

# Annual Grants Report 2013-14

Looking Back,  
Reaching Forward



# The Ian Potter Foundation.

Towards a vibrant,  
healthy and fair  
Australia.

*Peter Evans, Deputy Chairman of Ramsay Health Care Board; the Foundation's CEO, Janet Hirst and CEO of Philanthropy Australia, Louise Walsh.*



Scenes from The Ian Potter Foundation's 50th Anniversary Celebration Dinner held in the Great Hall, National Gallery of Victoria.



*Guests at the dinner: Shauna Chadlowe (Australian Wildlife Conservancy), Bella Irlicht (International Specialised Skills Institute) and Nicole McLeod (The Ian Potter Foundation).*



*The official parties.*

*The Federal Treasurer, the Hon. Joe Hockey and the Governor-General, Sir Peter Cosgrove, with one of the Foundation's Governors, Professor Graeme Ryan and Mrs Ryan.*



*The Foundation's Chairman, Mr Charles Goode, greets the Governor-General, Sir Peter Cosgrove.*



# Welcome



*Sir Ian Potter (1902–1994)*

## Our Vision

A vibrant, healthy and fair Australia.

## Our Mission

Honour the legacy of founder and benefactor, Sir Ian Potter, and his commitment that the Foundation make a difference to Australia.

Maintain a tradition of encouraging excellence and enabling innovation to facilitate positive social change, and develop Australia's creativity and capacity as a nation.

Support outstanding charitable organisations and invest in Australia's innovative and creative people.

## About the Foundation

The Ian Potter Foundation was established 50 years ago by Australian financier, businessman and philanthropist Sir Ian Potter (1902–1994). The Foundation is now one of Australia's major philanthropic foundations.

Based in Melbourne, the Foundation makes grants nationally to support charitable organisations working to benefit the community across a wide range of sectors and endeavours. Grants are made through nine program areas which reflect Sir Ian's interest in the arts and his visionary approach to issues including the environment, science, medical research, education and community wellbeing, as well as the importance of investing in Australia's intellectual capital.

Through its grants, the Foundation seeks to encourage excellence and to support Australia's talent: its visionaries, social entrepreneurs, scientists, academics and researchers, artists and teachers, and those who dedicate themselves to bettering our communities for the benefit of all.

Since 1964, The Ian Potter Foundation has contributed over \$200 million to thousands of projects, both large and small. Led by its Board of Governors, the Foundation has a strong track record of funding projects that respond decisively to key issues and develop our creativity and capacity as a nation.

## Funding Principles

The Ian Potter Foundation's nine program areas: the Arts, Community Wellbeing, Education, Environment & Conservation, Health & Disability, Medical Research, Science, Travel, and Conference, and manages the Alec Prentice Sewell Gift.

Grant-making across all program areas is underpinned by 6 principles.

### A commitment to excellence

We support organisations, programs and individuals who are outstanding in their field.

### A focus on prevention

To maximise the value of our grants, we try to identify and support projects that address the causes of any problems, rather than treat the symptoms. Supporting research is fundamental to this approach.

### Encouragement of innovation

We seek to fund programs and projects that take a new approach to solving problems, especially those that can be evaluated and have potential for expansion and further development.

### Potential for leverage

Our grants have greater impact when combined with support from other sources. These might include other trusts and foundations, government, business or volunteers. We are happy to be one of a number of supporters of a program.

### Long-term thinking

We try to fund projects that will continue to have an impact well beyond the period of our grant. The long-term sustainability of the project is an important consideration.

### Partnerships

We encourage collaborations and partnerships that facilitate combining knowledge and resources to achieve a shared goal.

Led by its Board of Governors, the Foundation has a strong track record of funding projects that respond decisively to key issues and develop Australia's creativity and capacity as a nation.

# Chairman's Report



## The Foundation's 50th anniversary year has provided the opportunity to reflect and celebrate the people we have supported, the ideas we have backed and the contribution thus made to our society.

Over the course of the year we have reconnected with many past grantees and associates of the Foundation and heard great stories of progress and achievement. In creating our 50th anniversary book, *The Ian Potter Foundation: 50 Years, Looking Back Reaching Forward*, and producing our short film, *Making a Difference*, we have had the chance to consider why, how and where we have made the greatest difference, and can use this perspective to shape our future philanthropy.

In many ways, this anniversary year has affirmed the course we are on and the enduring relevance and effectiveness of the guiding principles behind our

decision-making. These principles are to encourage excellence and innovation, value the contribution of volunteers, support prevention rather than cure, work in partnership with others and embrace long-term thinking. To be consistently effective over 50 years – particularly 50 years of rapid change – requires strong guiding principles blended with flexibility to adjust to changing circumstances, new social issues and opportunities. Every year the Board of Governors meets with the CEO and the management team to review and discuss our operations and our approach to grant-making and make changes to improve our effectiveness and the impact of our grants.

Mrs Cornelia Goode & Mr Charles Goode (left), together with Lady Potter and granddaughter Countess Zofia Krasicki v. Siecen, after greeting the Governor-General, Sir Peter Cosgrove, and Lady Cosgrave at the Foundation's 50th anniversary dinner.

In his speech at our 50th anniversary dinner at the NGV, the Federal Treasurer, the Honourable Joe Hockey, said, "I want to speak on behalf of all the beneficiaries in saying thank you. The ripples of [Sir Ian Potter's] initial donation [£1 million in shares] have gone far, but the legacy is in the fact that it continues to grow and for many years to come this Foundation will have a profoundly important impact on the fabric of the Australian community."

This was a generous tribute to the Foundation's work and, more broadly, the importance of philanthropy in our community. We have the responsibility to ensure that the Foundation does have an impact in the Australian community, which is only achieved through supporting good ideas, good people and good organisations. The very considerable growth in our grants, particularly in the past 20 years (see chart below) shows the value of protecting and building the Foundation's assets and the flow-on benefits this has for the community. As we look towards the next 50 years, the Foundation is in a strong position both financially and in terms of our governance and management. I am confident that we have a solid platform for further growth and, most importantly, for continuing to make a meaningful contribution to the community.

As I wrote in the Chairman's Foreword to our 50th anniversary book, it is not easy to look into the future, but in the coming years it is likely that the Foundation will:

- have slower growth of its corpus than in the past due to the requirement that Public Ancillary Funds distribute 4 per cent of the market value of their assets annually. As this is approximately equivalent to the annual income from investments, growth in the corpus will come from capital appreciation of investments;

- undertake more evaluation of the outcomes of its grants so as to learn from past successes and mistakes;
- focus on a particular issue for a year or two with a view to making more of a difference (for example homelessness or family breakdowns);
- support more private sector social venture projects;
- dedicate more staff time to actively seeking out areas of need, and
- increase the level of staff involvement in key grantee projects.

