoyable. I thank them and all the Committee Convenors and members for a very productive year. My thanks also to the whole team at Sidney Myer Fund, who continue to raise the bar. They are dedicated, clever people, and passionate about engaging with the community to promote a just, creative, enlightened, caring, and sustainable Australia.

Sidney Myer Fund Trustees' Grants

| Recipient | State | Project Name | FY Grant Approved | Funding Term (years) | Total Grant | Commitment from FY23 Budget |
|---|-------|--|-------------------|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| Multi-year grants | | | | | | |
| Zoos Victoria | VIC | Baillieu Myer Internship Program | 2023 | Three | \$1,000,000 | \$1,000,000 |
| Australian Council of Social Service | NSW | General Operating Support | 2023 | Three | \$400,000 | \$400,000 |
| First Nations Clean Energy Network (Original Power) | VIC | General Operating Support | 2023 | Three | \$400,000 | \$400,000 |
| Sydney Alliance | NSW | General Operating Support | 2023 | Three | \$400,000 | \$400,000 |
| BlakDance | QLD | General Operating Support | 2023 | Four | \$350,000 | \$350,000 |
| Polyglot Theatre | VIC | General Operating Support | 2023 | Four | \$350,000 | \$350,000 |
| Ilbijerri Theatre | VIC | General Operating Support | 2023 | Four | \$350,000 | \$350,000 |
| 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art | NSW | General Operating Support | 2023 | Four | \$350,000 | \$350,000 |
| Centre for Social Impact, University of New South Wales | NSW | Social Impact Leadership Australia | 2020 | Five | \$1,500,000 | \$300,000 |
| The Myer Foundation | VIC | Additional climate action funding for The Myer Foundation's Sustainability & Environment Committee | 2021 | Three | \$900,000 | \$300,000 |
| The Myer Foundation | VIC | Additional funding for The Myer Foundation's Mental Health Committee | 2021 | Two | \$500,000 | \$250,000 |
| Documentary Australia | NSW | General Operating Support | 2023 | Four | \$250,000 | \$250,000 |
| Malthouse Theatre | VIC | Malthouse Outdoor Stage Programming | 2023 | Four | \$200,000 | \$200,000 |
| Special Olympics Australia | NSW | General Operating Support | 2023 | Four | \$200,000 | \$200,000 |
| A New Approach | ACT | General Operating Support | 2021 | Three | \$600,000 | \$200,000 |
| Victorian YMCA Youth & Community Services | VIC | Choose Your Career Program | 2022 | Three | \$300,000 | - |
| Climateworks Centre | VIC | General Operating Support | 2022 | Three | \$300,000 | - |
| Cool Australia | VIC | General Operating Support | 2022 | Three | \$300,000 | - |
| GiveOUT | VIC | General Operating Support | 2022 | Three | \$240,000 | - |
| Good Cycles | VIC | Good Deliveries | 2022 | Two | \$200,000 | - |
| Artists for Kids' Culture | VIC | General Operating Support | 2022 | Three | \$150,000 | - |
| Kilfinan Australia | VIC | General Operating Support | 2022 | Three | \$150,000 | - |
| The Pinnacle Foundation | NSW | General Operating Support | 2022 | Three | \$120,000 | - |
| Equality Australia | NSW | General Operating Support | 2022 | Three | \$120,000 | - |
| Minus18 | VIC | General Operating Support | 2022 | Three | \$120,000 | - |
| Philanthropy Australia | VIC | Champion's Grant | 2022 | Three | \$75,000 | - |
| BackTrack Youth Works | NSW | General Operating Support | 2021 | Four | \$400,000 | - |
| The One Box | VIC | General Operating Support | 2021 | Four | \$300,000 | - |
| Total | | | | | \$9,525,000 | \$5,300,000 |



Sydney Alliance leaders gathered at the Sydney Alliance Station Election Assembly at Westmead in February 2023, with then Treasurer Matt Kean MP, then Shadow Treasurer Daniel Mookhey MP, and Jenny Leong MP.



