

Sidney Myer Fund Annual Report 2023-24

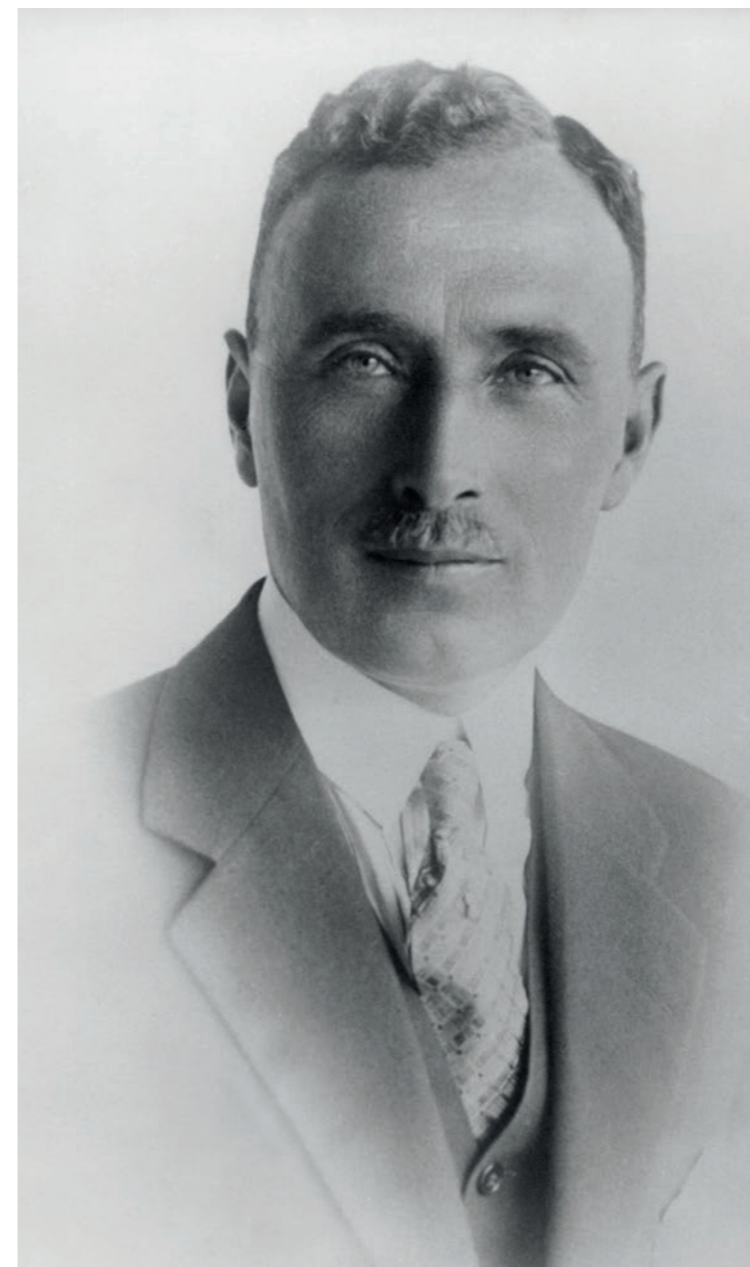


Sidney Myer

SIDNEY MYER FUND

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Sidney Myer in 1926

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 arrived in Melbourne in 1899 as a penniless 21-year-old and quickly became one of Australia's most visionary entrepreneurs. He built the successful Myer retail business and was renowned in his lifetime for his ethical approach to employment and for the generosity he showed during the Depression. He died unexpectedly in 1934, survived by his wife Merlyn and their four children. In his Will, he left a portion of his estate to create Sidney Myer Fund.

Sidney Myer Fund Chairman's Address

This year marks the 90th anniversary of Sidney Myer Fund (SMF). The anniversary is of course tied to the death of Sidney Myer, and while many things have changed in those subsequent decades, SMF, born of his philanthropic vision, has remained an enduring constant ever since.

SMF's 90th anniversary coincides with the 65th anniversary of The Myer Foundation (TMF). That 155 years of combined philanthropic history, governance and service to the community is something SMF Trustees wished to honour and celebrate. As such, this annual report records 14 untied grants of \$155,000 each to a range of for-purpose organisations. Building on the bedrock of family philanthropy, each beneficiary was chosen by one of the 14 living second and third generation lineal descendants of Sidney and Merlyn Myer. The breadth of organisations represented, as set out in this report, speaks to the many and varied passions of our family, and it has proved a most fitting way to mark these anniversaries.

