

# Sidney Myer Fund Annual Report 2020–21



*Sidney Myer*

SIDNEY MYER FUND

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Front cover: Nai Palm (Hiatus Kaiyote) perform on the Malthouse Outdoor Stage.  
Photo: Ian Laidlaw.

Back cover: BackTrack Youth Works participants

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

What a year it was. The external factors shaping the grantmaking of Sidney Myer Fund over FY21 are significant – bushfires, climate change, pandemic. In response, we have looked beyond theprecedented, worked collaboratively to enhance our impact, and sought to ‘build back better’ in the community and in the context of our own governance.

Funding efforts to avert and address the unfolding climate disaster, most devastatingly exemplified by the Black Summer bushfires of 2019–20, has not traditionally been the business of Sidney Myer Fund Trustees. However, urgent need demands urgent rethinking, and FY21 saw us attack the matter on multiple fronts. First, we directed relief to communities affected by the bushfires through the Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal. Second, we initiated an annual transfer of \$300,000 to The Myer Foundation's Sustainability & Environment Committee, to enable greater climate-focused grantmaking without the inefficiency of a separate Committee structure. Third, we reinvested the largest Myer Family Investments special dividend in Sidney Myer Fund's history into climate-friendly ESG (environmental, social, governance) assets to put our corpus to work as well. Having also liquidated some of our other non-ESG investments, our total ESG portfolio as of July 2021 stands at \$67.41 million, almost matching the scale of The Myer Foundation's ESG investments, thus effectively doubling its impact – I want to particularly note the superlative work of CFO Hang Truong on this major project.

Many in our community have suffered terribly as a result of COVID-19 and the necessary curtailments of everyday life. Our phased response has had to adapt as the tenacity of the virus and the scale of its impact have become clear. Phase one was initiated in FY20 with funding for individual arts workers. Phase two provided emergency grants to organisations working in food security, legal support services, and family violence. Phase three was a collaborative project with other funders exploring how not-for-profits could respond innovatively to the pandemic and ensure future sustainability. Even as we closed out FY21, the need for further phases of support was becoming evident. The pandemic has emphasised the effectiveness and importance of providing organisations with general operating support funding over multiple years. It has given them the flexibility to go where there is need, to change direction when necessary, and to weather the storm for longer than anyone could have imagined.

While we no longer directly offer small grants, we do support two small grants programs offered by others through our Poverty & Disadvantage Program. Grants to the Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal in support of its *Strengthening Rural Communities*, and to the Australian Neighbourhood Houses and Centres Association for the establishment of its *Supporting Stronger Communities*, to a total of \$500,000 a year, ensure that grants up to \$10,000 each are available in communities in all parts of the country. Projects range from the establishment of a recording studio for a community radio station in northwest Tasmania, to provision of



Andrew Myer AM  
Chairman

virtual reality equipment to increase engagement in school in remote Western Australia, to support for newly arrived families in the City of Hume, and a craft program for socially isolated women in suburban Perth.

Much of the arts sector has been shut down by the pandemic, making the precarious creative life all the more uncertain. The Arts & Humanities Committee continued work begun in FY20, by redirecting funds from longstanding programs like the Sidney Myer Creative Fellowships to emergency grantmaking that could help as many artists and organisations as quickly and efficiently as possible. It also worked with government bodies to achieve the same goal, partnering with Australia Council and Creative Victoria on complementary funding rounds that leveraged their administrative capacity and reduced the burden on artists.

That spirit of collaboration was present throughout the year. With The Myer Foundation, we have built on existing shared programs like the Kenneth Myer Innovation Fellowships, adding joint action on climate change and mental health, and sharing an Investment Committee.

Collaborating with other funders has led to the launch in FY21 of important new initiatives, including Social Impact Leadership Australia (SILA), a national leadership program for CEOs of for-purpose organisations. SILA is the flagship of our people strategic pillar. Delivered by UNSW's Centre for Social Impact, it is a partnership between SMF/TMF, the Paul Ramsay Foundation and Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation, and is the culmination of three years' work. It is the first program of its kind in Australia and represents a commitment

to the role of philanthropy in building capacity in the for-purpose sector – a capacity our communities will need more than ever in the wake of COVID-19. The first cohort of 24 leaders has now been selected and the program commenced with a retreat in November 2021.

We have also taken the time to reassess some of the fundamentals of how the Sidney Myer Fund operates. Our constitution has been updated to include term limits for Trustees, ensuring that more voices are heard and more family members are given the opportunity, the privilege and the responsibility of these important roles. Given Sidney Myer's legacy to this family, family Trustee continuity is imperative as we head towards the centenary of his passing in 2034. On that note, my congratulations to Dr Anna Foley for completing her first year as a new Trustee – her tenure marks the second changing of the generational guard since the Fund's inception and she has acquitted herself perfectly.