First Nations Clean Energy Network's Ethan Godfrey installing solar at Marlinja

Sidney Myer Fund Trustees' Grants



Special Olympics
Australia's gymnasts

| Recipient | State | Project Name | Commitment from FY23 Budget |
|--|-------|--|-----------------------------|
| Single-year grants | | | |
| The Myer Foundation | VIC | Additional climate action funding for The Myer Foundation's Sustainability & Environment Committee | \$395,000 |
| Asylum Seeker Resource Centre | VIC | General Operating Support | \$50,000 |
| Arts Centre Melbourne | VIC | Sue Natrass AO Memorial Service | \$10,000 |
| Darwin Festival | NT | General Operating Support | \$10,000 |
| Jacob Birch | QLD | General Operating Support | \$10,000 |
| Asylum Seekers Centre of NSW | NSW | LGBTIQA+ Support Group – co-funded with Pride Foundation Australia | \$10,000 |
| Young Assets Foundation | VIC | Fitzroy Homework Club | \$10,000 |
| Nexus Australia | VIC | General Operating Support | \$10,000 |
| Safe Theatres Australia | QLD | General Operating Support | \$10,000 |
| Big hART | TAS | General Operating Support | \$10,000 |
| Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network | VIC | General Operating Support | \$10,000 |
| Australia & New Zealand Tongzhi Rainbow Alliance Inc | NSW | JIA: Peer Support Network for Forcibly Displaced Chinese Speaking LGBTIQ People in Australia – co-funded with Pride Foundation Australia | \$10,000 |
| Djirra | VIC | General Operating Support | \$7,000 |
| Bakehouse Studios | VIC | General Operating Support | \$7,000 |
| Pony Cam Collective | | General Operating Support | \$7,000 |
| Batchelor Institute | NT | Pertame Kids singing at Archie Roach State Memorial Service | \$5,000 |
| THREE for All/Many Coloured Sky | VIC | General Operating Support | \$5,000 |
| Our Lady's Primary School | VIC | General Operating Support | \$5,000 |
| WomenCAN Australia | VIC | General Operating Support | \$5,000 |

Sidney Myer Fund Trustees' Grants



Asylum Seeker Resource Centre foodbanks support approximately 1,200 people per month, approximately 40% of whom are children

| Recipient | State | Project Name | Commitment from FY23 Budget |
|--|-------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Starlight Children's Foundation | VIC | General Operating Support | \$5,000 |
| Fitzroy Primary School | VIC | Positive Futures Fund | \$5,000 |
| First Nations Foundation | VIC | General Operating Support | \$5,000 |
| Brotherhood of St Laurence | VIC | General Operating Support | \$5,000 |
| Justice Connect | VIC | General Operating Support | \$5,000 |
| LifeChanger Foundation | VIC | General Operating Support | \$5,000 |
| A New Approach | ACT | General Operating Support | \$5,000 |
| Robin Boyd Foundation | VIC | General Operating Support | \$5,000 |
| First Australians Capital | NSW | General Operating Support | \$3,000 |
| Effective Altruism Australia | VIC | General Operating Support | \$3,000 |
| Melbourne Holocaust Museum Foundation | VIC | General Operating Support | \$3,000 |
| Cerebral Palsy Australia | NSW | General Operating Support | \$2,500 |
| FightMND | VIC | General Operating Support | \$2,500 |
| Bluebird Foundation | VIC | General Operating Support | \$2,500 |
| Original Power | VIC | General Operating Support | \$2,500 |
| Australian Art Orchestra | VIC | General Operating Support | \$2,000 |
| Stephanie Lake Company | VIC | General Operating Support | \$2,000 |
| Think & Do Tank Foundation | NSW | General Operating Support | \$2,000 |
| Ilbijerri Theatre Company | VIC | General Operating Support | \$2,000 |
| Foundation for National Parks and Wildlife | NSW | General Operating Support | \$2,000 |
| Force Majeure | VIC | General Operating Support | \$2,000 |
| Australian Theatre for Young People | NSW | General Operating Support | \$2,000 |
| Tutti Arts | SA | General Operating Support | \$2,000 |
| Total | | | \$661,000 |