Since our last annual report we have had two retirements from the Board of Governors. After 24 years as a Governor, Professor Geoffrey Blainey retired in June 2014; and Dr Thomas Hurley retired in November 2014, having given 36 years of service. We have benefitted greatly from the extensive knowledge, specialised skills, sound judgement and insight of these two Governors. We thank them most sincerely for their contributions to the Foundation and for their friendship over many years.

At the end of a very busy and rewarding year for the Foundation, I would like to thank my fellow Governors, Janet Hirst and all the staff for their efforts in ensuring that the Foundation's golden anniversary year was both meaningful and memorable.

**Charles Goode AC**  
Chairman

"We have the responsibility to ensure that the Foundation does have an impact in the Australian community, which is only achieved through supporting good ideas, good people and good organisations."

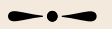
GRANTS PAID 2013–14

266



VALUE OF GRANTS

\$20.2m



FUNDS DISTRIBUTED SINCE 1964

\$207m

# CEO's Report



**We began the Foundation's golden anniversary year with the adoption of a formal vision and mission statement. This was an important achievement which will provide a guide and reference as the Foundation moves into its second half-century, sitting alongside our funding principles to give direction and purpose to those who govern and manage this organisation in the future.**

In last year's annual report I said that innovation and transformation would be the key themes during our 50th Anniversary year. This was carried through into our special round of commemorative grants, which were offered in two streams – effective organisations and building communities – and transcended our usual grant streams. In dollar value they were not the largest grants the Foundation has made, but they were highly strategic – focused on identifying areas of particular need in the community and on opportunities to make a difference.

The theme for our 50th year has been Looking Back, Reaching Forward. During the year we have reflected on the impact of the Foundation's grant-making since 1964, and the vision and generosity of spirit of Sir Ian Potter in establishing the Foundation. We have also looked ahead to think about the next 50 years and the role the Foundation should play. There is no doubt that philanthropy will continue to evolve and the role for foundations such as ours will need to be increasingly strategic in grant-making, be open to new ideas, take considered risks and contribute where the greatest

*(Right of centre) His Excellency The Hon. Alex Chernov AC QC, Governor of Victoria, and Mrs Elizabeth Chernov; with Janet Hirst (far right) and Governors of The Ian Potter Foundation at Government House, Victoria.*

difference can be made. Philanthropy is going to be very different, and the new ideas of today – such as impact investing, investment in social impact bonds, increased transparency and the increasing role of communications and social media – will be mainstream.

Strengthening and building the capacity of the philanthropic sector is important, and large foundations have a significant role to play in this. As a sector we need to share knowledge and best practice, foster debate and encourage new ideas and thinking to maximise the impact of our philanthropic funding. Members of the Foundation's staff are actively involved in a number of sector initiatives and I continue as a member of the Council of Philanthropy Australia. We support many projects which help build the capacity of the sector, including the Visiting Scholars Program at The Australian Centre for Philanthropy, and Nonprofit Studies (ACPNS) at Queensland University of Technology.

In October 2013, I was invited to attend the Rockefeller Foundation's Human Resources Centennial Symposium: Talent Management in Philanthropy for the Next 100 Years, convened at the Rockefeller Foundation's Bellagio Center on Lake Como, Italy. The symposium was a great opportunity to learn and share experiences with 20 sector leaders from around the world and to consider future challenges and opportunities. As a group we have continued to work on projects, including a staff exchange program, as an opportunity for staff to develop their skills and experience within the global philanthropic sector. The symposium highlighted the need to bolster the effectiveness of the philanthropic sector through talent management, bringing to the sector the brightest talent and then nurturing that talent and ensuring that professional development for staff is an ongoing process.

**“Philanthropy is going to be very different, and the new ideas of today – such as impact investing, investment in social impact bonds, increased transparency and the increasing role of communications and social media – will be mainstream.”**

Our Senior Communications Manager, Avalee Weir, travelled to New Orleans to attend the Communications Network Conference in October 2013. This event brought together 400+ communications professionals working in philanthropy, to discuss how communications can advance an organisation's mission. With a strong focus on the power of storytelling to engage audiences, this proved invaluable to our communications activity this year, producing a book, a film and a video for our 50th anniversary.

Program Manager Claire Rimmer attended the Environmental Grantmakers Association (EGA) Annual Fall Retreat, also in New Orleans, in October. This was an unparalleled opportunity for Claire to get together with 350+ US and international grantees and grantors to have conversations about the major environmental issues currently facing us, to learn about new ideas and approaches to tackling them and, more broadly, to learn about US philanthropy and how other foundations work.

In coming months, the Foundation will undertake a comprehensive national survey of stakeholders, grantees, applicants and potential applicants and others working in the sector to gather both quantitative and qualitative data to help us better understand how much impact stakeholders believe we are having in the fields and communities in which we work. The information will be used to improve information for applicants, to improve our effectiveness and impact and to inform



*Janet Hirst*

and focus our communications strategy. Maintaining the effectiveness of the Foundation will be our challenge for the next 50 years. For this reason, the Foundation has decided to develop a rigorous framework to evaluate its grant making. The framework will ensure that there is a clear basis for assessing effectiveness of the projects the Foundation supports. This evaluation will inform future grant making strategies so that the Foundation can maintain its innovative edge and support programs that have proved to make a difference for the Australian community.

My thanks as always go to my colleagues at the Foundation for the contribution they make and for their thoughtfulness, commitment and friendship.

**Janet Hirst**  
Chief Executive Officer

# Governors and Staff

## Board of Governors

### Life Governor

Lady Potter AC

### Governors

Mr Charles B Goode AC (Chairman)

Professor Geoffrey Blainey AC

Mr Anthony Burgess

Mr Leon Davis AO

Sir Daryl Dawson AC, KBE, CB

The Hon. Sir James Gobbo AC, CVO, QC

Professor Thomas Healy AO

Dr Thomas Hurley AO, OBE

Professor Richard Larkins AO

Mr Allan Myers AO, QC

Dr P John Rose AO

Professor Graeme Ryan AC

## Staff

### Chief Executive Officer

Janet Hirst

### Finance Manager

Sally Cliff

### Senior Program Manager

Alberto Furlan

### Program Managers

Claire Rimmer

Nicole McLeod

### Program Officer

Ngaire Jones (2013)/ Cecilia Gason (2014)

### Senior Manager – Communications

Avalee Weir

### Communications Officer

Tim Fisher (2013)/Fiona Collie (2014)

