

Message from the CEO



Welcome to the inaugural edition of *the seahorse*. The name derives from the cable address 'seahorse' for Ian Potter and Company, the stockbroking firm founded by Sir Ian. The seahorse was adopted as the logo of the Foundation in 1996. The newsletter, which will be published three times a year following our funding rounds, will highlight some of the projects we have supported and keep everyone up to date with the Foundation's work and priorities.

One of the great joys of my role is seeing programs come to fruition and meeting the recipients of our grants. For several years, the IPF has supported Assistance Dogs Australia (ADA) which trains service dogs to help people with physical disabilities to achieve a greater level of independence. Recently I attended the ADA Graduation Ceremony and officially presented two year old labrador, Xanto, to her new owner Nicole (*pictured above right*).

This week's closing date for the next funding round saw a large number of applications submitted, in fact a 30% rise compared to the same round last year. Across the sector the economic downturn is clearly having the parallel impact of reducing the funds available while increasing the need - particularly in Community Wellbeing. It is always humbling and inspiring to learn about the many promising ideas and projects in development across the country. Our task now is to research the applications and prioritise those that will best deliver against our funding objectives and bring about lasting benefits for the community.



Janet Hirst

Round Up

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

Feature Stories

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News and Events

Read more about current events at IPF and IPCT

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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!).

Round Up

Board Meeting Lowdown

Health and Medical Research were the main focus at The Ian Potter Foundation's Board Meeting on 30th April, receiving \$880,248 of the \$2.1million granted at the meeting. St Vincent's Institute of Medical Research (SVI) received \$500,000: the largest individual grant this round. SVI will use the funds to help purchase vital equipment for the new Blood and Bone Cancer Centre to be used for research into how leukaemia and bone cancers develop. The equipment will boost the

efforts of two high profile young researchers, Dr Louise Purton and Dr Carl Walkley (*right*), who have been making some exciting discoveries with major implications for understanding how cancer develops.

It was another highly competitive round so congratulations to the 41 successful applicants – we look forward to seeing your projects come to fruition.

Click here to read details of all [grantees from the latest round](#).



April Grants: Other Program Areas

The **Community Wellbeing** program granted \$743,760 to 19 different organisations. This included \$20,000 to help the Ruby Gaea Darwin Centre Against Rape meet demand for sexual assault prevention programs in Darwin High Schools and a \$100,000 grant to Riding for the Disabled to help fund their National Coach Development Program and expand the number of coaches able to provide riding-related early intervention programs to children with disabilities.

In **Health**, grants totalling \$80,000 went to four organisations, including \$10,000 to the Wimmera Hearing Society to support the purchase and fit-out of a specialised mobile unit to improve WHS's outreach for hearing tests and consultations in rural areas.

The **Arts** program accounted for 16 percent of the total grants this round. We were pleased to see applications from almost all States come through and programs as diverse as InCite Youth Arts for a great aerosol art mentoring program in Alice Springs (pictured right) through to Opera Queensland's acclaimed Moving Opera program, got the stamp of approval.

Australian Catholic University was the sole **Education** recipient this round receiving \$50,000 over two years for the further development of the innovative MyScience program.



Cultural Trust Highlights

A further 20 exceptionally talented young artists will be setting off overseas to hone their craft with some help from The Ian Potter Cultural Trust. Over \$97,000 was granted this round to Cultural Trust recipients.

Talented up-and-coming filmmaker Lauren Anderson, received \$4,500 towards production of her short film, "Vigilant! Healthy! Wholesome!" as part of her Master of Film and Television at Victorian College of the Arts. Lauren was the Winner of VCA's Post Grad Most Outstanding Student Award 2008. We are sure that Lauren, and her films, are ones to watch!

Congratulations to all our very deserving Cultural Trust recipients.

Did you know?

The Ian Potter Cultural Trust was established in 1993 and has now provided grants totalling \$3.5 million to over 900 recipients.

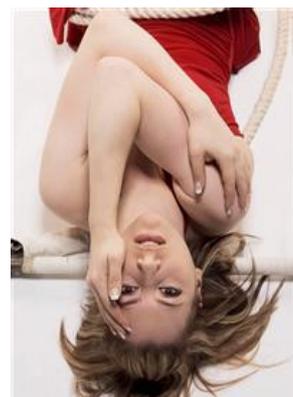


Reflections

Star Turn

Emma Henshell - Trapeze Artist

Congratulations to 2008 Cultural Trust grant recipient, 22 year old Emma Henshell on her Gold Medal for solo trapeze act, awarded at the prestigious Festival Mondial du Cirque de Demain (Worldwide Festival of the Circus of Tomorrow) in Paris. Emma also took out The President's Award, the Franco Dragone Entertainment Group Award and The Moulin Rouge Award. Emma credits the training and support she received from her teachers at NICA for her success, although her teachers maintain that Emma's personal drive and natural artistry are at the core of her achievements.