My deep thanks to our navigator, CEO Leonard Vary, and all the staff who keep Sidney Myer Fund under sail. Despite being locked out of the office for most of the year, they have managed to carry out an immense body of work. I dips me lid!

Finally, it bears noting that, when offices do reopen in Melbourne, the philanthropic team will be working cheek by jowl with the commercial team at Myer Family Investments. It is a reunification after more than ten years apart. Two arms of the same body, working independently, but each made stronger by the other's presence.

This is my first address as Chairman in what is the Sidney Myer Fund's 87th year. That is an outstanding legacy to build on and there is much to be genuinely excited about for the future. 'En avant!', comme on dit.

# Sidney Myer Fund CEO's Introduction

FY21 continued to present grave challenges for our community. The for-purpose sector has been under extraordinary strain as it meets rising community need, whilst also riding the roller coaster of lockdowns and restrictions. The sector's unceasing efforts, its resourcefulness and its positive impact are nothing short of inspirational. To engage with and to support the sector is to be reminded on a daily basis of our community's extraordinary capacity for generosity and resilience.

This year also marked the midpoint of our current five-year strategic period. It is reassuring and exciting to note the very material progress that has already been made on the strategic priorities. In some cases, we are ahead of where we expected to be at this midpoint. The strategy has also proved its mettle in the crucible of a pandemic. The priority given to multi-year general operating support for organisations has allowed rapid shifts in service delivery and maximised the usefulness of our funding. For those organisations in receipt of project-based grants from other funders, having to negotiate changed priorities and timelines has been an unhelpful distraction in these demanding times. As well as this, the values and structure that underpin our current strategy have allowed us to respond to COVID-19 in a phased approach that stays true to priorities set down long before a pandemic was on the horizon.

One of the core initiatives of the strategy has launched in the midst of all this disruption, and it could not be more timely. The for-purpose leadership

development program called Social Impact Leadership Australia (SILA) will give its first cohort of CEOs much-needed time to take a long, deep breath and reflect on this busy chapter. For some, it will be their first time away from organisations they founded. For all, it will be an opportunity to gain new skills and spend time with a remarkable group of peers. I will be delighted to see the results and discover what they learn.

Speaking of leadership, Andrew Myer has brought his questing mind and boundless enthusiasm to his Chairmanship of the Trustees. His willingness to rethink and repurpose and to challenge my thinking has allowed us to move quickly into new ways of working – for example, the decision of Trustees to transfer \$300,000 per annum to The Myer Foundation's Sustainability & Environment Committee sets an historic precedent in shared resourcing and shared priorities for the two philanthropic entities. It has been a delight to work with Andrew, who can bring well-measured levity to even the most staid of procedural moments.

My thanks to the passionate and unimpeachably capable staff who have continued to keep the machinery of the Sidney Myer Fund working from their spare rooms, bedrooms and dining tables. The separation has, if anything, brought us closer. I relish the prospect that, in the near future, we will be reunited in our new offices at 171 Collins St. Until then, we continue the work captured in these pages, supporting our community to weather the current storm and to prepare for a brighter future.



Leonard Vary  
CEO

Photo: James Penlidis

# Sidney Myer Fund Trustees' Grants



The One Box provides Australian families in need with a free weekly box full of fresh groceries

| Recipient                                               | State | Project Name                                                                                       | FY Grant Approved | Funding Term (years) | Total Grant | Commitment from FY21 Budget |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| Multi-year grants                                       |       |                                                                                                    |                   |                      |             |                             |
| Arts Centre Melbourne                                   | VIC   | Asia TOPA 2024                                                                                     | 2021              | Two                  | \$1,000,000 | \$1,000,000                 |
| BackTrack Youth Works                                   | NSW   | General Operating Support                                                                          | 2021              | Four                 | \$400,000   | \$400,000                   |
| 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 One Box                                             | VIC   | General Operating Support                                                                          | 2021              | Four                 | \$300,000   | \$300,000                   |
| Refugee Council of Australia                            | Aus   | Community Refugee Sponsorship Initiative                                                           | 2019              | Three                | \$1,000,000 | \$250,000                   |
| Social Impact Hub                                       | NSW   | General Operating Support                                                                          | 2019              | Three                | \$750,000   | \$250,000                   |
| A New Approach                                          | ACT   | General Operating Support                                                                          | 2021              | Three                | \$600,000   | \$200,000                   |
| Western Edge Youth Arts                                 | VIC   | Edge Ensemble Development                                                                          | 2018              | Three                | \$90,000    | \$30,000                    |
| Regional Arts Victoria**                                | VIC   | General Operating Support                                                                          | 2020              | Three                | \$300,000   | -                           |
| Kilfinan Australia                                      | VIC   | General Operating Support                                                                          | 2019              | Three                | \$150,000   | -                           |
| Theatre Network Australia                               | VIC   | General Operating Support                                                                          | 2019              | Three                | \$300,000   | -                           |
| Reclink Australia                                       | SA    | Regional Programs                                                                                  | 2019              | Three                | \$93,050    | -                           |
| Total                                                   |       |                                                                                                    |                   |                      | \$7,383,050 | \$3,030,000                 |