Sidney Myer Performing Arts Awards



SMF Chairman Andrew Myer AM with the 2022 Sidney Myer Performing Arts Awards winners Eryn Jean Norvill, Deirdre O'Brien, and Rachael Swain and Debra Pigram from Marrugeku, alongside SMF Trustee Dr Anna Foley and CEO Leonard Vary photo by Francesco Vicenzi

Since 1984, the Sidney Myer Performing Arts Awards have celebrated excellence in the performing arts and provided direct financial support to artists and companies across Australia. Created by the Trustees of the Sidney Myer Fund to mark the 50th anniversary of the death of Sidney Myer, the awards commemorate his love for the arts. On 17 November 2022, artists and cultural leaders from around the country gathered at Cranlana for the announcement of the year's winners.

Group winner Marrugeku has been around for more than 20 years. It is dedicated to Indigenous and non-

Indigenous Australians working together to develop new dance languages that are "restless, transformative and unwavering".

Individual winner Eryn Jean Norvill is an actor making a profound impression. Her celebrated performance in Sydney Theatre Company's production of *The Picture of Dorian Gray* is a benchmark in virtuosity, while her co-founding with Sophie Ross of Safe Theatres Australia has improved the way theatre is made across Australia.

Facilitator's Prize winner Deirdre O'Brien is the engine room of Auspicious Arts

Projects, a not-for-profit that assists independent artists with funding opportunities, administration and producing work. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Deirdre went above and beyond in her work securing the livelihoods of countless independent artists.

In his address, Andrew Myer said, "These awards are a powerful reminder of the extraordinary artistic talent we have in this country. The winners are all involved in telling our nation's stories, bringing people together, sparking curiosity, and transforming our communities for the better."

| 2022 Recipient | State | Award or Prize | Commitment from FY23 Budget |
|-------------------|--------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| Eryn Jean Norvill | NSW | Individual Award | \$60,000 |
| Marrugeku | WA/NSW | Group Award | \$90,000 |
| Deirdre O'Brien | VIC | Facilitator's Prize | \$25,000 |
| Total | | | \$175,000 |

Kenneth Myer Innovation Fellowships



Rebecca Scott

FY23 marked a decadal milestone for the Kenneth Myer Innovation Fellowships, which offers a year of support, with funds and expertise, to outstanding individuals with the ideas and skills to address some of Australia's most pressing environmental and social issues. Each year, Sidney Myer Fund supports two Fellowships, while The Myer Foundation supports one.

In FY23, Sidney Myer Fund awarded Fellowships to Laura Simmons and Rebecca Scott. Laura is an occupational therapist seeking to support families to implement therapies at home. Theratrak is a digital platform that supports therapists to work collaboratively to create, monitor, and track custom therapy programs for children.

Rebecca Scott's initiative, Eazilee, is the world's first dedicated knowledge sharing platform for assistive technology, supporting health professionals and people living with a



Laura Simmons

disability to find the right technology to solve everyday challenges.

It's worth noting that, during the year, a review of the Fellowships program was undertaken as part of a review of the FY19–23 strategy and the development of a new strategy for The Myer Foundation and Sidney Myer Fund. We were gratified to learn that the Fellowships retain their almost unique place in the fellowship firmament in Australia, with a model that supports innovators to focus on their initiative without an expectation of a specified outcome. We are delighted that the Fellowships will continue through the next strategic period.

As Co-Convenors, we engage in the selection process from beginning to end, from reviewing hundreds of expressions of interest, to awarding Fellowships to the crème of the innovation crop. It is a privilege in which we are joined by fellow Committee

members Anna Spraggett, Edgar Myer, Huy Nguyen (KMIF 2018), Jan Owen AM and Kathryn Fagg AO. We are immensely grateful for their commitment and insights. We are grateful also to the members of the Kenneth Myer Innovation Fellowship Support Panel – Leah Armstrong, Dr Shelley Meagher, Quentin Miller and Oliver Roydhouse. Their combination of skills and experience, so generously shared with Fellows, is an integral part of the Fellowship.

