

Message from the CEO



Chris Cole, Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens and Janet Hirst unveil 'Endangered Asia' Mali at the Ian Potter Children's Garden

Last week I had the great pleasure of unveiling *Endangered Asia Mali* at the Ian Potter Children's Garden at the Royal Botanic Gardens. The young artist, Kelly Just, drew inspiration from her love of wildlife to create her Mali, which is a montage of endangered Asian animals. The Foundation has had an excellent relationship with the Gardens for many years and this gift is a wonderful way to continue our connection with the Children's Garden. I am sure children will be excited when they come across this beautiful Mali amongst the bamboo and that she will inspire them to ask questions about endangered species and what can be done to help save them.

You may have seen the [stories in the media](#) on the weekend about Cynthia Banham, who was so badly injured in the 2007 Yogyakarta plane crash. The Foundation, in partnership with Cynthia, has established the Cynthia Banham Burn Injury Research Fellowship, an annual fellowship of \$20,000 for the next generation of burn specialists, under Dr Fiona Wood's supervision at the Burns Injury Research Unit of the University of Western Australia and the Burns Service of WA. Personally, I am thrilled that after many months of working with Cynthia and the inspirational Dr Fiona Wood, that this fellowship has come to fruition. I would like to thank Professor Graeme Ryan for his commitment and assistance. I know it was not easy for Cynthia to give the interview but hope that her story, and incredible resilience and approach to life, will help raise awareness of the importance of Dr Wood's work. You can read more about this project in the feature story in this newsletter.

The year ends with our Senior Program Manager, Caitriona Fay leaving the Foundation to take up a new position, and a new challenge, in Perpetual's philanthropic services team. I know I speak for everyone here – both Governors and staff - when I say how much we will miss Caitriona, but we are also excited for her, and know that she will excel in her new position. Anyone who has met or worked with Caitriona can only be impressed by her knowledge, her skills and her insight. Thank you Caitriona for all you have done for the Foundation, for the projects you have championed and brought successfully to Board, and for being a wonderful colleague. We look forward to seeing the contribution you will make to the sector in your new role.

Our Communications Coordinator Aoife O'Connell-Whelan, is expecting her third child, so after a short-but-sweet time at the Foundation she will also leave us in January. Aoife has played an important role in a busy year for Communications and I would like to thank her for excellent contribution. We wish her all the very best with the new arrival.

We hope you all have a special time over Christmas and a happy and

Round Up

Highlights from the recent funding round. [Read more](#)

Feature Stories

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[Our new website launched Annual Grant Reports 2012 Festive season office closure](#)

News and Events

Read more about current events at IPF and IPCT [Read more](#)

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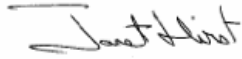
special events and funding round reminders. [Read more](#)

Feedback

We hope you have enjoyed this issue of *the seahorse*. We welcome your comments and suggestions, please send them to the Editor at seahorse@ianpotter.org.au

If there is someone else in your organisation this newsletter should go to, please [forward to a friend](#). If you do not wish to receive it in future, simply [unsubscribe](#) (but we hope you don't!).

safe New Year, and look forward to seeing many of you in 2013.



Janet Hirst



Round up

In our final Board Meeting for 2012 the Governors approved 53 new grants totalling \$14 million.

The largest of these was a grant of \$10 million to Monash University to create the Ian Potter Concert Hall in the new state-of-the-art Sir Zelman Cowen School of Music, designed by architect Moshe Safdie (*pictured*). The funds will help Monash build a superb 800 seat, oval-shaped concert hall that will provide excellent facilities for performers and audiences alike and form a key part of the university's vibrant arts precinct at the Clayton campus. This grant is the second largest Arts grant ever made by the Foundation. The \$10 million will be paid over five years.



There were eight other Arts grants approved, including \$90,000 to Sydney Dance Company to support their new DancEd program of matinee performances for students, supported by pre-show workshops and task-based resource packs.

In Community Wellbeing 10 grants were approved, with a total value of just over \$2 million. The largest being \$698,000 to help fund a pilot program being run by Child & Family Services Ballarat, known as *Step Up Victoria - Preventing Adolescent Violence in the Home*. Based on a model from the USA, the program - which is linked into community services, police and courts - will inform policy development and practice in this challenging and complex area.