### Administration Manager

Gail Lewry

### Administration Assistant

Sue Wilkinson

### Reception and Personal Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer

Sarah MacNeill (2013)/  
Stacey Stertern-Gill (2014)

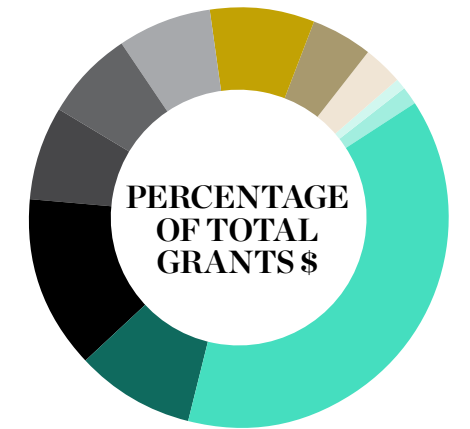
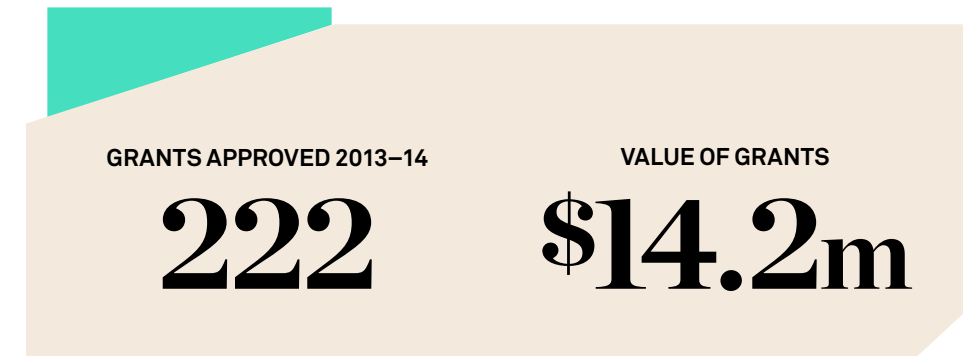
### Researcher

Jim Vale



Alberto Furlan, Fiona Collie, Adele Hirst (intern), Stewart Leslie, Claire Rimmer, Avalee Weir, Sue Wilkinson, Janet Hirst, Jim Vale, Nicole McLeod, Gail Lewry, Cecilia Gason, Stacey Stertern-Gill. Absent: Sally Cliff.

# Facts and Figures



Program Area	Number of Grants	Value of Grants \$	Total Grants %
50th Commemorative Grants	11	5,500,000	38.8%
Arts	16	1,258,500	8.9%*
Community Wellbeing	46	1,911,800	13.5%
Education	5	990,000	7.0%
The Alec Prentice Sewell Gift	6	990,000	7.0%
Environment & Conservation	6	987,500	7.0%
Health & Disability	30	1,163,500	8.2%
Medical Research	9	650,000	4.6%
Science	10	416,950	2.9%
Travel	64	143,783	1.0%
Conference	19	170,363	1.2%

# 50th Anniversary Overview



The Foundation's 50th Anniversary dinner, The Great Hall, National Gallery of Victoria.

## 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

**Celebrating the dual milestones of 50 years and over \$250 million in grant commitments made for a busy and exciting year for the Foundation.**

For the Foundation at this stage of its history, this milestone year provided an important opportunity to reflect, celebrate and look to the future. A great deal of thought went into planning appropriate commemorations. The celebrations took a number of forms, including the 50th Anniversary Commemorative Grants (see overleaf), receptions around Australia hosted by each State Governor, a short film, a book and, in September 2014, a formal dinner.

### Short Film

How do you communicate the breadth and depth - and importantly the impact - of the Foundation's philanthropy over 50 years?

With 8,000 grants to choose from, there are 8,000 stories that could be told – this film showcases just three grants to tell the story of how, who and what we fund, and the difference that the Foundation's philanthropy has made. These are personal stories demonstrating that the essence of philanthropy is people helping people – people making a difference.

### Book

*The Ian Potter Foundation, 50 Years: Looking Back, Reaching Forward* is a special commemorative book featuring 150 grants chosen from the thousands of possible options after sorting through records, files and archives to find those that best demonstrate the principles behind the Foundation's grant-making decisions and represent the size, scale and

breadth of its funding across the country and across 50 years of philanthropy.

In its pages are stories of organisations and people that the Foundation has supported over five decades, and how it has managed its philanthropy. Through the stories in its pages of what, who and how the Foundation has funded, a picture emerges of the wonderful work being done in so many aspects of our community and what the Foundation has helped to make possible.

[View the online version of the book.](#)

### Government House receptions

To mark the anniversary, the Governor-General, Governors of each State and the Administrator of the Northern Territory honoured the Foundation by hosting receptions to celebrate the milestone and acknowledge the contribution of its grantees to the community. The first of these receptions was held in February, hosted by then Governor-General, the Honourable Dame Quentin Bryce AD, CVO, at Government House in Canberra, followed by events in Sydney, Hobart, Adelaide, Darwin, Perth and Melbourne.

The events provided a special opportunity for grantees from across all program areas to come together, to meet fellow community leaders, talk about the work they are undertaking and share ideas. They also provided a chance for the Foundation's Governors and staff to meet many of the inspirational and committed people from the organisations it has supported over the past 50 years, renew relationships and connect people across the different sectors.

### Dinner

The grand finale for the year was a special 50th Anniversary celebration dinner at the National Gallery of Victoria. The guests of honour were the Governor-General, Sir Peter Cosgrove, and Lady

Cosgrove, the Governor of Victoria, the Hon. Alex Chernov, and Mrs Chernov, and the Federal Treasurer, the Hon. Joe Hockey representing the Prime Minister, who was attending a meeting of the United Nations Security Council. Invited guests included representatives of grantee organisations, guests from the broader philanthropic and not-for-profit community and business associates.

Speeches were given by the Treasurer and the Governor-General, as well as our Chairman, Charles Goode. Life Governor Lady Potter launched the commemorative book. Video of the speeches can be viewed on the Foundation's website:

[www.ianpotter.org.au](http://www.ianpotter.org.au)

**“For the Foundation at this stage of its history, this milestone year provided an important opportunity to reflect, celebrate and look to the future.”**



*Making a Difference, a special short film to mark the Foundation's anniversary.*

# 50th Anniversary Overview



Representatives of the 11 organisations awarded 50th Anniversary Commemorative Grants with Janet Hirst and Governors of the Foundation

## 50TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE GRANTS

A cornerstone of the 50th anniversary celebrations was the Commemorative Grants program. These grants were an opportunity for the Foundation to transcend its usual program areas and funding objectives and respond in new ways to help communities and organisations achieve transformative change and enable them to become more resilient.

