



MEDIA RELEASE

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## **ARIA, PPCA and Australia Council Announce Recording Grants for First Nation Artists**

Today the Australian Recording Association of Australia (ARIA), in partnership with PPCA and the Australia Council, announced a new recording grant for First Nations artists. Five grants, each valued at \$18,500, will be available to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists to create new recordings.

The new grants build upon the successful program run by the Phonographic Performance Company of Australia (PPCA) and the Australia Council. The partnership between the two organisations began in 2013 and has provided support to over 40 new Australian recordings across a diverse range of genres.

The new grants will follow the existing application and assessment infrastructure and draw on the expertise of a First Nations Industry Advisory Panel. The grant program accommodates access to industry professionals who will advise and help the grantees to develop effective marketing, promotion and audience growth for their recording project.

The intention of the new grants is to expand the diversity of Australian voices as well as developing the capacity and professional capability of First Nations music industry aspirants. The grants will result in five new recordings from First Nations artists and aid the development of sustainable career pathways for First Nations creatives.

**Dan Rosen**, CEO of ARIA, said:

*“ARIA is proud to announce this grant, designed to help amplify First Nations voices in our industry. I look forward to hearing the music that will be created as the result of these grants, and also to work towards a more diverse and inclusive Australian music industry.”*

**Lydia Miller**, Australia Council Executive Director Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts, said:

*“We are delighted to extend our partnership with ARIA and PPCA and to deliver these grants to First Nations contemporary musicians. We can’t wait to hear the exciting new releases that will be made possible through these new grants”*

Further details about the grants will be provided in the coming weeks, with grants to be awarded later in 2020.

This project has been assisted by the Australian Government through the Indigenous Contemporary Music program, which aims to provide development opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander musicians and bands throughout Australia.

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