\*\* Cofunded with Myer Family Trust



# Sidney Myer Fund Trustees' Grants

| Recipient                                                    | State | Project Name                                        | Commitment from FY21 Budget |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Single-year grants                                           |       |                                                     |                             |
| Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal                      | AUS   | Bushfire Recovery Program                           | \$400,000                   |
| Malthouse Theatre                                            | VIC   | Outdoor Stage Initiative                            | \$300,000                   |
| Melbourne Fringe                                             | VIC   | The Rest Is Up To You: Melbourne Fringe 1982 - 2062 | \$100,000                   |
| Centre for Social Impact, University of New South Wales      | NSW   | Social Impact Leadership Australia                  | \$90,000                    |
| The Big Feels Club                                           | VIC   | General Operating Support                           | \$90,000                    |
| Lort Smith Animal Hospital                                   | VIC   | General Operating Support                           | \$15,000                    |
| Deadly Science                                               | NSW   | General Operating Support                           | \$10,000                    |
| Festival of Jewish Arts and Music                            | VIC   | General Operating Support                           | \$10,000                    |
| Migrant Resource Centre (Southern Tasmania)                  | TAS   | Pride Foundation Australia - SMF co-funding round   | \$10,000                    |
| Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network (AEGN)          | VIC   | General Operating Support                           | \$5,000                     |
| Bakehouse Studios                                            | VIC   | General Operating Support                           | \$5,000                     |
| Berry Street                                                 | VIC   | General Operating Support                           | \$5,000                     |
| Cranlana Centre for Ethical Leadership - Women's Scholarship | VIC   | General Operating Support                           | \$5,000                     |
| GiveOUT                                                      | VIC   | General Operating Support                           | \$5,000                     |
| Heide Museum                                                 | VIC   | General Operating Support                           | \$5,000                     |
| Our Lady's Primary School                                    | VIC   | General Operating Support                           | \$5,000                     |
| The Heights School                                           | SA    | General Operating Support                           | \$5,000                     |
| Australian Art Orchestra                                     | VIC   | General Operating Support                           | \$4,000                     |
| Bluebird Foundation                                          | VIC   | General Operating Support                           | \$2,500                     |
| Djirra                                                       | VIC   | General Operating Support                           | \$2,500                     |
| Environmental Leadership Australia                           | NSW   | General Operating Support                           | \$2,500                     |
| Flat Out                                                     | VIC   | General Operating Support                           | \$2,500                     |
| Indigenous Literacy Foundation                               | NSW   | General Operating Support                           | \$2,500                     |
| The One Box                                                  | VIC   | General Operating Support                           | \$2,500                     |
| Annie North Women's Refuge                                   | VIC   | General Operating Support                           | \$2,000                     |
| Arts Industry Council SA                                     | SA    | General Operating Support                           | \$2,000                     |
| Australian Theatre for Young People                          | NSW   | General Operating Support                           | \$2,000                     |
| Brisbane Powerhouse                                          | QLD   | General Operating Support                           | \$2,000                     |
| Chamber of Arts and Culture West Australia                   | WA    | General Operating Support                           | \$2,000                     |
| Effective Altruism                                           | VIC   | General Operating Support                           | \$2,000                     |
| Giant Steps                                                  | VIC   | General Operating Support                           | \$2,000                     |
| Total                                                        |       |                                                     | \$1,098,000                 |

# Sidney Myer Fund Trustees' Grants



Nai Palm (Hiatus Kaiyote) perform on the Malthouse Outdoor Stage. Photo: Ian Laidlaw.



Community Refugee Sponsorship Australia





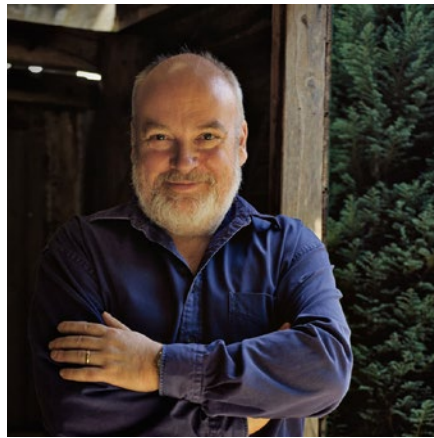
# Sidney Myer Performing Arts Awards

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.