The grants were offered in two streams.

### Effective Organisations:

For opportunities to bring about positive social change involving well-managed and properly resourced organisations that respond creatively and effectively to the needs of their constituents.

### Building Communities:

For ideas and opportunities to bring about transformative change that will support the development of strong, cohesive and resilient Australian communities in rural, regional or remote areas and urban settings.

Originally, the program promised up to \$4 million in funding, with individual grants between \$200,000 and \$500,000 on offer. These grants were open across all

sectors in an effort to find passionate, ambitious people and organisations with promising ideas in any area of the Australian community. The criteria were that they have the concept, the opportunity and the people and to deliver practical, sustainable results with long-term impact in an area of particular need.

“We were overwhelmed by the response,” says Janet Hirst. “Indeed the calibre of the applications was such that we exceeded the original \$4 million budget to make 11 grants totalling \$5.5 million. The successful applications are the best of the best: 11 organisations that have what it takes to make a meaningful difference – and now they have the means to make it a reality.”

## 50th Anniversary Commemorative Grants Recipients

### STREAT, VIC

To create a youth training academy at Cromwell House and help scale STREAT’s enterprise model to self-sufficiency by 2017.

### Ermha (Eastern Region Mental Health Association), VIC

Expand the MadCap Café social enterprise to support more people with mental illness.

### Lifeline Australia, ACT (National)

United Lifeline: Structure Review and Shared Services Program to increase organisational efficiency.

### Training Opportunities and Options for Learning (TOOL), TAS

To establish the TOOL Timber Recovery social enterprise, training and employment opportunities for youth at risk.

### SecondBite, VIC

Expansion of fresh food exchange program in regional and rural Victoria.

### Mallee Family Care for the Independent Agency Network, VIC

Model of efficiency: creating a shared client database system across

independent community service agencies, Mallee Family Care, Upper Murray Family Care and Oz Child.

### Social Traders, VIC

To broker social enterprise procurement contracts between small social enterprises and big business.

### Centennial Parklands Foundation, NSW

Connecting children with the natural environment – establish The Ian Potter Children’s Wild Play Garden in Centennial Park, Sydney\*.

### Museums Victoria, VIC

Preserving our biological heritage – establish The Ian Potter Australian Wildlife Biobank.

### Lizard Island Reef Research Foundation, NSW

To enable intensive research into outbreaks of Crown of Thorns Starfish on the Great Barrier Reef.

### RMIT University, VIC

Improving biosecurity – establish The Ian Potter NanoBioSensing Facility.



Commemorative Grants video highlights

GRANTS APPROVED

11

VALUE OF GRANTS

\$5.5m

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL VALUE GRANTS APPROVED

38.8%\*





# ARTS

## Objectives

The Foundation's Arts funding aims to promote and encourage a vibrant and thriving Arts sector. Through its grants in this area the Foundation works to help build the calibre and capacity of Australia's arts organisations and support them to raise the bar of aspiration and achievement in the sector. Grants support cultural institutions and organisations in Australia that are distinctive in artistic achievement, imagination and innovation and help extend cultural opportunities to regional centres and the development of arts programs at a local level.

## Overview

Projects supported by Arts grants work to build and strengthen the sector. They covered three main themes this year: artist and/or staff development, audience development, and organisational capacity. As ever, a broad mix of art forms was supported, including dance, music, theatre and visual arts, with all projects sharing the mutual goal of supporting and encouraging artistic excellence.

As was the case in several other program areas, there were fewer grants than in previous years due to the 50th Anniversary Commemorative Grants round, which replaced one of the normal program area funding rounds this year.

**“As ever, a broad mix of art forms was supported, including dance, music, theatre and visual arts, with all projects sharing the mutual goal of supporting and encouraging artistic excellence.”**

GRANTS APPROVED

16

VALUE OF GRANTS

\$1.26m

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL VALUE GRANTS APPROVED

8.9%\*



\* Includes three grants to The Ian Potter Cultural Trust with a total value of \$648,500

## FEATURE GRANTS



### Art Gallery of Ballarat

**To display Auld Lang Syne: Images of Scottish Australia from First Fleet to Federation \$18,000**

The Auld Lang Syne exhibition brought together artworks and objects from across Australia and overseas to acknowledge the extraordinary contribution of the Scots to the cultural, social and political life of this nation. For the Art Gallery of Ballarat this was also a unique opportunity to develop its organisational capacity, putting the gallery on a much stronger footing for the future. Staff benefitted from working with expert contracted curators and the research of the gallery's collection for the exhibition enriched knowledge about their holdings. Equally important was audience development, and the exhibition was promoted in close partnership with Ballarat Regional Tourism to maximise visitor numbers.



### Ausdance NSW

**To investigate a technology solution to link supporter databases \$17,000**

Many not-for-profit organisations struggle to manage database systems and equipment that are out of date and lack integration, leading to unnecessary inefficiencies. For Ausdance NSW, this grant will enable the research and purchase of an integrated system for their various databases and improve efficiencies and workflow. This will allow the organisation to focus its energy on achieving its mission to create, support and promote opportunities for dance in New South Wales. Ausdance provides a valuable dancer development service, so this ultimately supports young and future dancers. The project is a good match with the Foundation's goal to support the development of the Arts sector.



### Sydney Symphony Orchestra

**The Sydney Symphony Orchestra Academy \$100,000**

The SSO Academy provides a pathway for Australian musicians from tertiary studies into a musical vocation. Being a musician takes much more than what students can learn at university. The SSO Academy addresses these gaps by pairing talented young musicians with masters in their craft. Seventeen individuals will be selected for a year-long program of mentoring, working with SSO and international artists, performing on the main stage, internationally and in educational and regional contexts. The program is an expansion of the highly valued and regarded SSO Fellowship program, which is considered a model of best practice in the industry. This project promotes future talent and is strongly aligned with the Foundation's Arts objective to support organisations distinctive in artistic achievement and innovation.

# COMMUNITY WELLBEING

## Objectives

The Community Wellbeing program area has a broad remit to help alleviate disadvantage and promote the general wellbeing of the community. Prevention of homelessness is the focus of the large grants stream in this program area, in particular early intervention programs that aim to stop the cycle of disadvantage that can lead to homelessness.

The Community Wellbeing program currently operates two streams of funding: small grants (up to \$50,000) and large grants (more than \$50,000).

## Overview

With a broad and wide-ranging aim to alleviate disadvantage in the community, the consistent annual theme in the Community Wellbeing program is variety – and this year was no exception. The Foundation responded to a significant shift in grant applications for formalised “collective impact” programs in a number of sectors in the community. As a multi-faceted framework that helps to tackle complex social problems, collective impact is an innovative and structured approach to bringing about social change through effective collaboration across government, business, philanthropy, non-profit organisations and citizens. With an increasing number of successful examples in place in communities across Australia, this concept aligns strongly to the Foundation’s principles of supporting partnerships and developing sustainable, long-term solutions.