Finally, thank you to CEO Leonard Vary, Senior Program Manager Kirsty Allen and Program Manager Jane Thomas and the whole team for their work to ensure another outstanding iteration of the Kenneth Myer Innovation Fellowship.

Edwina Myer and Jonathan Lindsay, Co-Convenors of the Kenneth Myer Innovation Fellowships Committee

| 2023 Recipient | State | Fellowship Project | Commitment from FY23 Budget |
|----------------|-------|---|-----------------------------|
| Rebecca Scott | VIC | Prescribing Better Assistive Technology | \$150,000 |
| Laura Simmons | NSW | Theratrak Participant App | \$150,000 |
| Total | | | \$300,000 |

Poverty & Disadvantage Program

With FY23 we concluded the FY19–23 strategic period, throughout which the Poverty & Disadvantage Program retained a focus on improved transitions from education to further education and employment for Indigenous young people and young people from refugee backgrounds, aged 15 to 25 years. Over the five-year period, in keeping with the organisations pillar of the Sidney Myer Fund strategy, we sought to make untied grants over multiple years to organisations whose work as a whole aligned with the focus area, supporting them to progress their respective missions. The grants are flexible, deployed by organisations as they – not we – determine, and provide certainty of funding across five years. We have been excited to see grants used to bolster the backbone operations of organisations, and to purchase vehicles for driving programs. They have supported staff development

and employment programs, and have paid the rent on fit-for-purposes premises. Wherever grant funds have been deployed, they have supported dedicated and effective organisations making a difference in the education and employment transitions of young people.

In FY23, the Program awarded three multi-year grants, as the culmination of a process through which the Committee was privileged to encounter the work of a number of organisations. Savannah Pride is based in Western Sydney, leveraging basketball as a means to support the engagement of young people from refugee backgrounds, predominantly but not exclusively South Sudanese Australian, in secondary education and into post-school education or training. In his role as head coach, Founder Mayor Chagai draws on his own experience, both as a refugee,

and as a basketballer, to challenge, encourage and support the young people looking to Savannah Pride for meaning, connection and a pathway.

Himilo Ltd is focused on education and employment for young people, centred on the Somali Australian community of West Heidelberg in the northern suburbs of Melbourne. Established by Abdiaziz Farah, one of the first Somali Australian social workers in Victoria, Himilo works with the whole community, through a careers and employment program, a youth leadership program, homework clubs and tutoring, and specialist inclusion and diversity training and support for employers.

Based on the highly successful CareerTrackers model (also supported through this program in FY21), CareerSeekers provides paid professional internships in industries

| Recipient | State | Project Name | FY Grant Approved | Funding Term (years) | Total Grant | Commitment from FY23 Budget |
|---|-------|--|-------------------|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| Multi-year grants | | | | | | |
| CareerSeekers | NSW | General Operating Support | 2023 | Five | \$560,000 | \$560,000 |
| Himilo Ltd | VIC | General Operating Support | 2023 | Five | \$330,000 | \$330,000 |
| Savannah Pride (with PCYC NSW) | NSW | General Operating Support | 2023 | Five | \$300,000 | \$300,000 |
| Australian Neighbourhood House & Centres Association | VIC | Supporting Stronger Communities Small Grants Program | 2021 | Two | \$600,000 | \$300,000 |
| Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal | VIC | Strengthening Rural Communities Small Grants Program | 2018 | Five | \$1,000,000 | \$200,000 |
| Aurora Education Foundation | NSW | General Operating Support | 2022 | Five | \$670,000 | - |
| Seed Foundation Australia | QLD | General Operating Support | 2022 | Five | \$450,000 | - |
| CareerTrackers Indigenous Internship Program | QLD | General Operating Support | 2021 | Five | \$660,000 | - |
| Multicultural Youth South Australia | SA | General Operating Support | 2021 | Five | \$530,000 | - |
| Stars Foundation | VIC | General Operating Support | 2020 | Five | \$615,000 | - |
| The Social Studio | VIC | General Operating Support | 2020 | Five | \$355,000 | - |
| The River Nile Learning Centre | VIC | General Operating Support | 2020 | Five | \$210,000 | - |
| Single-year grants | | | | | | |
| FY23 Convenor's Discretionary grant (Sally Lindsay): Young Assets Foundation, Fitzroy Homework Club | | | 2023 | One | \$10,000 | \$10,000 |
| Total | | | | | \$6,290,000 | \$1,700,000 |