In FY21, in light of the devastating impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the livelihoods of artists and everyone working in arts and culture in Australia, the Sidney Myer Fund acted decisively to rethink the presentation of the awards. Instead of awarding the usual three annual prizes – the Group Award, the Individual Award and the Facilitator’s Prize – eight prizes of \$25,000 each were supported, increasing the total budget by \$25,000 to \$200,000. The winners were drawn from all eight states and territories to celebrate the winners’ achievements and to recognise the role they play in affirming our country’s united sense of self.



A selection of the 2020 SMPAA recipients (clockwise from top left): Kylie Bracknell [Kaarjilba Kaardn], Robin Fox, Second Echo Ensemble and Andrew Ford



| 2020 Recipient                     | State | Award or Prize                                  | Commitment from FY21 Budget |
|------------------------------------|-------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Robin Fox                          | VIC   | Sidney Myer Performing Arts Individual Award    | \$25,000                    |
| Kylie Bracknell [Kaarjilba Kaardn] | WA    | Sidney Myer Performing Arts Individual Award    | \$25,000                    |
| Sally Chance                       | SA    | Sidney Myer Performing Arts Individual Award    | \$25,000                    |
| Metro Arts                         | QLD   | Sidney Myer Performing Arts Group Award         | \$25,000                    |
| Second Echo Ensemble               | TAS   | Sidney Myer Performing Arts Group Award         | \$25,000                    |
| The Street Theatre                 | ACT   | Sidney Myer Performing Arts Group Award         | \$25,000                    |
| Andrew Ford                        | NSW   | Sidney Myer Performing Arts Facilitator’s Prize | \$25,000                    |
| Sean Pardy                         | NT    | Sidney Myer Performing Arts Facilitator’s Prize | \$25,000                    |
| Total                              |       |                                                 | \$200,000                   |

# Kenneth Myer Innovation Fellowships



2021 Kenneth Myer Innovation Fellows Max Burt and Dr Martin Butson

The Kenneth Myer Innovation Fellowships provide outstanding Australian social and environmental innovators the unique opportunity to spend a year pursuing a groundbreaking idea. The Sidney Myer Fund supports two Fellowships each year, within the broad definition of poverty and disadvantage, alongside one Fellowship supported by The Myer Foundation.

Over time, Fellowship projects have sought to develop new approaches to reduce homelessness, strengthen the Australian climate movement, establish sustainable ocean farming models, and improve the conditions in Australian immigration detention centres. One of the great success stories is HireUp – founder Jordan O’Reilly was a 2015 Fellowship recipient and the for-purpose enterprise, which empowers people with a disability to choose and engage

with disability workers online, is now a critical player in how the National Disability Insurance Scheme functions in Australia.

In FY21, the Fellowships supported by the Sidney Myer Fund were awarded to Max Burt and Dr Martin Butson. Max Burt’s project, WheelEasy, aims to build a comprehensive and accurate website of mobility access information for venues and locations around Australia, improving the everyday quality of life for people with mobility issues. Dr Butson’s project, the SODIS sticker, placed on PET bottles, registers when untreated water has received sufficient UV radiation to render it safe to drink – a vital health safeguard for communities globally.

Each year the Fellowships are keenly sought after and this year was no

different, with 253 expressions of interest submitted. As Co-Convenors we are joined and supported in the task of selecting the Fellows by a stellar Committee, which in FY21 comprised Dr Anna Foley, Edwina Myer, Professor John Daley AM, Jan Owen AM and Kathryn Fagg AO. We are grateful for their insightful contributions and pay special tribute to former Co-Convenor Dr Foley and Professor Daley, both of whom stepped down at the end of June 2021. Our thanks also go to the members of the Kenneth Myer Innovation Fellowship Support Panel, Oliver Roydhouse, Clare Harding and Quentin Miller, and to The Myer Foundation CEO Leonard Vary and team.

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

| 2021 Recipient   | State | Fellowship Project                                                                        | Commitment from FY21 Budget |
|------------------|-------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Dr Martin Butson | NSW   | The SODIS Sticker - Ensuring the safety of drinking water sanitized by Solar Disinfection | \$150,000                   |
| Max Burt         | NSW   | Taking the WheelEasy Access Information Web App nationwide                                | \$150,000                   |
| Total            |       |                                                                                           | \$300,000                   |



# Poverty & Disadvantage Program

Our current focus area is improved transitions from education to further education and employment for Indigenous young people and refugee young people aged 15 to 25 years. The impact that COVID-19 restrictions have had on young and disadvantaged communities has only increased the urgent relevance of our focus. In FY21, the Poverty & Disadvantage Committee supported two organisations with untied grants over five years.