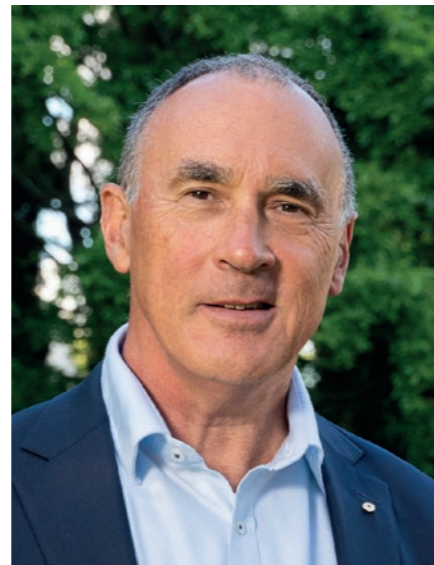
One family member who has dedicated decades to philanthropy is Sid Myer AM. After 23 years as Trustee – more than a quarter of SMF's history – this year marked the end of Sid's remarkable innings. He has made an invaluable contribution, encouraging boldness if we were timid, resoluteness when we wavered, and generosity when it was needed. With gratitude for his long service, Trustees invited Sid to nominate a valedictory grant, which he directed towards the new public policy organisation Amplify, bringing people with different views together to create solutions to issues in our community. On behalf of all the Trustees, the broader Myer family and the management of SMF, I salute Sid for his dedication, passion and leadership. He has been a cherished Trustee.

In this, the first year of our new strategic period, SMF has continued its commitment towards action on climate change. We have devoted \$5 million over five years to the climate action of TMF's Sustainability & Environment Committee and a further \$700,000 this year alone to organisations working on an equitable transition to a net zero future – Environmental Defenders Office, Women's Environmental Leadership Australia and Our Islands, Our Homes.

The advent of a new strategic period has prompted other shifts in our operations. Two of our funding programs have had name changes but remain core to our grantmaking; the erstwhile Poverty & Disadvantage program is now Inclusion & Equality, while Arts & Humanities is now Arts & Culture. On a related note, the final winners of the Sidney Myer Performing Arts Awards are included in this report. Across 40 years, the Awards supported several different generations of artists, facilitators and performing arts organisations. In 1984, there was simply nothing else like them in Australia, they were a pioneering initiative blazing a trail for others, but in today's context of industry-led awards and SMF's other arts funding, it was time to retire them.

SMF's commitment to recognising and rewarding artistic achievement has not been dulled. We have continued and, indeed, increased our investment in the Sidney Myer Creative Fellowships – the trailblazer of today. This year, we awarded nine Creative Fellowships, providing a total of \$1.8 million in unrestricted, tax-free funding to an outstanding cohort of artists and cultural leaders.

An annual report is an opportunity to look back. And while we do well to honour and learn from our past, I am



Andrew Myer AM
Chairman

equally excited about the opportunities afforded by what we are doing today and the attention we give to building a better future for our community. My excitement is in no small part thanks to the very fine work of SMF's staff and the good counsel of my fellow Trustees. It continues to be a great privilege to be Chairman of this extraordinary philanthropic institution.

Sidney Myer Fund CEO's Introduction

As Andrew notes, this is the first year of a new strategic period for SMF. As ever, we build on a remarkable legacy, and each opportunity for strategic renewal involves reflection, consultation and evaluation.

We found that the innovations of recent years have succeeded, including a pivot towards providing multi-year general operating support to organisations. We found that our priority areas continue to align with the context of national and global trends and imperatives. We found that ongoing, intergenerational family involvement is the intrinsic bedrock of SMF and how it functions. We found that collaboration between SMF and TMF, as well as with the broader philanthropic community, has amplified our impact. And we found that our appetite for bold and forward-looking approaches to philanthropy was as strong as ever.

Now, we are applying those lessons. The anniversary grants that Andrew details are one of the many ways in which Myer family members continue to be deeply engaged in our philanthropic work. SMF and TMF's collaboration grows stronger still. In dollar terms, SMF's annual contribution to climate action via funding to TMF's Sustainability & Environment Committee has been substantially augmented. So too has its funding to TMF's Mental Health Committee, which is an initiative of the family's fourth generation. Further, SMF Trustee Dr Anna Foley has been welcomed as a member of TMF's Sustainability & Environment Committee to deepen these ties and further embed SMF's new climate focus.

Our collaboration with other funders is exemplified by the ongoing success of Social Impact Leadership Australia (SILA), one of the flagship projects of the last strategic period, which is being renewed for this cycle. SILA provides leadership development and capacity

building for the for-purpose sector. In each cohort, 24 individual CEOs come together to learn and share their experiences. They are talented leaders who have an outsized positive impact on the communities around them. SILA gives them a series of retreats, coaching and a network to bounce off, and a sabbatical which provides time to reflect on the bigger picture. It also gives their respective organisations the resources to backfill that leadership role and up-skill other staff members. This investment in individual change makers would not be possible without the collaborative funding of the Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation and Paul Ramsay Foundation and our remarkable partnership with Centre for Social Impact UNSW. It is a program that has been enthusiastically received by the sector and embraced by the participants. Moreover, its success has led the Snow Foundation to come onboard as an equal funding partner for future iterations.