Namroud Dachtu, who arrived with his family from Syria on a humanitarian visa in 2017, is a CareerSeekers intern in the construction industry.



Having fled Iraq with her family as a child, Tamarah Sahi arrived in Sydney in 2015. As a civil engineering student, she undertook a CareerSeekers internship with John Holland Group.



Junior participants in Himilo Ltd's playgroup in West Heidelberg, which runs alongside its Women's Support Program.

related to their studies for young people from refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds. Not only do the internships provide invaluable opportunities for students to gain industry experience, but equally as important, the basis for professional networks, so essential for securing a graduate position.

Over the period of this strategic period the Committee has had the benefit of expert members Emeritus Professor Dorothy Scott AM, and of Benson

Saulo and Elmina Joldic, both of whom brought particular focus area expertise to our discussions. The contributions of each were invaluable and we are very grateful for their participation. I am grateful also to the other members of the Poverty & Disadvantage Committee, Sidney Myer Fund Chairman Andrew Myer AM, Maree Shelmerdine, Louise Myer and Jigna Desai, each of whom brings a passion for the work of philanthropy, and a rich diversity of views and experiences. I know they are

as proud as I am of the grants made through this program in the last year and across the strategic period.

Finally, my thanks to CEO Leonard Vary and to Senior Program Manager Kirsty Allen for their support and guidance, and for the outstanding work they do to ensure the strategic integrity and smooth running of the Program.

Sally Lindsay, Convenor of the Poverty & Disadvantage Committee

Arts & Humanities Program

The grantmaking of the Arts & Humanities Committee this year brought to a close a five-year strategic period that reflected the immense disruption of the COVID-19 pandemic on the artistic and cultural life of our nation.

In FY23, the Committee was delighted to continue its support of the Sidney Myer Creative Fellowships program. Including the nine exceptionally talented and courageous recipients listed in this report, the total number of Creative Fellowships awarded since the program's inception in 2011 has now reached 100. This \$16 million investment in artists, creatives and cultural leaders represents the Committee's profound respect for and commitment to the individuals who are the lifeblood of Australian culture.

Also this year, the Committee continued its Victorian Commissioning Initiative, which made targeted grants to small-to-medium Victorian organisations in order to boost the commissioning of individual artists and to maintain the vibrancy of the small-to-medium sector. Melbourne's pandemic restrictions were especially strict and prolonged, so the Committee was delighted to support a range of organisations as

they rebuilt their creative output and their connection with their communities, many of which are in Melbourne's outer suburban areas and experience disadvantage.

We farewelled a dear friend, colleague and matchless arts leader in Sue Nattrass AO, who died in October 2022. Sue gave a lifetime of service to Australian arts and culture, and we were very fortunate to have her on the Committee and to benefit from her wise counsel for more than two decades. Hers is a trailblazing legacy that continues to resonate.

Thanks go to my fellow Committee members Carrillo Gantner AC, Rupert Myer AO, Kerry Gardner AM, Henry Badgery, Stephen Armstrong and Emily Sexton. It is a wonderful experience to work with these lovers of arts and culture. I would also like to acknowledge the fine work and support of the Sidney Myer Fund Trustees Andrew Myer AM, Sidney Myer AM, Sally Lindsay and Dr Anna Foley, and I thank CEO Leonard Vary and Program Manager Carl Nilsson-Polias for the exceptional work they do for this Committee and for the arts more broadly.