CareerTrackers was established by someone who entered the Australian corporate environment and wondered out loud, “where are the Indigenous graduates and leaders?”. In the past 12 years, it has supported over a thousand Indigenous students to complete university and graduate into professional careers in the private sector.

Multicultural Youth South Australia is a dynamic organisation founded in 2017 that provides settlement services and other programs for refugee and multicultural young people in South Australia. It also has a social enterprise, providing training and employment opportunities for young refugees.



Mimi, Chudier and Jahluvi at work at The Social Studio

I am delighted to be joined on the Committee by fellow Trustee Andrew Myer AM, Maree Shelmerdine, Louise Myer and Hugh Lockie, as well as our expert members, Emeritus Professor Dorothy Scott AM, Elmina Joldic and Benson Saulo. I thank them all for their enthusiastic commitment and wise contributions. My thanks also to

Jigna Desai, who stepped off the Committee this year. I am grateful, also, to CEO Leonard Vary and Senior Program Manager Kirsty Allen for all they do to ensure the efficacy of our grantmaking.

Sally Lindsay, Convenor of the Poverty & Disadvantage Committee

| Recipient                                            | State | Project Name                     | FY Grant Approved | Funding Term (years) | Total Grant | Commitment from FY21 Budget |
|------------------------------------------------------|-------|----------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| Multi-year grants                                    |       |                                  |                   |                      |             |                             |
| Multicultural Youth South Australia                  | SA    | General Operating Support        | 2021              | Five                 | \$530,000   | \$530,000                   |
| CareerTrackers Indigenous Internship Program         | Aus   | General Operating Support        | 2021              | Five                 | \$660,000   | \$660,000                   |
| Stars Foundation                                     | VIC   | General Operating Support        | 2020              | Five                 | \$615,000   | -                           |
| The River Nile Learning Centre                       | VIC   | General Operating Support        | 2020              | Five                 | \$210,000   | -                           |
| The Social Studio                                    | VIC   | General Operating Support        | 2020              | Five                 | \$355,000   | -                           |
| Centre for Multicultural Youth                       | VIC   | General Operating Support        | 2019              | Five                 | \$668,000   | -                           |
| Ganbina                                              | VIC   | General Operating Support        | 2019              | Five                 | \$500,000   | -                           |
| Australian Neighbourhood House & Centres Association | Aus   | Metropolitan Small Grant Program | 2018              | Three                | \$900,000   | \$300,000                   |
| Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal              | Aus   | Regional Small Grant Program     | 2018              | Five                 | \$1,000,000 | \$200,000                   |
| Single-year grants                                   |       |                                  |                   |                      |             |                             |
| BackTrack Youth Works                                | NSW   | General Operating Support        | 2021              |                      |             | \$10,000                    |
| Total                                                |       |                                  |                   |                      |             | \$1,700,000                 |



Multicultural Youth South Australia offers drivings lessons to young refugee girls as a pathway into work



River Nile Learning Centre English language class



# Arts & Humanities Program

The pandemic's effect on the arts sector has been severe and ongoing. Following on from the National Assistance Program for the Arts, which provided emergency relief to individual arts workers in FY20, the Arts & Humanities Committee set aside its focus area this year to work with government funding bodies and small-to-medium Victorian organisations to ensure artists received additional support as quickly as possible.

In keeping with the idea of building back better, the Committee partnered with the Australia Council on funding sector recovery initiatives. Artists and organisations were asked to respond to key priority areas for recovery (including equity and justice, mobility and exchange, resilience, health and wellbeing, leadership and digital) aimed at building a more resilient future for arts and culture in Australia.

Other new grants were focused on Victoria, where restrictions have been especially strict and prolonged. The Committee's contribution to Creative Victoria's Creators Fund made the 2021 round the largest to date, with a greater number of creatives receiving support. The Committee also developed the Victorian Commissioning Initiative, a fast-tracked program of funding which directed money towards individual artists through seven small-to-medium arts organisations.

After many years on the committee, Lady Southey AC resigned in 2021. I would like to take this opportunity to thank her immensely, not only for her many long years of service, but for her remarkable guidance and leadership. We also bid farewell to Lindy Shelmerdine earlier in the year, and Program Manager Neal Harvey. All of their contributions will be missed.