Grants in the Community Wellbeing program also supported some innovative and ambitious national projects that aim to tackle big issues such as long-term unemployment and projects that adopt an early intervention strategy to break the cycle of disadvantage, address service delivery in rural and remote areas, and change lives.

“The Foundation responded to a significant shift in grant applications for formalised ‘collective impact’ programs in a number of sectors in the community.”

GRANTS APPROVED

46

VALUE OF GRANTS

\$1.91m

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL VALUE GRANTS APPROVED

13.5%



## FEATURE GRANTS



### Social Ventures Australia

**The Industry Employment Initiative: Changing the system to help long-term unemployed youth back into work \$100,000**

Using a demand-led employment program, Social Ventures Australia is working to help break the cycle of long-term unemployment for young Australians. Demand-led employment starts with engaging employers and designing highly supported employment and training pathways with clear line-of-sight to a job. Piloting this program will require significant engagement of Australian employers, only 7 per cent of whom currently use the government employment system to recruit staff. This grant enables Social Ventures to work with national employers to train and place up to 20 long-term unemployed youth and is part of a larger pilot reaching 125 participants.



### Justice Connect

**Prisoners’ Legal Service Clinic \$100,000**

Housing, credit, debt and access to health are the key civil law issues for prisoners. Justice Connect has found that ex-prisoners are more than twice as likely to return to prison within nine months of release if they are homeless. In order to save prisoners from exiting prison into homelessness, legal matters need to be addressed.

Utilising pro bono support from a legal firm, Justice Connect will set up a legal clinic in prison to prevent prisoner recidivism by addressing legal matters that may otherwise result in loss of tenancy and re-offending.



### On The Line

**On-demand Online Counselling in rural, Regional and Remote Australia \$50,000**

Mental health issues in rural, regional and remote Australia have a profound impact on local communities, which often are under-equipped to respond to such needs in their population. Distance and lack of services often prevent a timely response to people’s critical needs. On The Line will offer a 24/7 on-demand online video support service for men in rural, regional and remote Australia, providing access to a professional counsellor immediately with no wait time, thus bridging this service divide between the city and the country.

# EDUCATION

GRANTS APPROVED

5

VALUE OF GRANTS

\$990k

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL VALUE GRANTS APPROVED

7.0%



## Objectives

The Foundation is committed to supporting strategic, whole-of-community approaches to education in order to make real, long-term improvements to education and employment outcomes in our communities.

Two funding streams are available. Small grants (\$50,000 and under) support early intervention initiatives for children with a view to improving school readiness and/or parental engagement and programs that provide basic material, personal and learning support to students.

Large grants support initiatives within disadvantaged communities that work with families, communities, schools and individuals with the aim of improving educational, employment and community outcomes as well as research and evaluation that promotes documenting best practice approaches to bettering educational outcomes.

## Overview

Five diverse projects received grants through the Foundation's Education program area this year. Three of these were large grants that are expected to deliver long-term education benefits to communities, emphasizing the Foundation's commitment to sustainable projects with far-reaching impact. The two smaller grants reflect a focus on innovation, investing in research projects trialling new technologies and the difference they can make for learning and outcomes for students in the classroom.

**“The two smaller grants reflect a focus on innovation, investing in research projects trialling new technologies and the difference they can make for learning and outcomes for students in the classroom.”**

# FEATURE GRANTS



## University of Tasmania: Faculty of Education

**Science-ercise: modern physics in primary classrooms of north-west Tasmania**  
\$40,000

Science-ercise is a pilot program to demonstrate how higher level physics theories and modern physics applications can be taught to and understood by primary school students using a specialist computer software and an integrated ICT system.

Rather than relying on traditional physical learning tools, Science-ercise incorporates sophisticated computer-based tools that help students design new molecules, visualise the effects of the quantum world, and see how special relativity modifies our view of the universe.

Science-ercise, aims to stimulate students to think beyond their comfort zone, providing long-term benefits through enhanced educational aspirations. This initiative will provide learning support to students in north-west Tasmania to help them experience success in areas normally reserved for much older students. The University of Tasmania hopes to see an increase in student interest in tertiary education, and a trend towards Science & Engineering career pathways.



## Queensland University of Technology: Faculty of Education

**Through a Child's Eyes: Influence of visual processing and vision impairment on literacy and numeracy**  
\$40,000

Visual processing is the brain's ability to make sense of what the eyes see. Good visual perceptual skills are important for many every day childhood skills such as reading, writing, completing puzzles, cutting and drawing. Without the ability to complete these everyday tasks, a child's self-esteem can suffer and their academic performance is compromised.

QUT's project will investigate children's visual processing and the impact of vision impairments on early learning in the classroom. Innovations in eye tracking technology offer new opportunities to explore these characteristics in classrooms. This project will generate visual processing and vision impairment profiles of Year 3 children and use the data to determine the nature of any difficulties (whether they are perceptual or more complex) which will inform future interventions in education and optometry.



## Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (VIC)

**Tomorrow:Today Foundation Education Benalla Program**  
\$400,000

The Ian Potter Foundation continues its relationship with the Tomorrow:Today Foundation and their Education Benalla program with a further grant of \$400,000 over two years. Tomorrow:Today is supported by strong cross-agency partnerships, including philanthropy, industry and government. Early evaluation indicators show that this whole-of-community program is successfully transforming education outcomes for the young people of Benalla (from infancy through to starting school), school engagement and retention, and ultimately transition to tertiary education. There have been some significant improvements for groups of preschool children and Year 9 students, as well as a dramatic decrease in suspension rates and a huge jump in students wanting to finish Year 12.

This funding is the Foundation's third grant to the program, bringing the total to \$900,000.

## ALEC PRENTICE SEWELL GIFT

GRANTS APPROVED

6

VALUE OF GRANTS

\$990k

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL VALUE GRANTS APPROVED

7.0%



### Objectives

Grants made through The Alec Prentice Sewell Gift aim to improve the opportunities available for disadvantaged children and lay the foundations for future positive health, social and educational outcomes. The Foundation does not accept applications to this area – grants are made through other program areas, including the Arts, Community Wellbeing and Education, reaching children of varying ages and circumstances. The common thread of the grants is that they support education and encourage an interest in the environment, or the arts and literature, to create opportunities for personal development and assist children to overcome barriers that may limit their achievement.