My thanks to SMF Chairman Andrew Myer and all the Trustees, Committee Convenors and members for another very productive and engaging year. The promise of a strategy is only as good as its implementation, and I am delighted by the way the whole team at SMF continues to exceed my ever-higher expectations with their insight, rigour and teamwork. As Sid Myer was fond of reminding us, philanthropy can be *fun* – and there is an infectious hopefulness and positivity that comes from being around people as dedicated, kind, thoughtful and clever as those with whom I work. For that, and many other things beside, I am very grateful.



Leonard Vary AM
CEO

Photo: James Penlidis

Sidney Myer Fund Trustees' Grants

Recipient	State	Project Name	FY Grant Approved	Funding Term (years)	Total Grant Value	Commitment from FY24
Multi-year grants						
The Myer Foundation	VIC	Additional climate action funding for The Myer Foundation's Sustainability & Environment Committee	2024	Five	\$5,000,000	\$1,000,000
The Myer Foundation	VIC	Additional funding for The Myer Foundation's Mental Health Committee	2024	Five	\$2,750,000	\$550,000
A New Approach	ACT	General Operating Support	2024	Five	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
Amplify: Apollo Research Ltd	NSW	General Operating Support	2024	Three	\$650,000	\$650,000
Environmental Defenders Office	NSW	General Operating Support	2024	Four	\$400,000	\$400,000
FareShare Australia Inc	VIC	General Operating Support	2024	Four	\$400,000	\$400,000
Women's Environmental Leadership Australia	VIC	General Operating Support	2024	Three	\$200,000	\$200,000
350 Australia	VIC	Our Islands, Our Home	2024	Three	\$100,000	\$100,000
Melbourne Holocaust Museum Foundation	VIC	General Operating Support	2024	Four	\$200,000	\$50,000
Sorrento Writers Festival	VIC	General Operating Support	2024	Two	\$50,000	\$50,000
Centre for Social Impact, University of New South Wales	NSW	Social Impact Leadership Australia	2020	Five	\$1,500,000	\$300,000
Zoos Victoria	VIC	Baillieu Myer Internship Program	2023	Three	\$1,000,000	-
Australian Council of Social Service	NSW	General Operating Support	2023	Three	\$400,000	-
First Nations Clean Energy Network (Original Power)	VIC	General Operating Support	2023	Three	\$400,000	-
Sydney Alliance	NSW	General Operating Support	2023	Three	\$400,000	-
BlakDance	QLD	General Operating Support	2023	Four	\$350,000	-
Polyglot Theatre	VIC	General Operating Support	2023	Four	\$350,000	-
Ilbigerri Theatre	VIC	General Operating Support	2023	Four	\$350,000	-
4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art	NSW	General Operating Support	2023	Four	\$350,000	-
Documentary Australia	NSW	General Operating Support	2023	Four	\$250,000	-
Malthouse Theatre	VIC	Malthouse Outdoor Stage Programming	2023	Four	\$200,000	-
Special Olympics Australia	NSW	General Operating Support	2023	Four	\$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					\$19,275,000	\$4,700,000



Women's Environmental Leadership Australia National Leadership Program 2023 Cohort.
Photo Ula Majewski



A New Approach CEO Kate Fielding speaking at The Regional Australia Institute's Region's Rising National Summit



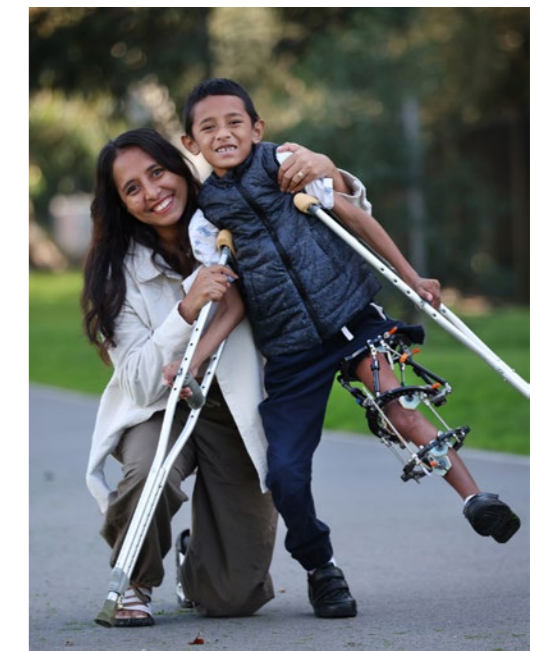
FareShare chefs Dean and Emma with some of the nutritious meals they prepare for people facing hardship

