1. Resources and Support

**Australian Charter for the Arts**

**What:** Recent events have highlighted the need for the Australian arts sector to articulate and advocate for our common ideals. Our primary aim is that everyone involved in the Australian arts sector is represented by the principles of this Charter and that it is not owned by any one group or set of interests.

The Charter is as an advocacy tool. It is a public object, available to anyone engaging with arts policy development, be they artists, politicians or community leaders.

The intent of the Charter is to:
- Enable a voice for artists, arts organisations, arts workers and supporters of the arts – across all artforms, locations and communities;
- Articulate a vision of the role and purpose of the arts.

The Charter aims to ensure that mechanisms and support for the arts in Australia facilitates a strong, diverse and vibrant sector, now and in the future.

We are calling for your input into the seven core principles and the Charter now – please contribute.

All suggestions and constructive criticism welcome.

Contact us: australianartscharter@gmail.com
2. Events, Forums, Performances, Seminars, Symposiums and Exhibitions

★ **Music Therapy Symposium: Healthy/Unhealthy Uses of Music in Mental Health Care**

**What:** Many people use music to support their mental health. This varies from listening to music for relaxation, pleasure and social purposes. When we are well, these activities are usually successful and require little conscious consideration. However music can also be used to intensify negative moods and to prolong rumination. Because of this, when we experience mental illness it is often important to adopt more care in the ways we use music.

This symposium will present research and practices from the field of music therapy. The National Music Therapy Research Unit has been leading developments about music and mental health for a two decades and has discovered a number of key principles, questions and concerns; knowledge of which will benefit professionals in the mental health sector. The day will comprise a number of presentations from leading researchers, as well as performances and discussion forums.

**When:** Friday 4 March, 9.00am to 5.00pm

**Where:** The Pavilion, Arts Centre, Melbourne

**Further Information:** [http://vca-mcm.unimelb.edu.au/events?id=1089](http://vca-mcm.unimelb.edu.au/events?id=1089); Online bookings: via EventBrite

Tickets: $75 full / $50 concession (plus booking fee)

Contact: Jennifer Bibb at bibb.jennifer@unimelb.edu.au

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3. Funding, Research and Career Opportunities and Outcomes

★ **Art Oasis - International Residency for Performing Arts Practitioners**

**What:** **Arts Oasis** is the annual international multidisciplinary residency for performing arts practitioners from all over the world, passionate and inspired by movement, dance and physical theatre, interested in practical research of contemporary performance practice together with colleagues from different countries. The program is based at the territory of the **XII century Monastery** famous for being the place of seclusion for the **legendary Dante Alighieri**.

The grant applications are considered on the basis of the candidates experience and qualifications. Priority is given to those artists who are able to show their potential to professional development and motivation to participate in contemporary performing arts processes at international level. The number of grants is limited.

**When:** Wednesday 25 May to Wednesday 1 June

**Where:** Tuscany, Italy

**Further Information** such as grant conditions and application guidelines: [http://www.artuniverse.org/grants](http://www.artuniverse.org/grants)
Welcome to McKenzie Fellow Dr Kim Dunphy

What: Congratulations and welcome to our newest McKenzie Fellow, Dr Kim Dunphy, who will join our faculty this year. Kim has been awarded one of ten 2016 McKenzie Fellowships from this prestigious university scheme. Dr Dunphy’s Fellowship research will centre around dance movement therapy and she will contribute to the growing nexus between music therapies and creative arts therapies in our faculty, alongside the 2016 Creative Arts Therapies Doctoral Institute (CATDI).

Source: Bianca Durrant

New Human Research Ethics Application Form

What: The new, streamlined Human Research Ethics Application form will be available in Themis this week. This form supersedes the old 'Minimal Risk Application' and 'Standard Project Application' forms. The new form is designed to be more user-friendly, with fewer questions and clearer instructions. Additional guidance materials are also available on the OREI website.

Further Information: http://go.unimelb.edu.au/3ogn
Source: Andrew Ross, Office for Research Ethics and Integrity

Updated Animal Ethics Application Form

What: The Animal Ethics Application Form has been updated and is now available for download on the Office of Research Ethics and Integrity (OREI) website. The updated form is designed to be more user-friendly, with clearer instructions and additional guidance materials also available on the OREI website.

Further Information: http://go.unimelb.edu.au/6ysa
Source: Office for Research Ethics and Integrity

Melbourne Social Equity Institute - Doctoral Academy Selection - Reminder

What: Each year the MSEI selects a group of post-confirmation PhD students for its doctoral academy. Members are offered the opportunity to learn interdisciplinary perspectives and methodologies, receive mentorship from senior academics and apply for a competitive funding pool. They are also supported in developing research outputs.

When: By Sunday, 31 January. Students who are confirmed by March 2016 are eligible.
Further Information: http://www.socialequity.unimelb.edu.au/students/doctoral-academy/

FSGS and PODS - Reminder

What: The Faculty Small Grant Scheme (FSGS) offers funding for staff and graduate researchers to undertake activities associated with their research projects. Applications are made online. Applications are assessed by the FSGS Committee through a competitive process. The purpose of the Prestigious Overseas Travel Scheme (POTS) is to support the presentation of doctoral research at an international level. The focus on the prestigious nature of the presentation is paramount to success in this scheme. This fund aims to support the travel costs for doctoral researchers to present at international conferences, forums and networks. International travel must be of at least 10 days research-related activity that entails at least one distinct purpose that is clearly relevant and academically justifiable but not essential to the completion of the thesis. The purpose must include the presentation of doctoral research, and result in a reportable Research Output. Applications are made online through the FSGS application form, which includes a subsection related to POTS that applicants must complete.

When: The deadlines are the same as for the FSGS. Applications are assessed by the FSGS Committee through a competitive process. 2015 FSGS and POTS deadline: Monday 1 February 5.00pm.
Further Information: http://vca-mcm.unimelb.edu.au/research/smallgrantscheme
Melbourne Careers Centre

What: Melbourne Careers Centre provides a range of careers programs and resources to support students in building employability and career management skills. Check out our website for help with writing resumes, preparing for interviews, job seeking strategies and up-coming career events. Come and talk to a careers consultant about your career queries, or to get feedback on job applications via Careers Express (short 10 minute consultations) Service.


4. Faculty of VCA & MCM Research Office Location and Contact Listing

Research Office Locations

What: The Research Office is located in Room 210 in the Conservatorium of Music, Building 141, Gate 12, Royal Parade in addition to our Southbank Campus location in the Old Police Hospital, Building 865, 234 St. Kilda Road

Website: http://www.vca-mcm.unimelb.edu.au/research/ro
Email: vcamcm-research@unimelb.edu.au
Phone: 03 9035 9175

Staff Listing:
Lucy O’Brien (Research Manager): 8344 6183 leobrien@unimelb.edu.au
David Strover (RHD Coordinator): 9035 3471 dstrover@unimelb.edu.au
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Bianca Durrant (Research Coordinator): 9035 9241 bdurrant@unimelb.edu.au
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