### Overview

Of the six grants awarded through the Alec Prentice Sewell Gift this year, four were large multi-year grants of over \$100,000, including the largest grant ever made through the gift: an award of \$500,000 to Centennial Parklands Foundation towards the Ian Potter Children’s Wild Play Garden (refer to Commemorative Grants). The goals of this project fit strongly with the objectives of The APS Gift and Mr Sewell’s philanthropic interests and wishes. Mr Sewell loved tending his garden in Toolangi and hoped that it would one day become a sanctuary for the children he never had. In relation to his Toolangi property, he told the Healesville newspaper *Mountain Views*: “Provided Australia prospers and my investments prosper – in the course of time I envisage that this provision will be extended to other properties...in every State in the Commonwealth”. This project is, therefore, a natural fit for his Gift.

Along with another large grant from the Sewell Gift to Zoos Victoria, this grant will create dedicated experiential learning spaces for children and young people. These projects offer universal benefits for the education of Australian children regardless of their socio-economic circumstances.

“Mr Sewell loved tending his garden in Toolangi and hoped that it would one day become a sanctuary for the children he never had.”

## FEATURE GRANTS



### Zoos Victoria

**Digest-ED Learning Centre**  
\$200,000

This grant has supported the creation of a new Digest-ED Learning Centre to replace the outdated classroom facilities at Melbourne Zoo. The new integrated learning space for secondary and tertiary students is planned to have a thirty-year lifespan and will be one of the best educational facilities in the state and a world-leading zoo educational development. Digest-Ed is part of the new Lion Gorge precinct, which will open in December 2014.



### Kids Thrive

**Kids Creating Change: Developing, delivering and evaluating a creative, long-term primary early-intervention strategy.**  
\$150k over 3 years

Kids Thrive is a multi-faceted, multi-partner program that uses creativity and the arts to build children’s confidence and empathy and improve academic outcomes. Following strong evaluation outcomes for the first year of the project, this second grant from the Foundation will support a second component of the three-part Kids Thrive program. The program will be delivered in six primary schools, a community hub and a community health service over three years in the areas of Hume and Heidelberg West in Melbourne’s north.



### Anglicare Victoria

**TEACHaR – Transforming Educational Achievement for Children in Home-based and Residential care**  
\$100,000

The aim of Anglicare’s TEACHaR program is to lift the educational outcomes of children in out-of-home care by providing them with a range of practical supports, including tutoring by teachers experienced in working with disadvantaged and special-needs children. Although the program is still its early stages, the reports look very promising, with average school attendance of participants increasing by 12 per cent and schools reporting that these students are more actively engaged in the classroom and happier at school.

# ENVIRONMENT & CONSERVATION

GRANTS APPROVED

6

VALUE OF GRANTS

\$988k

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL VALUE GRANTS APPROVED

7.0%



## Objectives

The Foundation’s Environment & Conservation program area aims to support Australian urban and regional communities to live sustainably and preserve biodiversity in the face of challenges such as land degradation, limited water resources and climate change.

Through its small grants program (up to \$20,000), the Foundation seeks to increase public awareness and volunteer involvement in addressing the environmental challenges facing urban and rural Australia and to encourage the development of policies that promote the economic and ecological sustainability of our communities.

Large Environment & Conservation grants (over \$100,000) support research and programs that promote sustainable approaches to agriculture, opportunities within the carbon economy and land management practices that encompass a landscape-scale approach to protecting areas of high conservation value.

## Overview

Ensuring that promising projects were supported to reach their full potential was a key focus of the Foundation’s Environment & Conservation grants this year. Several large grants were awarded to consolidate and extend projects that had previously received grants from the Foundation or had been backed by other funders and needed additional funds to achieve their objectives. This aligns strongly with the Foundation’s core principle of supporting excellent organisations with a view to long-term benefits to the environment and the community.

It was a relatively quiet year in this program area. Seven expressions of interest were received in the large grants program, three of which progressed to full application, all of which were successful. These accounted for 95 per cent of the funds allocated to Environment & Conservation.

“Ensuring that promising projects were supported to reach their full potential was a key focus of the Foundation’s Environment & Conservation grants this year.”

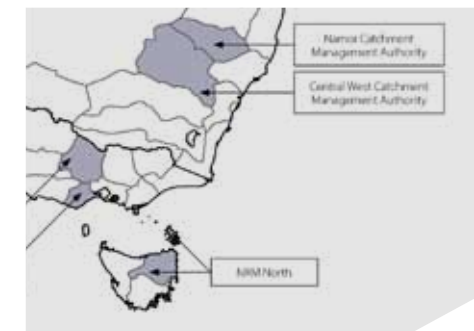
## FEATURE GRANTS



### Australian Marine Conservation Society

The Good Fish Project’s Sustainable Seafood Chef’s Charter \$10,000

Following the success of the Good Fish Project (supported by a grant from the Foundation in 2011 to educate and inform chefs about the importance of sustainable seafood), the Australian Marine Conservation Society has developed The Sustainable Seafood Chef’s Charter. This will generate a strong statement of intent from chefs about their commitment to support sustainable practice and help improve Australia’s fisheries and marine environment. The key goal is to stop destructive overfishing, to protect fish species and to allow ocean food webs to remain intact, which is a strong fit with the Foundation’s small grants objectives in this program area.



### The Trustee for The Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists Foundation

Environmental Accounts Program \$480,000 over three years

The Wentworth Group’s Accounting For Nature Model is a practical, scientifically credible and affordable non-monetary method for measuring the condition of environmental assets. The concept of a common environmental currency represents a major shift in the business of environmental management. The aim of the model is to solve one of the most significant institutional challenges confronting the world in the 21st Century: measuring the impact of economic development on the health of our environmental assets, at scales that can inform economic and policy decisions.

The Foundation supported Wentworth’s regional environmental accounts trials 2011–2013. This funding will enable the Wentworth Group to formalise the “proof of concept” regional trials and aggregate the information to create national environmental asset condition accounts. This is an exciting initiative that fits squarely with the objectives of the Foundation’s large grants in Environment & Conservation.



### Royal Botanic Gardens Board

The Ian Potter Foundation Children’s Garden Expansion \$265,000

Having grown to become one of Melbourne’s most loved family attractions, welcoming 200,000 visitors each year, The Ian Potter Foundation Children’s Garden in Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne celebrates its 10th anniversary in 2014. Its great popularity also presents a challenge. The pressure of large crowds has led to areas of compaction and overcrowding. This grant assisted the expansion of the garden and improvements to existing infrastructure that will significantly enhance its ability to cope with demand so it can continue to provide hands-on learning and a connection to the environment for many more children, for many years to come.