Sidney Myer Fund Trustees' Grants

Recipient	State	Project Name	Commitment from FY24
Single-year grants			
Children First Foundation	TAS	General Operating Support	\$155,000
Deakin University	VIC	Deakin Centre for Refugee Employment, Advocacy, Training and Education (CREATE)	\$155,000
Perron Institute for Neurological & Translational Science	WA	Medical research on Spontaneous Inclusion Body Myositis	\$155,000
The Royal Historical Society of Victoria	VIC	General Operating Support	\$155,000
Museum and Art Gallery of Northern Territory	NT	General Operating Support	\$155,000
Accounting for Nature	NSW	General Operating Support	\$155,000
Mountain Track	VIC	General Operating Support	\$155,000
BackTrack Youth Works	NSW	General Operating Support	\$155,000
The University of Melbourne	VIC	Victorian College of the Arts & The Fiona and Sidney Myer Gallery	\$155,000
Australian Chamber Orchestra	NSW	General Operating Support	\$155,000
The Karrkad Kanjdji Trust	VIC	General Operating Support	\$155,000
Lort Smith Animal Hospital	VIC	General Operating Support	\$155,000
Documentary Australia	NSW	General Operating Support	\$155,000
Central Victorian Biolinks Alliance	VIC	General Operating Support	\$155,000
Free to Feed	VIC	General Operating Support	\$10,000
Adelaide Festival	SA	General Operating Support	\$10,000
Nexus Australia	VIC	General Operating Support	\$10,000
Amy Sherwin Fund: Australia's First Global Diva	TAS	General Operating Support	\$10,000
Festival of Jewish Arts and Music	VIC	General Operating Support	\$10,000
LifeChanger Foundation	VIC	General Operating Support	\$5,000
Regional Arts Victoria	VIC	General Operating Support	\$5,000
Share the Dignity	QLD	General Operating Support	\$5,000
Disability Resource Centre	VIC	General Operating Support	\$5,000
Our Lady's Primary School	VIC	General Operating Support	\$5,000
Equality Australia	NSW	General Operating Support	\$7,000
Pony Cam Collective	VIC	General Operating Support	\$7,000
Dymocks Children's Charities	NSW	General Operating Support	\$5,000
JamFactory	SA	General Operating Support	\$5,000
Grattan Institute	VIC	General Operating Support	\$5,000
Australian Alliance to End Homelessness	QLD	General Operating Support	\$5,000
Multicultural Youth South Australia	SA	General Operating Support	\$5,000
IsraAid Australia Limited	NSW	General Operating Support	\$3,000
Effective Altruism Australia	VIC	General Operating Support	\$3,000
Bluebird Foundation	VIC	General Operating Support	\$2,500
Gulf Savannah NRM	QLD	Turtles in Trouble	\$2,500
Wayside Chapel	NSW	General Operating Support	\$2,000
Australian Art Orchestra	VIC	General Operating Support	\$2,000
Seed Mob	VIC	General Operating Support	\$2,000
Djirra	VIC	General Operating Support	\$2,000
Stephanie Lake Company	VIC	General Operating Support	\$2,000



Mountain Track participants Tyson, Geoffry, Alex and Cody helping out a neighbour with a concrete slab pour. Photo Laura Myer



Children First Foundation has assisted Malik Dos Reis begin life-changing surgery to enable him to walk, pictured here with his mum, Maya. Photo David Caird



Mountain Track participant Jaidyn learning how to operate a tractor. Photo Laura Myer

Recipient	State	Project Name	Commitment from FY24
Aboriginal Legal Service NSW/ACT	NSW/ACT	General Operating Support	\$2,000
Yumpla Nerkep Foundation	QLD	General Operating Support	\$2,000
Music Victoria	VIC	General Operating Support	\$2,000
Tutti Arts	SA	General Operating Support	\$2,000
Palestine Australia Relief and Action	VIC	General Operating Support	\$2,000
Back to Back Theatre Inc.	VIC	General Operating Support	\$1,700
First Australians Capital	NSW	General Operating Support	\$1,500
Total			\$2,318,200

Sidney Myer Performing Arts Awards



Lucy Guerin Inc's production of Pendulum at Melbourne Fringe. Photo Gregory Lorenzutti

The 40th and final Sidney Myer Performing Arts Awards were announced at the start of 2024. Created by the Trustees of Sidney Myer Fund in 1984 to mark the 50th anniversary of the death of Sidney Myer, the Awards celebrated excellence in the performing arts and provided direct financial support to artists, facilitators and companies across Australia.

Over their history, the Awards provided more than \$4 million in funding (without adjusting for inflation). When they began, there was nothing else like them in Australia. The Awards led the way for Sidney Myer Fund's rewarding of individual artistic talent and for the recognition of unsung behind-the-scenes heroes. These were the foundations upon which the Sidney Myer Creative

Fellowships have built and continue to grow.

