

## EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS

### SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2008-09 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

**Outcome** 2

#### **DEEWR Question No. EW689\_09**

Senator Mason asked on 4 June 2008, EEWR Hansard page 103.

#### **Question**

*Australian Government music education initiatives*

What music education initiatives does the Australian Government support across its various portfolios?

#### **Answer**

*Australian Government music education initiatives*

The following music education initiatives are supported by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations:

##### National Awards for Excellence in School Music Education

These awards recognise outstanding contributions to enhancing the status and quality by 11 teachers and two school leaders each year. The awards are administered on behalf of the Australian Government by the Australian Society for Music Education. Total funding for the awards is \$100,000 per year over 2007–2010.

##### Music. Count Us In

The Music Council of Australia received funding of \$300,000 to run *Music. Count Us In* in 2007, as part of the 'Music. Play for Life' campaign. The centrepiece of this initiative was a song, written by John Foreman, which was simultaneously performed by children in primary and high schools all over Australia on Thursday, 30 August 2007. 850 schools participated in this event.

Funding of \$330,000 under the Quality Outcomes Program – Other, and \$150,000 under the Australian Government Quality Teacher Program, is being provided to the Music Council of Australia to run *Music. Count Us In* in 2008. A song will be performed simultaneously by primary and high school students in schools all over Australia in October 2008. In addition, the program will include a teacher professional development component aimed at enabling generalist primary school teachers to have the confidence to teach music.

##### Music Education Advisory Group

The Music Education Advisory Group comprises state and territory government representatives, as well as key music stakeholders. Funding of \$60,000 is available in 2008–09 to support the work of the Group.

##### Musica Viva in Schools

Musica Viva will receive \$1 million over 2008–2010 to extend its live concerts and teacher professional development programs to regional and remote areas.

##### The Song Room

The Song Room will receive \$1 million over 2008–2010 to support the provision of music workshops, holiday programs and performances nationally for students in schools with no existing specialist music teaching and a high level of need.

Australian Children's Music Foundation

The Foundation is receiving funding of \$600,000 over 2007–2010 to run music programs that improve the equity of access and participation in music education, particularly for students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

The following initiative is supported by the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts:

Artists-in-residence program

Funding of \$5.2 million will be provided over four years to enable professional artists to participate as 'artists-in-residence' in schools and as sessional staff in universities to improve young people's access to quality arts education programs.