# HEALTH & DISABILITY

## Objectives

The enormous scope and need for innovation in health service delivery and preventative health and medicine program underly the Foundation’s Health & Disability program. Grants target programs that help improve quality of life for those in our community living with disability or illness and support programs that focus on the prevention of diseases.

The main priorities of the program are to promote good health for all Australians and improve outcomes for people living with disability. Research and development in public health and preventative medicine initiatives are important aspects of the Foundation’s Health & Disability grants program, as is support for new technology and knowledge sharing initiatives.

## Overview

The introduction and use of new technology were a key theme in the Health & Disability program area grants this year. Technology continues to offers enormous potential in terms of information and knowledge sharing, communication, and the invention of physical aids to improve quality of life for people with disabilities. Making the most of these technologies also requires commitment to training and resources to maximise the potential benefits. The Foundation’s grants in this area supported a number of promising technology-based initiatives, particularly those that had the potential to bring together and empower people with shared interests and matters of concern, and programs that maximise the value of skilled volunteers. The organisations the Foundation seeks to support are those that see the opportunity for technology to make a difference and then plan realistic and practical applications to maximise the benefits.

“Technology continues to offers enormous potential in terms of information and knowledge sharing, communication, and the invention of physical aids to improve quality of life for people with disabilities.”

GRANTS APPROVED

30

VALUE OF GRANTS

\$1.16m

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL VALUE GRANTS APPROVED

8.2%



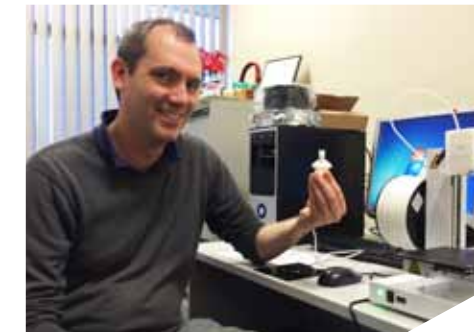
## FEATURE GRANTS



### Hear and Say – Centre for Deaf Children Limited

**Occupational Therapy Project**  
\$100,000

Hear and Say is a leading paediatric auditory-verbal and implantable technologies (including cochlear implants) organisation teaching deaf children to hear, listen and speak. The Foundation has supported their work over many years and this grant to their occupational therapy project will facilitate the early identification of sensory processing dysfunction as well as early intervention treatment. These strategies help deaf children to develop listening skills and spoken language and overcome motor planning difficulties. Provision of occupational therapy services within the Hear and Say Centre also streamlines services for clients, with no need for referrals to external providers.



### Technical Aid to the Disabled (NSW)

**Transforming Lives with 3D Printing**  
\$45,000

3D printing offers exciting possibilities for many applications in the community. This grant to Technical Aid to the Disabled (TAD) has helped to purchase a 3D printer that can be used to produce highly personalised, complex custom equipment, prototypes and replacement parts. TAD uses the knowledge and creativity of skilled volunteers to deliver personalised equipment tailored to meet the specific needs of each individual. This project takes this service a step further, training their retiree engineer volunteers to produce highly complex custom equipment that is more accessible and affordable and meets a range of highly specialised needs.



### Independence Australia

**Care Now Project**  
\$50,000

Independence Australia provides services to support and empower people to regain, retain and extend their independence. A key part of independence is the ability to live in one’s own home. Carers play a vital role in assisting loved ones with their independence, with statistics indicating that almost 80 per cent of disability support is provided by unpaid and unskilled carers. Some caring skills are easy; while other tasks, like tube feeding or wheelchair transfers, are more difficult. The Care Now Project is an online portal that will deliver training and information to carers so they can get the support they need – both practical and emotional – when they need it.

# MEDICAL RESEARCH

## Objectives

The Medical Research program area prioritises support for world-class biomedical research to bring new preventions and cures closer to reality through the use of new technology, innovative practices and knowledge. Many of our grants support major initiatives by leading Australian research institutes, universities and teaching hospitals in innovative biomedical research, the anticipated benefits of which are likely to advance the research outcomes of the institution as a whole, and we also place emphasis on research into major diseases.

## Overview

With major multi-year grants being committed in previous years, including \$15 million to the Peter McCallum Cancer Foundation for the Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre, it was a quieter period in Medical Research this year. Having proven their value in research outcomes, facilities that encourage collaboration between organisations are becoming increasingly common in the sector and continue to attract the Foundation's support.

“Facilities that encourage collaboration between organisations are becoming increasingly common in the sector and continue to attract the Foundation's support.”

GRANTS APPROVED

9

VALUE OF GRANTS

\$650k

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL VALUE GRANTS APPROVED

4.6%



## FEATURE GRANTS



### Children's Medical Research Institute (NSW)

ACRF Telomere Analysis Centre – Live Cell Imaging Suite Co-Sponsorship \$100,000

Telomeres have been compared with the plastic tips on shoelaces, because they keep chromosome ends from fraying and sticking to each other, an outcome that would destroy or scramble an organism's genetic information. Yet, each time a cell divides, the telomeres get shorter. When they get too short, the cell can no longer divide; it becomes inactive or “senescent” or it dies. This shortening process is associated with aging, cancer and a higher risk of death.

State-of-the-art imaging equipment in the Australian Cancer Research Foundation (ACRF) Telomere Analysis Centre will facilitate a better understanding of the differences in telomere biology between normal and cancerous cells and aid studies of rare telomere diseases. Live cell research offers great possibilities and this technology will put these researchers at the forefront of their field.



### University of Western Australia: Faculty of Science

A Nationally Collaborative Preclinical Facility to Improve Immediate and Longer Term Outcomes of Preterm Birth \$60,000

The University of Western Australia is establishing a Preterm Intensive Care Research Unit. The unit will facilitate an innovative and collaborative national approach to research that will benefit vulnerable preterm infants, improving immediate outcomes and optimising the babies' life-long health and well-being. Extensive and nationally collaborative evaluation of the resultant data and tissue banks will benefit the national medical research community as well as the 25,000 Australian babies (and 15 million babies worldwide) born prematurely each year.

## SCIENCE

### Objectives

A central focus of The Ian Potter Foundation's Science program area is support for exceptional scientists with the aim of making a long-term contribution to thinking and knowledge in Australia. Our grants strategically fund opportunities for promising early-career researchers. The Foundation grant-making in this area is directed to support for innovative scientific research driven by leading institutions and to initiatives that increase our understanding and knowledge of Australia's biodiversity and its ecological sustainability.

### Overview

This was a relatively busy year for the Science program area, with 10 grants awarded. Although most of the grants this year were relatively small amounts (under \$20k), they were critical sums for some important research projects. The majority of the projects supported relate to the environment and wildlife as a key objective of this program area. The Foundation's well-established association with The Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists also continued with a grant of \$100,000 to support the Ian Potter Policy Fellowship. In addition there was renewed support of \$112,000 over five years to Lizard Island Reef Research Foundation for the Lizard Island Ian Potter Doctoral Fellowships program.