In their final year, the Awards recognised winners across three categories.

Group winner Lucy Guerin Inc is an integral part of Australia's dance ecology, with an exceptional international reputation. Informed by Guerin's long years as a sole practitioner, her company has advocated for and supported waves of next generation dance practitioners and created audiences for a dynamic and evolving community of artists.

Individual winner Jane Harrison (Muruwari) is a playwright whose work *Stolen* is a canonical Australian work exploring the lives of five First Nations children from the stolen generations. Jane's most recent work, *The Visitors*,

was released and performed in 2023 as a play, an opera and as a novel, after more than a decade of exacting, painstaking research – a feat typical of Jane's writing.

Facilitator's Prize winner Collette Brennan has long been an advocate for independent artists, especially those from marginalised communities. Known for her generosity, insight and fierce advocacy, Collette has been supporting and amplifying the work of independent Australian artists and cultural workers since her first role with Youth Arts Queensland in 2000. Since then, she has also held leadership roles with the State Library of Queensland, Out of the Box Festival, C!RCA, Australia Council for the Arts and Abbotsford Convent.

2023 Recipient	State	Award or Prize	Commitment from FY24
Lucy Guerin Inc	VIC	Group Award	\$90,000
Jane Harrison	VIC	Individual Award	\$60,000
Collette Brennan	VIC	Facilitator's Prize	\$25,000
Total			\$175,000

Kenneth Myer Innovation Fellowships



Chris Raine



Dr Naba Alfayadh

In FY24, the Kenneth Myer Innovation Fellowships program reached a total of 33 Fellowships awarded. Now in the program's eleventh year, the Fellowships support Australian innovators in their pursuit of social and/or environmental impact, offering funds, expertise, mentoring and an alumni network to three outstanding individuals. Each year, Sidney Myer Fund awards two Fellowships and The Myer Foundation awards one. This year, Sidney Myer Fund's Kenneth Myer Innovation Fellows are Dr Naba Alfayadh and Chris Raine.

Dr Naba Alfayadh is a General Practice Registrar and serial social entrepreneur. Naba's Fellowship will focus on building Rahma Health, a global charity that supports Arabic speaking families to enjoy the magic of the first five years of a child's life. Through world-class healthcare information, a community-led approach and the power of technology, Rahma helps refugee and migrant

communities lead fulfilled, happy, healthy lives.

Chris Raine is well known as the founder of Hello Sunday Morning. He is a serial social entrepreneur, focused on helping as many Australians as possible attain good mental health through innovation in mental healthcare. The goal of his Fellowship project is to deliver psychedelic-assisted therapies safely and effectively, supported by sustainable business models.

Each year, the Kenneth Myer Innovation Fellowships receive hundreds of expressions of interest. Together with our fellow Kenneth Myer Innovation Fellowship Committee members, it is our pleasurable task to review, assess and select three Fellows from among those hundreds of aspirants. We thank Committee members Anna Spraggett, Huy Nguyen (KMIF 2018), Jan Owen AM, Kathryn Fagg AO and Professor John Daley AM for their commitment,

expertise and experience. During the year, Co-Convenor Edwina Myer took a leave of absence to focus on her new baby, with Edgar Myer stepping in to the Co-Convenor role.

Kenneth Myer Innovation Fellows benefit from the generous sharing of experience and insights from a Support Panel, comprised this year of Leah Armstong, Quentin Miller, Dr Shelley Meagher, and Oliver Roydhouse, to whom we are immensely grateful. We also thank Kilfinan Australia, which matches Fellows with high calibre mentors.

We are grateful to the TMF team for their support, and particularly to CEO Leonard Vary AM, Senior Program Manager Kirsty Allen and Program Manager Jane Thomas for their work on this impactful program.

Jonathan Lindsay, Edwina Myer (to May 2024) and Edgar Myer (from May 2024), Co-Convenors of the Kenneth Myer Innovation Fellowships Committee

2024 Recipient	State	Fellowship Project	Commitment from FY24
Dr Naba Alfayadh	VIC	Rahma Health	\$180,000
Chris Raine	QLD	Developing Clinical and Technology Innovation to Deliver Safe and Effective Treatments for Addiction and Mental Illness at Scale	\$180,000
Total			\$360,000

Inclusion & Equality Program

With the advent of a new strategic period, the time was right for this program, previously the Poverty & Disadvantage Program, to embrace a new name – one that reflects our intent to positively contribute to inclusion and equality in the Australian community. Significantly, we also have a new focus area for the five-year strategic period: *supporting low-income families to thrive in secure housing*. This focus was decided following discussion of current and emerging issues in the Australian community and the potential for a contribution from the Inclusion & Equality Program to make a difference to organisations working in this arena.