Kate Shelmerdine, Convenor of the Arts & Humanities Committee



Rachel Arianne Ogle



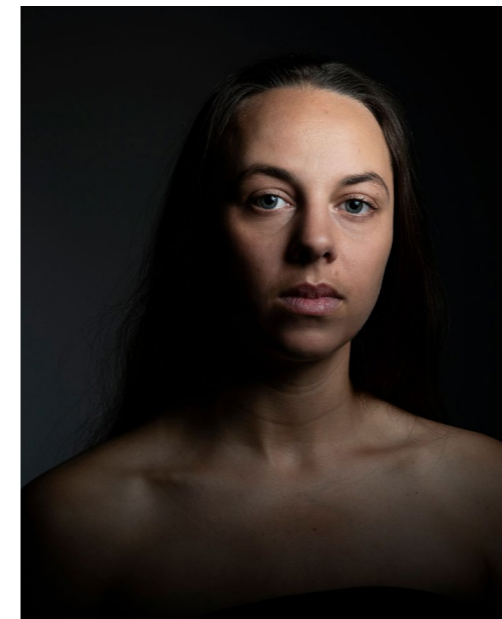
Nam Le



Fred Leone photo Mark Crannitch



Eugenia Lim photo Bryony Jackson



Carly Sheppard photo Jody Haines



Ghenoa Gela photo Ben Brooks

| Recipient | State | Project Name | FY Grant Approved | Funding Term (years) | Total Grant | Commitment from FY23 Budget |
|---|-------|----------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| Sidney Myer Creative Fellowships | | | | | | |
| Alethea Beetson | QLD | 2022 Sidney Myer Creative Fellow | 2023 | Two | \$160,000 | \$160,000 |
| Carly Sheppard | VIC | 2022 Sidney Myer Creative Fellow | 2023 | Two | \$160,000 | \$160,000 |
| Eugenia Lim | VIC | 2022 Sidney Myer Creative Fellow | 2023 | Two | \$160,000 | \$160,000 |
| Fred Leone | VIC | 2022 Sidney Myer Creative Fellow | 2023 | Two | \$160,000 | \$160,000 |
| Ghenoa Gela | QLD | 2022 Sidney Myer Creative Fellow | 2023 | Two | \$160,000 | \$160,000 |
| Mindy Meng Wang | VIC | 2022 Sidney Myer Creative Fellow | 2023 | Two | \$160,000 | \$160,000 |
| Nam Le | VIC | 2022 Sidney Myer Creative Fellow | 2023 | Two | \$160,000 | \$160,000 |
| Rachel Arianne Ogle | WA | 2022 Sidney Myer Creative Fellow | 2023 | Two | \$160,000 | \$160,000 |
| Vincent Namatjira | SA | 2022 Sidney Myer Creative Fellow | 2023 | Two | \$160,000 | \$160,000 |

| Recipient | State | Project Name | FY Grant Approved | Funding Term (years) | Total Grant | Commitment from FY23 Budget |
|---------------------------|-------|------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| Multi-year grants | | | | | | |
| Bowery Theatre | VIC | Victorian Commissioning Initiative | 2022 | Two | \$100,000 | \$50,000 |
| Bunjil Place | VIC | Victorian Commissioning Initiative | 2022 | Two | \$100,000 | \$50,000 |
| Dancehouse | VIC | Victorian Commissioning Initiative | 2022 | Two | \$100,000 | \$50,000 |
| Music in Exile | VIC | Victorian Commissioning Initiative | 2022 | Two | \$100,000 | \$50,000 |
| Hyphenated Projects | VIC | Victorian Commissioning Initiative | 2022 | Two | \$50,000 | \$25,000 |
| this mob | VIC | Victorian Commissioning Initiative | 2022 | Two | \$50,000 | \$25,000 |
| Single-year grants | | | | | | |
| Melba Opera Trust | VIC | General Operating Support | 2023 | One | \$5,000 | \$5,000 |
| Sorrento Writers Festival | VIC | General Operating Support | 2023 | One | \$5,000 | \$5,000 |
| Total | | | | | \$1,950,000 | \$1,700,000 |

Arts & Humanities Program



Dr Alethea Beetson



Vincent Namatjira



Mindy Meng Wang photo Jordan Munns

Merlyn Myer Fund



The Merlyn Myer Fund has a remit to support the endeavour of women, in recognition of Dame Merlyn Myer's interest in women's wellbeing. Since 2007, the year of its establishment, it has traditionally been led by the four granddaughters of Sidney and Dame Merlyn Myer, who act as Trustees.

