



Australian Government

Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts



Senator A McEwan
Chair
Senate Standing Committee Environment, Communications and the Arts
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator McEwan

On 23 February 2009 I appeared as a witness before the Senate Standing Committee on Environment, Communications and the Arts for the Additional Estimates Hearing.

During the hearing, Senator Birmingham asked a number of questions relating to the funding of the Australian Youth Orchestra (AYO) which appear on ECA 128-129 of the transcript. In response to the questions, I indicated that the AYO funding lapses at the end of this financial year and it received \$500,000 to \$600,000 additional funding per annum.

I wish to advise that in 2006-07 the Australian Government committed to provide AYO with an additional \$1.88 million over four years for strengthening its programs, reserves and triennial international touring program. This funding will terminate after 2009-10.

Yours sincerely

Lynn Bean
First Assistant Secretary
Arts Division
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