In keeping with our *enabling organisations* strategic pillar, the Inclusion & Equality Committee's grants

are untied, providing flexibility to funded organisations to deploy grant funds as they best determine. We know that this has enabled funded organisations to meet emerging organisational needs, to prioritise staff professional development and wellbeing, and to better position themselves to attract other supporters.

Across the strategic period, the Committee will take a portfolio approach to its grantmaking. We expect to make grants to organisations providing housing and/or housing support, and, as a reflection of our *impact beyond grantmaking* strategic pillar, to organisations focused on policy research and advocacy.

Importantly, multi-year grants made in the previous strategic period remain

current for the duration of each five-year commitment, and appear in the list of grants below.

In the first grantmaking cycle, the Committee has awarded two grants, both of five years' duration, following a process of getting to know a range of excellent and impactful organisations. Based in Victoria, Council for Single Mothers and their Children has for decades worked to improve the lives of single parent families through provision of advice and information – particularly around housing – and policy advocacy at state and national level.

In northern Tasmania, Karinya Young Women's Service supports pregnant and parenting young women aged 13 to 20 years with supported accommodation

Recipient	State	Project Name	FY Grant Approved	Funding Term (years)	Total Grant Value	Commitment from FY24
Multi-year grants						
Karinya Young Women's Service	TAS	General Operating Support	2024	Five	\$900,000	\$900,000
Council of Single Mothers and their Children	VIC	General Operating Support	2024	Five	\$590,000	\$590,000
CareerSeekers	NSW	General Operating Support	2023	Five	\$560,000	-
Himilo Ltd	VIC	General Operating Support	2023	Five	\$330,000	-
Savannah Pride (with PCYC NSW)	NSW	General Operating Support	2023	Five	\$300,000	-
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	-
Community grants						
Australian Neighbourhood Houses and Centres Association	VIC	General Operating Support	2024	Five	\$840,000	\$210,000
Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal	VIC	General Operating Support	2024	Five	\$830,000	\$200,000
GiveOUT Limited	VIC	General Operating Support	2024	Five	\$830,000	\$90,000
Single-year grants						
Big Group Hug	VIC	General Operating Support	2024	One	\$10,000	\$10,000
Total					\$8,680,000	\$2,000,000



Staff from Council of Single Mothers and their Children

and community tenancy. Young families receive support to develop parenting and life skills, form supportive networks and to maintain tenancies in their communities.

The Committee is very fortunate and grateful to benefit from the wise counsel of Professor Rebecca Bentley, Dr Cassandra Goldie AM, and Emeritus Professor Dorothy Scott AM, whose collective and individual expertise in housing and social policy is formidable and second to none. My warm thanks also to the other members of the Inclusion & Equality Committee, SMF Chairman Andrew Myer AM, Maree Shelmerdine, Louise Myer, Suzie Myer and Jigna Desai.

On behalf of the Inclusion & Equality Committee, I express our gratitude for the support of CEO Leonard Vary AM and Senior Program Manager Kirsty Allen, who developed the strategy for FY24–28 and guided our discussions as to a new and timely focus area, and who resource our deliberations and introduce us to amazing organisations doing vital work in the community.

Sally Lindsay, Convenor of the Inclusion & Equality Committee



Karinya's CEO Jane Gaetani-Black and Chair Lisa Amerikanos

Arts & Culture Program

In this new five-year strategic period, the grantmaking of the Arts & Culture Committee is focused on championing individual artists, creators and cultural leaders to be bold and ambitious.

Aligned with this strategic focus, the Committee is delighted to continue its support of the Sidney Myer Creative Fellowships program for a further five years. The Committee sees individual artists as the lifeblood of our nation's arts and culture sector. They are the creative force. And they often get by with little or no income from their practice, earning their livelihoods by working in other fields. The Fellowships provide the untied funding necessary for artists, creators and cultural leaders to have the time, space, stability and freedom to broaden and deepen our nation's culture.

Last year, we celebrated having awarded 100 of these Fellowships by publishing a commemorative book that profiles the outstanding talent and ongoing cultural contributions of the Fellows awarded between 2011 and 2022. In addition, the same alumni were invited to attend a long weekend retreat to connect with one another and to spark new creative conversations. The Committee was delighted to attend the first night of the retreat, to hear the moving address by guest speaker Professor Stan Grant, and to spend time with the Fellows.

This year, the Committee awarded Fellowships to a further nine exceptionally talented individuals. They are the first cohort to receive an augmented grant of \$200,000 each in untied, tax-free funding. They are all

immensely deserving recipients and we are delighted to welcome them to what is an increasingly remarkable alumni body.

