



BREAKTHROUGH: EMERGING INDIGENOUS CONTEMPORARY MUSICIANS RECORDING INITIATIVE

Program Information and Guidelines

Funding Round 3 – Closing 5pm, 28 October 2011

Program Aims

The Breakthrough program is funded by the Australian Government and provides grants of up to \$25,000 to emerging Indigenous musicians. The program aims to:

- support emerging Indigenous musicians/bands to produce a high quality recording of original tracks, suitable for broadcast and commercial release
- assist emerging Indigenous musicians to broaden their audience base and further their careers
- provide greater exposure for the talent and creativity of Indigenous musicians, and increase national and international audiences for Indigenous contemporary music
- provide opportunities for skills development within the Indigenous contemporary music sector

Funding for Breakthrough 2011 is provided by the Indigenous Cultural Support program.

Eligibility requirements

1. Individual musicians must be of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descents, identify as such, and be recognised by their community
2. Bands must have at least one principal performer of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent, who identifies as such, and is recognised by their community
3. Applications are accepted from individuals and bands. Managers, agents, music organisations and music networks may also submit applications on behalf of individual musicians or bands
4. All individual musicians and band members must be Australian citizens and residents
5. Applications must be fully completed and submitted on the application form provided including budget templates and a signed declaration page by the due date and time
6. Individual musicians or bands that have received a previous Breakthrough grant are not eligible to apply

What is an emerging musician?

An emerging musician:

- is at the beginning of their career, usually having practised as a professional artist continually for less than five years. Age is not a determining factor
- wishes to develop their career further and has generated the support of a growing and enthusiastic audience
- may not have participated in any major festivals or concert tours, but has solid performing experience on which they would like to build
- may not have received national recognition for the commercial sale of their work, and their sole income may not be a product of their musical work
- may already have an EP or CD. However, it is possible that the creation of a new, better financed and higher quality recording could assist their professional development substantially

What will Breakthrough fund?

Breakthrough will fund up to \$25,000 per successful applicant for costs associated with producing a recording, including:

- studio and equipment hire
- production fees
- mixing fees
- engineering fees
- mastering fees
- artwork
- CD manufacturing
- session musicians costs
- band/artists fees and travel*
- publicity, marketing and media costs
- insurance and accounting fees
- administration costs associated with the recording project

** band/artists' fees and travel cannot be more than 10 per cent of the overall funding budget unless exceptional circumstances apply and have been discussed with the Breakthrough project officer (for example bands in remote locations or bands with a large number of members).*

Please note that the majority of the recording, producing and distribution should be completed in Australia and be completed by 30 June 2012.

If successful, applicants will be required to enter a Funding Agreement with the Commonwealth of Australia prior to payment of funds. A Funding Agreement is a form of contract.

Successful Breakthrough artists may also be invited to apply for funding for further mentoring and promotional support.

Assessment

Applications will be considered by an assessment panel that includes representatives from the Indigenous contemporary music sector and contemporary music industry.

The assessment panel will recommend which applications should receive funding to the Minister for the Arts who will make the final decision. A public announcement will be made and details of successful applicants will be published on the Office for the Arts website www.arts.gov.au. All applicants will be notified in writing.

Assessment Criteria

Assessment of applications is based on the merits of each proposal against the stated assessment criteria. In making its recommendations, the assessment panel will consider the primary criteria of more importance than the secondary criteria.

Primary Criteria:

1. Quality of musicianship and songs
2. Calibre of artists and performance experience
3. Creative skills and experience of Industry partners

Secondary Criteria:

4. Quality of project plan
5. Practicality of proposed budget

Image credits (left to right): *Leah Flanagan*, photo: Polly Armstrong ; *Iwantja Band*, photo: Patrick McCloskey; *Sue Ray*, photo: Melissa Baxter of Moonshine Madness; *Street Warriors* 'I Rep for My Mob' photo: Peter Collie; *The Medics*, photo: Hailey Bartholomew.

Application Form

All applicants are required to provide an original, completed and signed application form, lyric sheets, supporting material and an electronic copy of these documents. Please make sure you have responded to every question on the form.

Applicants should also supply support material that may include the following:

- material showing performance of recording history such as reviews, and/or publicity material
- industry partner's history
- artist's catalogue
- additional material that supports the project plan, budget, marketing and promotional activities

Submission Details

The closing date for applications is 5pm, Friday 28 October 2011. Postal applications must be post-marked by this date and time, and electronic copies must be received by this date and time.

The applicant/s must provide:

- one original completed and signed hardcopy application form, lyric sheets and supporting material
- one electronic copy of the completed application form, lyric sheets and supporting material
- four copies of a demonstration recording on CD

Late applications will not be accepted.

Your completed original signed application should be sent to:

Breakthrough
Industry Policy Section
Office for the Arts
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
GPO Box 6500
Canberra ACT 2600

Your electronic application form, lyric sheets and support material should be emailed to contemporary.music@pmc.gov.au

For further information please contact:
Breakthrough project officer
Phone: 02 6210 2860
Email: contemporary.music@pmc.gov.au

Web address:
www.arts.gov.au/breakthrough



Australian Government
Indigenous Culture Support