Thanks go to my fellow Committee members Carrillo Gantner AC, Rupert Myer AO, Kerry Gardner AM, Patrick Myer, Sue Natrass AO and Stephen Armstrong. It is a great pleasure to work with this group of committed philanthropists, engaged thinkers and lovers of culture. I would like to acknowledge the work of the Sidney Myer Fund Trustees Andrew Myer AM, Sidney Myer AM, Sally Lindsay and Dr Anna Foley. I would also like to thank CEO Leonard Vary, as well as Carl Nilsson-Polias who has seamlessly and expertly stepped in as Program Manager.

Kate Shelmerdine, Convenor of the Arts & Humanities Committee

| Recipient | State | Project Name | FY Grant Approved | Funding Term (years) | Total Grant | Commitment from FY21 Budget |
|-----------|-------|--------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
|-----------|-------|--------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|

### Sidney Myer Creative Fellowships

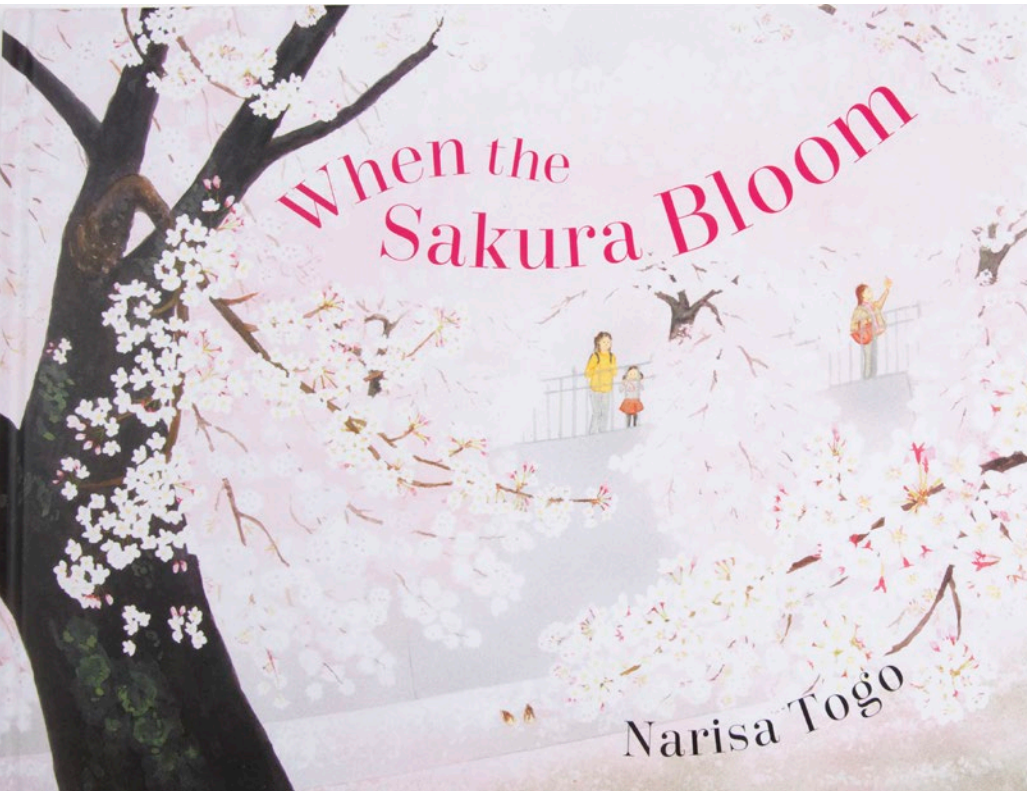
|                           |     |                                               |      |     |           |          |
|---------------------------|-----|-----------------------------------------------|------|-----|-----------|----------|
| Alisdair Macindoe         | VIC | 2019 Sidney Myer Creative Fellow (Dance)      | 2020 | Two | \$160,000 | \$80,000 |
| Angela Tiatia             | NSW | 2019 Sidney Myer Creative Fellow (Visual Art) | 2020 | Two | \$160,000 | \$80,000 |
| Ceridwen Dovey            | NSW | 2019 Sidney Myer Creative Fellow (Writing)    | 2020 | Two | \$160,000 | \$80,000 |
| Emma Valente              | VIC | 2019 Sidney Myer Creative Fellow (Theatre)    | 2020 | Two | \$160,000 | \$80,000 |
| Lior Attar                | VIC | 2019 Sidney Myer Creative Fellow (Music)      | 2020 | Two | \$160,000 | \$80,000 |
| Lydia Fairhall            | QLD | 2019 Sidney Myer Creative Fellow (Producing)  | 2020 | Two | \$160,000 | \$80,000 |
| Maxine Clarke             | VIC | 2019 Sidney Myer Creative Fellow (Writing)    | 2020 | Two | \$160,000 | \$80,000 |
| Natano Fa'anana           | QLD | 2019 Sidney Myer Creative Fellow (Circus)     | 2020 | Two | \$160,000 | \$80,000 |
| Ramesh Mario Nithiyendran | NSW | 2019 Sidney Myer Creative Fellow (Visual Art) | 2020 | Two | \$160,000 | \$80,000 |

