

INFORMATION ABOUT PATHWAYS TO PERFORMANCE 2023



WHAT IS PATHWAYS TO PERFORMANCE?

The *Pathways to Performance Program* is an initiative of the Friends of the Mackay Entertainment and Convention Centre (MECC) Inc., with support from BHP.

The program recognises that schools face barriers such as distance, ticketing and transport costs when attending the theatre and associated educational programs, and aims to assist in breaking down these barriers.

The MECC hosts an annual entertainment season designed to entertain, stimulate and educate. Comprising of a range of genres such as drama, dance, children's and physical theatre, performances are chosen not only for their appeal, but also for their ability to provide capital city experiences in a regional centre like Mackay.

The MECC hosts leading Australian companies such as Monkey Baa Theatre, Queensland Symphony Orchestra, and shake & stir theatre co. and Queensland Ballet, so residents in Mackay and surrounds can access quality programs at affordable prices.

Each year the MECC Engagement team works with local educators to advise which upcoming performances and workshops can enhance aspects of the school curriculum.

Educators may reserve tickets for performances and workshops in advance, then apply for *Pathways to Performance* funding to assist with costs.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Primary and Secondary schools within the Mackay, Isaac and Whitsunday Regional Council areas are eligible to apply with the following criteria:

- Must have a reservation to a MECC performance.
- One application may be submitted for multiple schools sharing transport (this collaboration is

encouraged).

- Educators who can explain how attending a performance links to their curriculum/lessons.
- Recipients may apply more than once in a year. However, once successful, all subsequent applications must be for transport only.

Please note: The *Pathways to Performance Program* cannot often cover all costs for your excursion to the MECC. Please take your school's budget into consideration when applying, and also the possibility of your school funding tickets or transport to cover the remaining costs.

HOW TO APPLY

1. Make a booking. Reserve your tickets for your preferred performance through the MECC **phone 4961 9777 or email meccsalesandmarketing@mackay.qld.gov.au**.
2. Obtain a *Pathways to Performance Application Form* from: <https://themecc.com.au/education/pathways>
3. Obtain two quotes for transport. Ensure the quotes are addressed to the Friends of the MECC Inc.
4. Lodge application forms, transport and other supporting documentation via email: **meccsalesandmarketing@mackay.qld.gov.au**

HOW APPLICATIONS ARE ASSESSED

The Friends of the MECC Inc. is an independent incorporated association charged with raising funds for the centre and providing voluntary services such as ushering and ticket taking.

The Friends of the MECC Inc. will assess applications and advise the MECC team of the results. The MECC team will advise applicants of their success and next steps.

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BOX OFFICE: 07 4961 9777

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WHICH SHOWS ARE AVAILABLE TO APPLY FOR FUNDING IN 2023?

The below performances in the School Entertainment Season are available to apply for *Pathways to Performance* funding. Please see below for 2023 show dates and application cut-off dates. If you have any questions about your application, please contact the MECC Box Office on 4961 9777 or meccsalesandmarketing@mackay.qld.gov.au.

SHOW	SHOW DATE	PATHWAYS TO PERFORMANCE APPLICATION CUT-OFF DATE	WEEKS OUT FROM SHOW FUNDING ANNOUNCED
Misogyny Opus	Friday 24 February (T1 W5)	Tuesday 7 February (T1 W3)	2 weeks
Queensland Ballet - A Midsummer Night's Dream	Saturday 11 March (T1 W7)	Tuesday 7 February (T1 W3)	4 weeks
DBCT Kids' Theatre Season - Wind in the Willows	Wednesday 10 May (T2 W4)	Friday 31 March (T1 W10)	4 weeks
DBCT Kids' Theatre Season - On by Circa	Tuesday 30 May (T2 W 7)	Thursday 4 May (T2 W3)	3 weeks
DBCT Kids' Theatre Season - Possum Magic	Tuesday 18 July (T3 W2)	Thursday 1 June (T2 W7)	6 weeks
Opera Australia - The Barber of Seville	Monday 31 July (T3 W4)	Tuesday 11 July (T3 W1)	3 weeks
DBCT Kids' Theatre Season - Just Live on Stage!	Wednesday 2 August (T3 W4)	Thursday 1 June (T2 W7)	8 weeks
DBCT Kids' Theatre Season - Roald Dahl's The Twits	Monday 21 August (T3 W7)	Tuesday 11 July (T3 W1)	6 weeks
Soweto Gospel Choir	Sunday 27 August (T3 W8)	Tuesday 11 July (T3 W1)	7 weeks
Bell Shakespeare - Twelfth Night	Tuesday 5 September (T3 W9)	Thursday 3 August (T3 W4)	4 weeks
ACO Collective	Saturday 9 September (T3 W9)	Thursday 3 August (T3 W4)	4 weeks
The Sunshine Club	Thursday 28 September (School Holidays)	Thursday 3 August (T3 W4)	7 weeks

WHAT NEXT?

Educators will be notified whether their application has been successful within the above time frames for each performance. All invoices for transport costs should be addressed to 'The Friends of the MECC Inc.' and emailed to meccsalesandmarketing@mackay.qld.gov.au.

The MECC team liaise directly with Friends of the MECC Inc. to pay ticket, workshop and/or transport costs. Our Engagement team will make contact with successful applicants prior to the performance and/or workshop to confirm participation and advise time frames for attendance.

AFTER THE SHOW

Successful applicants will be expected to submit a formal evaluation form, this will be emailed to the educators post-show. This feedback is crucial to ensure this program continues to receive funding from our valued partners. We also request each school places a 'thank-you' acknowledging the assistance of the *Pathways to Performance Program* in their school/ community newsletter. If your school has a Facebook page please feel free to share your experience there as well!

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

The *Pathways to Performance Program* would not be possible without the support of our valued funding partners, BHP. Thank you for your generous support.

VISIT THE WEBSITE themecc.com.au/schools/pathways



BHP Mitsubishi Alliance (BMA) is a 50:50 joint venture between BHP Group Limited and Mitsubishi Development Pty Ltd that was formed in 2001.

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