In our Education program area, four grants totalling \$290,000 were approved. One grant of \$160,000 was approved in the Environment & Conservation program, going to the Norman Wettenhall Foundation's Landscape Restoration Program which works with community groups to restore, rehabilitate and retain agricultural landscapes in Victoria.

Grants were also made in the Alec Prentice Sewell Gift, Travel and Conference program areas. For a complete list of recent grants, please refer to our website [grants database](#).



23 new Cultural Trust grantees

\$142,000 in grants from The Ian Potter Cultural Trust will help 23 talented emerging artists spread their wings and take off to broaden their horizons overseas. Among them are four previous grantees: Kylie Los, Chris Mercer, Rajiv Jayaweera and Mischa Ipp, who are being supported either to complete studies, or take up new opportunities and further develop their skills.

Congratulations to all our grantees - remember to send us a 'postcard' on [Facebook](#)!

To see the complete list of new grantees [click here](#).

Picture: Pianist-repetiteur Kylie Los on her first Cultural Trust-supported project in Frankfurt



Reflections

Winner of the Ian Potter Moving Image Commission announced

Congratulations to Angelica Mesiti, winner of the inaugural Ian Potter Moving Image Commission.

Chosen from a field of high calibre entries, Angelica's project is the first

to be selected for this prestigious visual art commission, which is an initiative of The Ian Potter Cultural Trust (IPCT) and the Australian Centre for the Moving Image (ACMI).

Angelica's project *The Calling* will be the first of five commissions to be awarded biennially over the next decade. Each commission aims to support the creation of a major moving-image artwork, providing financial support, curatorial and production expertise to help bring the artist's concepts to fruition. The commission series also aims to cultivate greater appreciation of moving image art among Australian audiences.

The panel of judges described Angelica's proposed work as "sophisticated and compelling". She will receive \$100,000 to help develop her immersive, multi-channel video installation over the next year.

"I'm absolutely thrilled my proposal has been chosen for the inaugural Ian Potter Moving Image Commission. It's a generous commission that has pushed me to think about expanding the possibilities of my work. I can't wait to begin the project with the team at ACMI, and am very excited about presenting the work there in 2014," said Angelica.

The Calling will premiere at ACMI's Gallery 2 in February 2014.

Our sincere thanks to the judges and the team at ACMI.

[Learn more at The Ian Potter Moving Image Commission website.](#)

Picture: Angelica Mesiti



New faces in Finance

We recently welcomed two new members of staff to the Foundation. Stewart Leslie has taken up the part-time role of Senior Accountant and Sally Cliff has joined us as Finance Administrator.

Stewart is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants. For 15 years he was a partner with accounting firm KPMG where he specialised in assurance and advisory services. Since retiring from that partnership he has been appointed to a number of governance roles in the public sector. He is a member of the board of the Australian Institute of Management – Victoria and Tasmania, and the Audit Committee of the Australian Red Cross Blood Service as well as Deputy Chair of the Royal Women's Hospital Board.

Sally has worked in finance management roles for many years and brings considerable experience from a diverse range of fields including corporate advisory, recruitment, publishing, IT, manufacturing, training & accounting.

A very warm welcome to you both.



Cynthia Banham Burn Injury Fellowship

Cynthia Banham, foreign affairs and defence journalist for the Sydney Morning Herald, was critically injured in the Yogyakarta air disaster in March 2007. Cynthia received burns to 60 per cent of her body and subsequently had both legs amputated. She was treated by burns specialist Dr Fiona Wood at the Royal Perth Hospital and underwent extensive surgery and an arduous recovery process. Her survival and recovery, made possible by the life-saving treatment she received from Dr Fiona Wood (*pictured right*) and the burns unit at Royal Perth Hospital, is inspirational.

Burn injury is one of the top three causes of accidental death in children under five years of age and is one of the three most common injuries suffered by an Australian each year, so this is an area that has relevance for us all.

We are delighted to be working with Cynthia to offer the Cynthia Banham Burn Injury Research Fellowship of \$20,000 per year to support an early career researcher to undertake research with direct clinical applicability to improving patient care and outcomes in burn injury. The Cynthia Banham Burn Injury Research Fellowship is our shared commitment to supporting Dr Fiona Wood's world-leading work, and encouraging the next generation of burn research expertise in Australia.