Thanks go to my fellow Committee members Carrillo Gantner AC, Rupert Myer AO, Kerry Gardner AM, Henry Badgery and Stephen Armstrong. 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 AM 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 & Culture Committee

Recipient	State	Project Name	FY Grant Approved	Funding Term (years)	Total Grant Value	Commitment from FY24
Sidney Myer Creative Fellowships						
Freyja Wild	TAS	2023 Sidney Myer Creative Fellow	2024	Two	\$200,000	\$200,000
Sara Mansour	NSW	2023 Sidney Myer Creative Fellow	2024	Two	\$200,000	\$200,000
Matthias Schack-Arnott	VIC	2023 Sidney Myer Creative Fellow	2024	Two	\$200,000	\$200,000
Christine Kenneally	VIC	2023 Sidney Myer Creative Fellow	2024	Two	\$200,000	\$200,000
S. Shakthidharan	NSW	2023 Sidney Myer Creative Fellow	2024	Two	\$200,000	\$200,000
Adena Jacobs	VIC	2023 Sidney Myer Creative Fellow	2024	Two	\$200,000	\$200,000
John Harvey	QLD	2023 Sidney Myer Creative Fellow	2024	Two	\$200,000	\$200,000
Melanie Lane	ACT	2023 Sidney Myer Creative Fellow	2024	Two	\$200,000	\$200,000
Emma Jones	NSW	2023 Sidney Myer Creative Fellow	2024	Two	\$200,000	\$200,000
Alethea Beetson	QLD	2022 Sidney Myer Creative Fellow	2023	Two	\$160,000	-
Carly Sheppard	VIC	2022 Sidney Myer Creative Fellow	2023	Two	\$160,000	-
Eugenia Lim	VIC	2022 Sidney Myer Creative Fellow	2023	Two	\$160,000	-
Fred Leone	VIC	2022 Sidney Myer Creative Fellow	2023	Two	\$160,000	-
Ghenoa Gela	QLD	2022 Sidney Myer Creative Fellow	2023	Two	\$160,000	-
Mindy Meng Wang	VIC	2022 Sidney Myer Creative Fellow	2023	Two	\$160,000	-
Nam Le	VIC	2022 Sidney Myer Creative Fellow	2023	Two	\$160,000	-
Rachel Arianne Ogle	WA	2022 Sidney Myer Creative Fellow	2023	Two	\$160,000	-
Vincent Namatjira	SA	2022 Sidney Myer Creative Fellow	2023	Two	\$160,000	-
Single-year grants						
Australian Book Review	VIC	General Operating Support	2024	One	\$5,000	\$5,000
Sorrento Writers Festival	VIC	General Operating Support	2024	One	\$5,000	\$5,000
Application support for shortlisted SMCF Alumni Commissions			2024	One	\$4,800	\$4,800
Total					\$3,254,800	\$1,814,800



Kerry Gardner AM, Andrew Myer AM, Professor Stan Grant, Carrillo Gantner AC, Leonard Vary AM, Sally Lindsay, Neal Harvey and Kirsty Allen



Professor Stan Grant speaking on the first night of the Sidney Myer Creative Fellowship retreat



Poet and community builder Sara Mansour. Photo Merima Salihbegovic



The first 100 Sidney Myer Creative Fellows have been honoured in a special commemorative book



Circus artist Freyja Wild. Photo Gabriel Comerford



Playwright and filmmaker John Harvey

Arts & Culture Program



Composer and percussionist Matthias Schack-Arnott



Theatre director Adena Jacobs. Photo David Paterson



Writer Emma Jones



Choreographer Melanie Lane. Photo Barbara Dietl



Playwright S. Shakthidharan. Photo Alex Vaughan



Long-form journalist Christine Kenneally

Merlyn Myer Fund



Zoe Support assists young mothers aged 13 to 25 and their children



Ruby sewing at Zoe Support's Creative Connections program



Family Day Care

The Merlyn Myer Fund is a biennial grantmaking program overseen by four Trustees, who are female lineal descendants of Dame Merlyn Myer and Sidney Myer. The Merlyn Myer Fund has a remit to support the endeavour of women, in recognition of Dame Merlyn's interest in promoting equality for women and nurturing women's education, health and wellbeing.

The grantmaking focus is to provide opportunities for women experiencing disadvantage in Australia, with FY24 representing the second of a two-year grant awarded to Zoe Support. Based in

Mildura, one of the most disadvantaged communities in Victoria, Zoe Support is a not-for-profit and accredited community service organisation supporting young mothers aged 13 to 25 and their children. Offering a culture of connecting, inspiring and learning, Zoe Support aims to re-engage mothers in education, employment and social programs.

Zoe Support continues to play a vital role in its community, with clients experiencing increased barriers and challenges, including cost of living and housing pressures, amongst other complexities. Importantly, it

was registered as a childcare provider through its family day care service, providing an engaging learning and play program for children, many of whom are facing increased vulnerabilities.