### Multi-year grants

|                   |     |                                                                             |      |       |           |   |
|-------------------|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-------|-----------|---|
| Text Publishing   | VIC | Producing translated children's titles for the Australian children's market | 2019 | Three | \$225,000 | - |
| Berbay Publishing | VIC | Producing translated children's titles for the Australian children's market | 2019 | Three | \$210,000 | - |

### Single-year grants

|                                 |     |                                    |      |  |  |           |
|---------------------------------|-----|------------------------------------|------|--|--|-----------|
| Australia Council               | NSW | Sector Recovery Initiatives        | 2021 |  |  | \$300,000 |
| Creative Victoria               | VIC | Creators Fund Collaboration        | 2021 |  |  | \$100,000 |
| Back to Back Theatre            | VIC | Victorian Commissioning Initiative | 2021 |  |  | \$85,000  |
| Castlemaine State Festival      | VIC | Victorian Commissioning Initiative | 2021 |  |  | \$85,000  |
| Footscray Community Arts Centre | VIC | Victorian Commissioning Initiative | 2021 |  |  | \$85,000  |



Berbay Publishing's *When the Sakura Bloom* by Narisa Togo sheds light on the cultural significance of cherry blossom season in Japan



| Recipient                               | State | Project Name                       | FY Grant Approved | Funding Term (years) | Total Grant | Commitment from FY21 Budget |
|-----------------------------------------|-------|------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| Ilbjerri                                | VIC   | Victorian Commissioning Initiative | 2021              |                      |             | \$85,000                    |
| Polyglot                                | VIC   | Victorian Commissioning Initiative | 2021              |                      |             | \$85,000                    |
| The Substation                          | VIC   | Victorian Commissioning Initiative | 2021              |                      |             | \$85,000                    |
| Lemony S Puppet                         | VIC   | Victorian Commissioning Initiative | 2021              |                      |             | \$60,000                    |
| The Australian Institute of Art History | VIC   | General Operating Support          | 2021              |                      |             | \$5,000                     |
| Heide Museum                            | VIC   | General Operating Support          | 2021              |                      |             | \$5,000                     |
| Total                                   |       |                                    |                   |                      | \$2,855,000 | \$1,700,000                 |



# Merlyn Myer Fund

Dame Merlyn Myer’s four granddaughters acknowledge her interest in the wellbeing of women through the Merlyn Myer Fund program, of which they are Trustees. The program supports the experience, wellbeing and concerns of women through endeavours which enable the intelligences, sensibilities and attributes of women.

The focus area for the current strategic period is addressing disadvantage and providing opportunities for women in Australia. In FY21, in order to have the greatest impact, a single grant over two years was awarded.

The funded organisation is SisterWorks, a Victorian not-for-profit with a mission to support migrant, refugee and asylum seeker women through work and entrepreneurship. Founded in 2013, SisterWorks has grown exponentially since it was established and has supported more than 1,200 women from 94 countries. SisterWorks offers tailored support, education and training that focuses on assisting women to overcome the social and financial challenges they face. It operates workplace and training hubs in Dandenong, Collingwood and Bendigo and expanded its reach with Mobile Hubs and an online E-Hub in FY21. Adaptive and responsive, SisterWorks



rose to meet the enormous challenges of the last year and we look forward to seeing it continue to grow and deepen its impact.

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

Sisters working on Seer Medical Assembly project

| Recipient       | State | Project Name                  | FY Grant Approved | Funding Term (years) | Total Grant Amount | Commitment from FY21 Budget |
|-----------------|-------|-------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| Sisterworks Inc | VIC   | General Operating Support2021 |                   | Two                  | \$150,000          | \$75,000                    |
| Total           |       |                               |                   |                      | \$150,000          | \$75,000                    |



Mobile Hub at Sunshine with Sisters from Migrant Resource Center



Bendigo Sisters showcasing the Guide Dog treat bags they made



# 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 was 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. In June 2017, Andrew became a director of Documentary Australia Foundation and joined the board of Malthouse Theatre in February 2018. He 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 Graduate Diploma in Marketing**

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

**Sally Lindsay BA, Dip Ed (Primary)**

Sally Lindsay has been a member of the Poverty & Disadvantage Committee for 14 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 (from August 2020)**

Anna Foley completed her medical degree with Honours at Monash University in 2001. She completed specialist training in Gastroenterology at The Alfred Hospital and Box Hill Hospital and currently has a public appointment at The Alfred. Anna became a Trustee of the Sidney Myer Fund in 2020 and is also a member of the TMF & SMF Investment Committee. She has previously served as Co-Convenor of the Kenneth Myer Innovation Fellowships Committee.