In Cynthia's own words, "I am very honoured to be supporting this burn injury research fellowship. Having received emergency lifesaving treatment from Dr Fiona Wood and her team, I know first-hand the high



level of expertise and talent we have in Australia in this most challenging field of medical practice. Even so, burn injury treatment remains a discipline in which much more knowledge is needed, particularly to improve the quality of life of survivors of severe burns trauma."

The fellowship will be open to early career clinical researchers within 10 years of their initial medical qualification who are planning to develop their career in the area of burn care, and have the ability to work in Western Australia.

Donations to help further develop the Fellowship are welcome and can be made via our [website](#).

In Other News

Prof. Peter Veth appointed Kimberley Foundation Ian Potter Chair in Rock Art at UWA

A leading world expert in Indigenous archaeology has been appointed the inaugural Kimberley Foundation Ian Potter Chair in Rock Art at The University of Western Australia.

Earlier this year The Kimberley Foundation received a grant of \$1.5m from the Foundation to help establish a Chair in Kimberley Rock Art within UWA's Centre for Rock Art Studies (CRAS), creating a focal point for research and conservation activities into Indigenous rock art in the Kimberley.

Professor Peter Veth, a Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities and the London Society of Antiquaries, will be based in UWA's Centre for Rock Art Research and Management (CRARM) and will work in collaboration with traditional owners and their representative bodies to help document, date and study the Indigenous rock art of world significance in WA's remote Kimberley region.

Commenting on the appointment, Janet Hirst said, "The Foundation welcomes the appointment of Professor Peter Veth to this important role. I am confident that Peter will provide this area of rock art research with an important foundation that will contribute to our understanding and appreciation of these unique and important heritage sites now and into the future."

The Chair will support long term, integrated research programs to advance the understanding of the duration, nature and context of the Indigenous cultural heritage in the Kimberley.

Picture: Professor Peter Veth



Primrose Potter meets Primrose 'Potamus

It's been a big year for the Foundation and our friends at Zoos Victoria. We celebrated the opening of the hands-on education space *Growing Wild* at Melbourne Zoo (funded through The Alec Prentice Sewell Gift); we launched the Coranderrk conservation project at Healesville Zoo (recipient of an Environment program grant), and we reached the milestone of \$1 million in grants from the Foundation to Zoos Victoria.

To mark this achievement, Life Governor of the Foundation, Lady (Primrose) Potter, travelled to Werribee Zoo for an up-close and personal meeting with her namesake, Primrose 'Potamus - a 22 year old hippo! Lady Potter hand-fed Primrose (not the friendliest of beasts) from behind the relative safety of some bollards - and kept a close eye on her fingers!

Many thanks to the Director of Werribee Zoo, Sally Lewis and the staff of Zoos Victoria Foundation for arranging such a memorable day.

Picture: Lady Potter, Sally Lewis and Primrose the hippopotamus



Our new website launched

In October the Foundation launched a brand new website and moved to online grant applications. These were major projects for the Foundation, intended to improve accessibility, clarity and usability of information for visitors to the site, and provide a better process for grant-seekers.

A new section for grantees provides a range of tools including resources for PR activity and a database of all grants. There is also a news section

featuring collections of speeches, press releases and news items as well as several new case studies, feature projects and program area overviews. [Take a look...](#)

A new website for The Ian Potter Cultural Trust is in development and will be launched soon.



Annual Grant Reports 2012

In the Foundation's 2012 annual grants report we looked at the impact our grants are having in the community and have reflected on the importance of when and how we fund - and who else is funding - as well as what, and who.

Of course, the 'who' is always the focus of our Cultural Trust grants, which support exceptionally talented emerging artists and assist them to travel overseas to explore new horizons in their art practice. Even with these individual grants, there are always other supporters – family, friends, peers and teachers – who come together to help the artist to realise their potential.

Shared effort and collaboration are central themes throughout these two reports - reflecting an increasing recognition of their importance in strategic philanthropy - and in achieving the Foundation's aim to have a meaningful and lasting impact.

[View The Ian Potter Foundation report.](#)

[View The Ian Potter Cultural Trust report .](#)



Festive season office closure

The Ian Potter Foundation office will be closed for the Christmas and New Year holiday period from **Thursday 20th December and will reopen on Wednesday 2nd January.**

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all our grantees, friends and associates a safe and happy festive season and New Year.



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