

CONTEMPORARY MUSIC FUND

**63. Mr S.A. MILLMAN to the Minister for Culture and the Arts:**

I refer to the great work of community radio station RTRFM in championing and promoting local homegrown music in Western Australia. Can the minister update the house on how the McGowan Labor government's contemporary music fund will support WA's local artists, many of whom got their first airplay on RTRFM, and how this will support WA's music sector and create jobs across our creative industries?

**Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN replied:**

I am very pleased to answer the question from the member for Mount Lawley, and I thank him for his strong support of RTRFM—a magnificent institution that celebrated its, I think, fortieth birthday two years ago. That is a remarkable achievement for that institution.

The contemporary music fund was a very, very important election commitment by the McGowan government. It was in stark contrast to the now opposition that had no commitments to contemporary music in Western Australia when it went to the election in 2017. Our commitment, of course, is \$3 million. A range of programs and projects are associated with the contemporary music fund, and they are all focused on building, nurturing and encouraging a very responsive and creative contemporary music scene in Western Australia. We are very proud of that scene in Western Australia because we have a long history of making a tremendous contribution to the contemporary music industry in Australia. Western Australia has produced a number of renowned and talented creatives, but we want new and emerging artists to be encouraged. They will be encouraged and indeed supported through the contemporary music fund.

We have already of course launched the grant program of \$1 million over the next four years. That will target individual artists to have their work marketed and allow exposure of their creative talent to open markets nationally and internationally. That is very, very important, because of course we have great talent to share with the rest of the world. That grant program is already underway.

The second category includes \$50 000 to \$60 000 opportunities for emerging and contemporary artists. On Sunday, along with the Minister for Women's Interests; Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence, I launched the Safer Venues program, which of course was criticised by those opposite including the shadow spokesperson, which I found quite astounding. The member for Hillarys attacked a community group that is actually trying to make sure that venues in Western Australia are safer! Why would he attack that? We are trying to make venues safer for young women!

Several members interjected.

**Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN:** Why would he attack that? The member for Hillarys was out there afterwards attacking it! What a ridiculous thing to do. We believe that by making venues safer, particularly for young women —

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Through the Chair, and no interjections. Thank you.

**Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN:** We believe it is appropriate that we actually make venues safer —

Several members interjected.

**Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN:** The opposition does not believe in it. It does not support young women!

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Carine, I call you to order for the first time. Members, you might not agree with what he is saying, but he is saying it well!

**Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN:** The opposition does not support making our live music venues safer for young women.

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Carine, I call you to order for the second time. If you want to go home early, I will accommodate.

Several members interjected.

**Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN:** Separate funding? At least we have some funding, because the opposition had nothing! It did not put up anything—not a thing! There was zilch to support contemporary music in Western Australia, because the opposition does not support the industry and now it does not support young women being safer in live music venues.

So we are rolling out the very, very well received contemporary music fund. Young Rose Kingdom-Barron has been working with a group of young women and others who want to make venues safer. We will support her because we believe in the value of the work she is doing. But we will be reminding Rose that those opposite do not support the initiative, do not support making venues safer—they do not want that to happen; we do, and our contemporary music fund will continue to be rolled out and deliver high-quality support to the contemporary music industry because it is a very deserving creative industry in Western Australia!

Government members: Hear, hear!

**The SPEAKER:** Members, please—it was loud enough before!