# 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

## Sidney Myer Fund Grantmaking Committees

**Kenneth Myer Innovation Fellowships**  
(co-supported by The Myer Foundation)  
Anna Spraggett (Co-Convenor)  
Dr Anna Foley (Co-Convenor until June 2021)  
Jonathan Lindsay (Co-Convenor from July 2021)  
Edwina Myer  
Jan Owen AM  
Professor John Daley AM (until June 2021)  
Kathryn Fagg AO

**Poverty & Disadvantage**  
Sally Lindsay (Convenor)  
Andrew Myer AM

Louise Myer  
Maree Shelmerdine  
Hugh Lockie  
Jigna Desai (on leave)  
Emeritus Professor Dorothy Scott AM  
Benson Saulo  
Elmina Joldic

**Arts & Humanities**  
Kate Shelmerdine (Convenor)  
Lady Southey AC (until May 2021)  
Carrillo Gantner AC  
Rupert Myer AO  
Lindy Shelmerdine (until October 2020)  
Kerry Gardner AM  
Patrick Myer  
Sue Natrass AO  
Stephen Armstrong  
Emily Sexton (from July 2021)

**Merlyn Myer Fund**  
Sally Lindsay  
Lindy Shelmerdine  
Samantha Baillieu AM  
Joanna Baevski

## Staff

**Chief Executive Officer**  
Leonard Vary

**Chief Financial Officer/Company Secretary**  
Hang Truong

**Senior Program Manager**  
Kirsty Allen

**Program Managers**  
Dr Neal Harvey (until December 2020)  
Carl Nilsson-Polias (from February 2021)  
Jane Thomas

**Executive Assistant**  
Denise Minahan

**Administration Assistant**  
Jennifer Kelly (until December 2020)

**Finance & Administration Co-ordinator**  
Sunali Silva (from January 2021 until September 2021)

**Administration & Grants Coordinator**  
Madeleine Livingstone (from September 2021)

# Sidney Myer Fund Financials

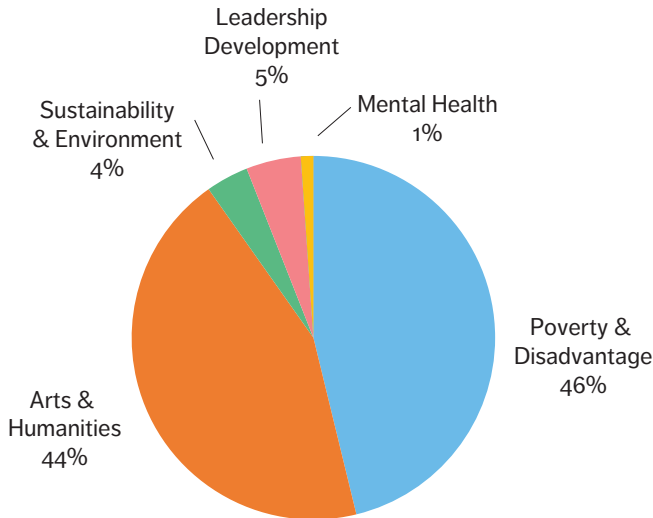
|                                     | Commitment<br>from FY21 Budget |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Sidney Myer Fund Trustees' Grants   | \$4,128,000                    |
| Arts & Humanities Program           | \$1,700,000                    |
| Poverty & Disadvantage Program      | \$1,700,000                    |
| Kenneth Myer Innovation Fellowships | \$300,000                      |
| Sidney Myer Performing Arts Awards  | \$200,000                      |
| Merlyn Myer Fund                    | \$75,000                       |
| <b>Total</b>                        | <b>\$8,103,000</b>             |

## The Myer Foundation & Sidney Myer Fund Combined Reporting

|                                                    |                      |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Sidney Myer Fund's Total FY21 Grant Commitments    | \$8,103,000          |
| The Myer Foundation's Total FY21 Grant Commitments | \$3,742,661          |
| Combined FY21 Commitments                          | \$11,845,661         |
| Adjustment for FY21 SMF to TMF transfer            | -\$300,000           |
| <b>Combined Total Commitments Since Inception*</b> | <b>\$291,769,889</b> |

\* not adjusted to present day values.

## FY21 Funding By Focus Area







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Designed by: Philip Campbell Design  
Printed by Southern Impact  
Printed on 100% recycled paper