

## **KICKSTART VIRTUAL FESTIVAL**

*Statement by Minister for Youth*

**MR D.J. KELLY (Bassendean — Minister for Youth)** [9.10 am]: I rise today to announce the launch of the KickstART Virtual festival tomorrow, Friday, 22 May. Presented by Propel Youth Arts WA and funded by the government of Western Australia, KickstART Virtual will run until 29 May—just over a month after the Youth Week WA program of events were scheduled to run across the state.

COVID-19 has disrupted life as we know it and caused the cancellation of innumerable live events across the globe, including Youth Week WA and the KickstART festival. In response, Propel Youth Arts WA has developed KickstART Virtual—a week-long online festival of free workshops, talks and hangouts, specifically tailored to young creative people in WA, and developed by creative coordinator Kobi Arthur Morrison with the Youth Week WA planning committee.

Through KickstART Virtual, we hope to provide an opportunity for young people in WA to come together, learn and connect during this time of isolation and uncertainty. It is an opportunity for young people to get creative and stay connected with the arts community, all from the safety and comfort of their own home.

The KickstART Virtual festival will be a week of creative workshops, talks, performances and more by young people for young people. All events are online, free and youth orientated. The KickstART Virtual festival is a fantastic opportunity to get creative and stay connected with the arts community. I encourage members to jump on the Propel Youth Arts Facebook page and share the events with their community.