Our most sincere thanks to CEO Leonard Vary AM and to Program Manager Jane Thomas for their continued and valued support and guidance throughout the year.

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

Recipient	State	Project Name	FY Grant Approved	Funding Term (years)	Total Grant Value	Commitment from FY24
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 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. He was previously Chair and Deputy-Chair of the Melbourne International Film Festival for 17 years until 2017, Chair of Arts Centre Melbourne Foundation, a director of the Victorian Arts Centre Trust, a board member of Malthouse Theatre, and Vice President of Bush Heritage Australia for nine years until March 2016.

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, Blueback, Force of Nature and Dangerous Remedy.

Trustees

Sidney Hordern Myer AM, BEc and Grad. Dip.in Marketing from Monash University (until June 2024)
Sid Myer is the Chairman of Myer Family Investments Ltd. 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. He was a Trustee of Sidney Myer Fund from 2001 to 2024.

Sally Lindsay BA, Dip Ed (Primary)

Sally Lindsay has been a member of the Inclusion & Equality Committee for 16 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 has been a Trustee of Sidney Myer Fund since 2020. She is also a member of The Myer Foundation's Sustainability & Environment Committee. Previously, she has been a member of the joint Investment Committee of Sidney Myer Fund and The Myer Foundation, and has served as Co-Convenor of the Kenneth Myer Innovation Fellowships Committee. In addition, Anna is a Board Member of Malthouse Theatre, but spends most of her time engaged with her busy gastroenterology practice.

Sidney Myer Fund Trustees and Committee Membership

Founder and Benefactor

Sidney Myer

Chairman

Andrew Myer AM

Trustees

Sally Lindsay
Sidney Myer AM (until June 2024)
Dr Anna Foley

Observer

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 to May 2024)
Anna Spraggett
Edgar Myer (Co-Convenor from May 2024)
Jan Owen AM
Huy Nguyen
Professor John Daley AM (from June 2024)
Kathryn Fagg AO

Inclusion & Equality

Sally Lindsay (Convenor)
Andrew Myer AM
Louise Myer
Maree Shelmerdine
Jigna Desai
Emeritus Professor Dorothy Scott AM
Dr Cassandra Goldie AM
Professor Rebecca Bentley

Arts & Culture

Kate Shelmerdine (Convenor)
Carrillo Gantner AC
Rupert Myer AO
Kerry Gardner AM
Henry Badgery
Stephen Armstrong
Emily Sexton (until November 2023)

Merlyn Myer Fund

Sally Lindsay
Samantha Baillieu AM
Lindy Shelmerdine
Laura Richards

Staff

Chief Executive Officer

Leonard Vary AM

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

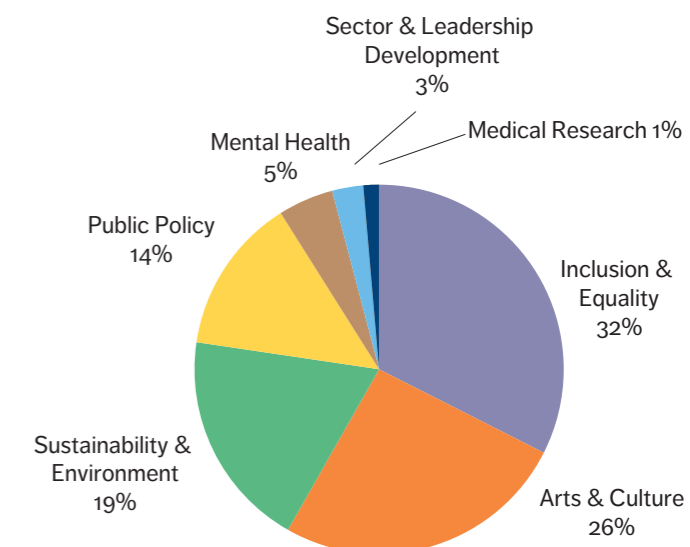
	Commitment from FY24
Sidney Myer Fund Trustees' Grants	\$7,018,200
Arts & Culture Program	\$1,814,800
Inclusion & Equality Program	\$2,000,000
Kenneth Myer Innovation Fellowships	\$360,000
Sidney Myer Performing Arts Awards	\$175,000
Merlyn Myer Fund	\$75,000
Total	\$11,443,000

The Myer Foundation & Sidney Myer Fund Combined Reporting

Sidney Myer Fund's Total FY24 Grant Commitments	\$11,443,000
The Myer Foundation's Total FY24 Grant Commitments	\$6,226,600
Adjustment for FY24 SMF to TMF transfer	-\$1,550,000
Combined FY24 Commitments	\$16,119,600
Combined Total Commitments* Since Inception	\$334,658,584

* not adjusted to present day values.

FY24 Funding By Focus Area



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