In FY23, aligned with the focus area to address disadvantage and provide opportunities for women in Australia, a grant was awarded to Zoe Support. Based in Mildura, Zoe Support is a not-for-profit and accredited community service organisation supporting young mothers aged 13 to 25 and their children.

There has been a generational change to the membership of the Merlyn Myer Fund during this period. We farewelled Joanna Baevski, who resigned as a Trustee – her contribution and experience will be greatly missed – and welcomed Laura Richards, the first great-granddaughter of Sidney and Dame Merlyn Myer to join as a Trustee.

Our thanks to CEO Leonard Vary and to Program Manager Jane Thomas for their encouragement and support throughout the year.

Merlyn Myer Fund Trustees Sally Lindsay, Joanna Baevski, Samantha Baillieu AM, Lindy Shelmerdine, Laura Richards

| Recipient | State | Project Name | FY Grant Approved | Funding Term (years) | Total Grant | Commitment from FY23 Budget |
|-----------------------|-------|---------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| Zoe Support Australia | VIC | General Operating Support | 2023 | Two | \$150,000 | \$75,000 |
| Total | | | | | \$150,000 | \$75,000 |

Sidney Myer Fund Trustees



Andrew Myer AM



Sally Lindsay



Sidney Myer AM



Dr Anna Foley

Sidney Myer Fund

Chairman

Andrew Myer AM, MBA (Melbourne Business School, University of Melbourne)

Andrew Myer pursues a variety of business interests through the A V Myer Group of Companies, including property development, investment, film and philanthropy. He has been a director of Myer Family Investments since 2012 and a Trustee of the Sidney Myer Fund since 2011. He was Vice President of The Myer Foundation from 1999 to 2003.

Andrew's community sector involvement has focused on organisations operating in the environment, social justice, cinema and the performing arts. He is currently Chair of Documentary Australia, of which he became a director in June 2017, and has been a board member of Malthouse Theatre since February 2018. He was previously Chair and Deputy-Chair of the Melbourne International Film Festival for seventeen years until 2017, and Vice President of Bush Heritage Australia for nine years until March 2016. He was appointed Chair of Arts Centre Melbourne Foundation in June 2017 and became a director of the Victorian Arts Centre Trust in March 2018.

Andrew is founder and a director of the Andyinc Foundation, established in 2002. Andrew is producer and executive producer of numerous Australian feature films, including: Radiance, Balibo, Paper Planes, Last Cab to Darwin, The Dry and Dangerous Remedy.

Trustees

Sidney Hordern Myer AM, BEc and Grad. Dip.in Marketing from Monash University

Sid Myer is the Chairman of Myer Family Investments Ltd, a Trustee of the Sidney Myer Fund and the Estate of Sidney Baillieu Myer. He is a Director of Yulgilbar Group of Companies, the Wallaby Downs Group of Companies, Mutual Trust, Copia Investment Partners, Chairman of the National Portrait Gallery Foundation and the Patron of Asialink.

Sally Lindsay BA, Dip Ed (Primary)

Sally Lindsay has been a member of the Poverty & Disadvantage Committee for 15 years, the Committee's Convenor since 2011 and a Trustee of the Sidney Myer Fund since 2007. Sally is a passionate advocate for education and community wellbeing.

Dr Anna Foley MBBS (Hons) FRACP

Anna Foley completed her medical degree with Honours at Monash University in 2001. She is a Gastroenterologist and currently holds positions at Alfred Health and Cabrini. Anna became a Trustee of the Sidney Myer Fund in 2020 and is also a member of the Sustainability & Environment Committee of The Myer Foundation. She was a member of the TMF & SMF Investment Committee to 30 June 2023 and has previously served as Co-Convenor of the Kenneth Myer Innovation Fellowships Committee. She is a Board Member of Malthouse Theatre.