Music Commissions 2009

Expressions of Interest are invited for Australia's premier music composition awards, The Ian Potter Music Commissions 2009 Fellowships. This prestigious program has been a highlight of The Ian Potter Cultural Trust calendar since 1999. In that time the Commissions have contributed to the creation of some significant new music and to the development of the careers of some highly successful composers.

There are two Fellowships on offer: one of \$20,000 for an Emerging Composer and one of \$80,000 for an Established Composer. The Fellowships are awarded for the creation of a portfolio of work over two years. We are honoured that the Commissions will be judged by Ms Elena Kats-Chernin, Professor Barry Tuckwell AC OBE (both pictured right), Dr Richard Mills AM and Mr John Hopkins OBE.

This tenth year will be the Commission's swansong: in keeping with the Trust's remit to support all art forms the Trustees are considering support of a different genre in future years.

Expressions of Interest for the Music Commissions 2009 Fellowships close on June 15 – see the [website](#) for full details.



Meet the IPF Team: Bonjour Alice

Le Tricolore has been flying high at Potter over the past few months. A student of L'Institut d'Etudes Politiques (Institute of Political Studies) in Lyon, France, Alice Levy has joined our team for a four-month internship as part of her five-year degree course, focusing on the Social Economy. Alice is pictured here, posing on the Swanston St Bridge in Melbourne.

Alice's main project while working at IPF, has been to research and assess the Evaluation component of our 'Innovate, Evaluate, Disseminate' grant-making strategy and make recommendations for improving our evaluation processes and outcomes. The project is still in development but Alice's thorough and thoughtful approach, coupled with maturity that belies her 21 years, is shaping up to make a lasting impact on the way the Foundation works.

During her stay, Alice has also focused on the Culinary Arts and an exchange of Australian and French recipes. Haute cuisine such as Jan Hirst's mouthwatering Chocolate Ripple Cake, and an extraordinary passionfruit and strawberry pavlova by receptionist Kay have impressed, but Alice is reluctant to admit that Australian cooking could give the French much of a challenge. "What is that?" she decried, when offered some Coon, "That is not *cheese!*"

Alice and her partner Charles leave Melbourne in July to travel the East Coast in a motorhome. Au revoir Alice et à bientôt!



In Other News

SIMS Afloat

The Sydney Institute for Marine Science (SIMS) finally got the green light to progress their important facilities expansion, when IPF's Challenge Grant of \$600,000 was met by the NSW State Government. Understanding and managing the unique challenge of urban marine environments is vital to their long term sustainability so we were delighted to be able to join the celebrations when NSW Minister for Science and Medical Research, Jodi McKay, officially announced the funding at SIMS Chowder Bay facility in March. This funding has been further boosted by a multi-million dollar Federal Government grant. Congratulations to Prof Talbot and team!



The Eyes Have It!

Back in 1977, a young Hugh Taylor received a travel grant from IPF, something that he describes as a 'pivotal event' in his career. Today, Professor Taylor is one of Australia's leading experts in eye health and IPF is proud to continue its association with this exceptional man and his work.

Australia is the only developed nation in the world in which trachoma - a preventable, treatable eye disease – remains a major public health issue. This shocking fact spurred the Foundation to contribute \$1million to Professor Hugh Taylor's Indigenous Eye Health Program back in 2007, in the hope that our funding may help to leverage support from others. We were thrilled to learn that earlier this year the project received a major injection of funding from the Federal Government meaning that

their goal of eradicating trachoma is now realistic and achievable. Congratulations to Professor Taylor and his team: we wish them every success as they work to close the huge gap in eye health care in this country.

Flourishing at Sprout

Congratulations to the team at MIND. Their innovative Sprout garden project, which offers skill development and social connection for people with mental illness, continues to grow and flourish. Sprout, located in Thornbury in suburban Melbourne, now hosts its own monthly Community Market, providing opportunities for participants to generate income and learn valuable skills. The Foundation provided MIND with a grant of \$190,400 to be used to develop and evaluate the Sprout project over three years. For more information about Sprout and their Community Market, visit www.mindaustralia.org.au/sproutmarket



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