Sidney Myer Fund Trustees and Committee Membership

Founder and Benefactor

Sidney Myer

Chairman

Andrew Myer AM

Trustees

Sally Lindsay
Sidney Myer AM
Dr Anna Foley

Observer

Edwina Myer (2022)
Edgar Myer (2023)

Sidney Myer Fund Grantmaking Committees

Kenneth Myer Innovation Fellowships (co-supported by The Myer Foundation)

Jonathan Lindsay (Co-Convenor)
Edwina Myer (Co-Convenor)
Anna Spraggett
Edgar Myer
Jan Owen AM
Huy Nguyen
Kathryn Fagg AO

Poverty & Disadvantage

Sally Lindsay (Convenor)
Andrew Myer AM
Louise Myer
Maree Shelmerdine
Hugh Lockie
Jigna Desai
Emeritus Professor Dorothy Scott AM
Benson Saulo
Elmina Joldic

Arts & Humanities

Kate Shelmerdine (Convenor)
Carrillo Gantner AC
Rupert Myer AO
Kerry Gardner AM
Henry Badgery
Stephen Armstrong
Emily Sexton

Merlyn Myer Fund

Sally Lindsay
Lindy Shelmerdine
Samantha Baillieu AM
Joanna Baevski (until October 2022)

Staff

Chief Executive Officer
Leonard Vary

Chief Financial Officer & Secretary
Hang Truong

Senior Program Manager
Kirsty Allen

Program Managers
Carl Nilsson-Polias
Jane Thomas

Executive Assistant
Denise Minahan

Administration & Grants Coordinator
Madeleine Livingstone

Accountant
James Maglovski

Sidney Myer Fund Financials

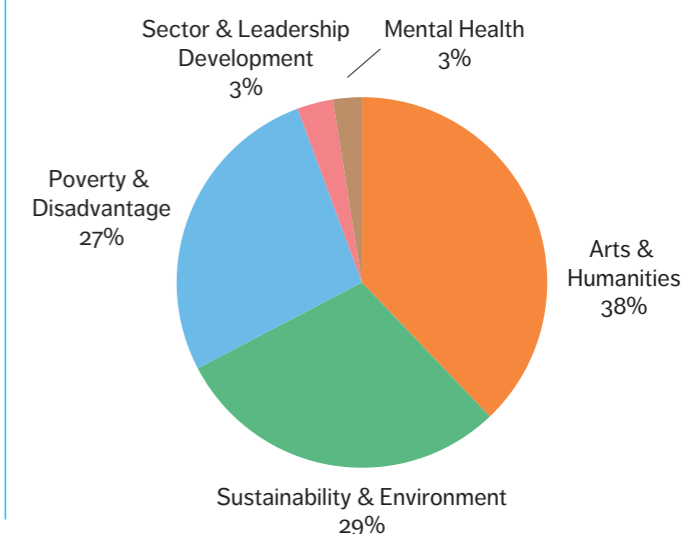
| | Commitment from FY23 Budget |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Sidney Myer Fund Trustees' Grants | \$5,961,000 |
| Arts & Humanities Program | \$1,700,000 |
| Poverty & Disadvantage Program | \$1,700,000 |
| Kenneth Myer Innovation Fellowships | \$300,000 |
| Sidney Myer Performing Arts Awards | \$175,000 |
| Merlyn Myer Fund | \$75,000 |
| Total | \$9,911,000 |

The Myer Foundation & Sidney Myer Fund Combined Reporting

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| Sidney Myer Fund's Total FY23 Grant Commitments | \$9,911,000 |
| The Myer Foundation's Total FY23 Grant Commitments | \$4,409,995 |
| Combined FY23 Commitments | \$14,320,995 |
| Adjustment for FY23 SMF to TMF transfer | -\$945,000 |
| Combined Total Commitments Since Inception* | \$318,538,984 |

* not adjusted to present day values.

FY23 Funding By Focus Area



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