“The majority of the projects supported relate to the environment and wildlife as a key objective of this program area.”

GRANTS APPROVED

10

VALUE OF GRANTS

\$417k

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL VALUE GRANTS APPROVED

2.9%



## FEATURE GRANTS



### University of Technology Sydney: Faculty of Science

**Dr Jennifer Donelson: Coping with climate change – acclimation of marine fishes to global warming**  
\$19,950

Dr Jennifer Donelson's research complements the research that has been completed by a number of the Ian Potter Doctoral fellows at Lizard Island Research Station. Her project seeks to determine the potential for marine fish to cope with increases in sea water temperature predicted with global warming.



### University of Wollongong: Faculty of Science, Medicine and Health, Institute for Conservation Biology and Environmental Management

**Associate Professor Andy Davis: Habitat degradation stemming from anchor scour – impacts of large vessels mooring in deep water**  
\$40,000

This research is an important piece of work to monitor the damage caused by ship anchors along the anchoring zone off the New South Wales coast which seeks to determine what environmental damage is caused while large ships wait to dock. More than 11,000 vessels enter Australian ports annually, supporting an industry of over \$200 billion. While the destructive nature of dredging and trawling activities is well documented, less is known about the impacts of anchor scour. This project is a key step in ensuring the sustainable use and development of the coastal zone. The research will employ innovative technologies to gather data and evaluate the potential for impact, and the results will be shared with coastal zone managers, the shipping industry and relevant authorities.



### Australian National University: College of Physical & Mathematical Sciences, Research School of Earth Sciences

**Dr Rachel Wood: An amino acid approach to radiocarbon dating degraded bones**  
\$15,000

Dr Rachel Wood's project seeks to develop a method for radiocarbon dating degraded bone. Radiocarbon methods for dating bone aim to select the protein collagen. These were developed in northern Europe/America where collagen is well preserved. In Australia's warmer climate, collagen breaks into fragments. If the bones are dry or physically protected the fragments may remain, but they cannot be dated with traditional techniques. This project will test a method involving the chemical ninhydrin, which selects amino acids, the building blocks of proteins, for dating. If successful, this technique will contribute to our understanding of the history, and thus the future, of Australia's biodiversity in response to climatic and environmental change.



## TRAVEL

### Objectives

As one of few philanthropic organisations to offer a travel grants program, the Foundation has had a steadfast commitment to this initiative, dating from the Foundation's establishment in 1964.

The program enables promising early-career academics and researchers to present their work at international conferences and exchange knowledge with their peers through participation in professional development opportunities.

Supporting early career researchers to attend conferences and training enhances the researchers' professional development and develops their research through valuable feedback from and collaboration with contemporaries in their field.

Ultimately these benefits filter through to the wider community through the research and the investment in Australia's best and brightest minds. While most Travel grants are awarded to university-based researchers, they are also available to TAFE staff and indeed the staff of any eligible organisation that may have similar potential and opportunity.

### Overview

In terms of Travel grants, this was the Foundation's busiest year ever, with the highest number of grants approved, amounting to the largest total value committed to this program area in a single year.

**“As one of few philanthropic organisations to offer a travel grants program, the Foundation has had a steadfast commitment to this initiative, dating from the Foundation's establishment in 1964.”**

GRANTS APPROVED

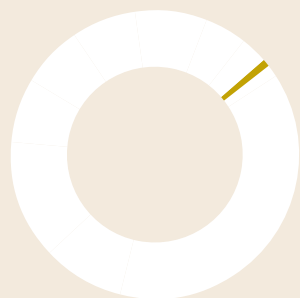
64

VALUE OF GRANTS

\$144k

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL  
VALUE GRANTS APPROVED

1.0%



## FEATURE GRANTS

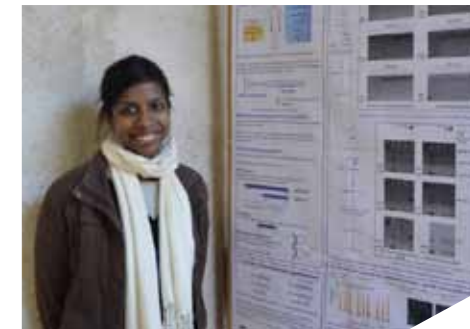


### Telethon Kids Institute, Division of Leukaemia and Cancer Research

**Dr Alexander Gout:** To train at the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard, Boston, USA, and attend the American Society of Human Genetics 63rd Annual Meeting, Boston, USA, and the Cold Spring Harbor 2013 Genome Informatics Meeting, Cold Spring Harbor, USA  
\$3,000

During his stay in Boston, Dr Gout gained advanced experience in state-of-the-art high-throughput sequencing analysis techniques. The insight, advice and support from his new colleagues enhanced his ability to perform high-level bioinformatics research. Bioinformatics helps researchers to better understand the molecular mechanisms underlying paediatric cancer development, a key goal of the Telethon Kids Institute.

Dr Gout reported, “This trip thoroughly exceeded my expectations. At each conference I was introduced to cutting-edge human genetics and genomics research from around the world and met with many speakers to gather valuable advice and input on my current projects. I believe the infant ALL project I am currently completing has benefited greatly.”



### The University of Queensland: Faculty of Science, School of Chemistry and Molecular Biosciences

**Dr Michelle Christie:** To attend the International School of Crystallography conference, Erice, Italy  
\$750

Dr Michelle Christie studies biochemistry and in particular developing effective therapeutic compounds building drug and gene delivery systems. Her attendance at Erice 2014 enabled her to learn from the experts in the field about the latest structural biology methods that are used in pharmacology. The International School of Crystallography conference is attended by the world's leading crystallographers and covers the most recent advances in the field. Crystallography is the pre-eminent technique for obtaining the three-dimensional structures of organic materials. In her final report, Dr Christie said that a unique feature of this conference are the workshops and the opportunity to obtain hands-on training.



### Central Queensland University: School of Human Health and Social Sciences, Higher Education Division

**Dr Karena Burke:** To attend the European Conference on Positive Psychology, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, and the International Congress of Applied Psychology in Paris, France  
\$4,000

This grant enabled Dr Karena Burke to present her research at two international research conferences. As a direct result of attending these conferences she has developed an ongoing collaboration with staff at the Norwegian Institute of Public Health in Oslo and has discussed the potential for co-supervision of research students with international partners, including colleagues in Oslo, Leeds and Berlin.

This grant enabled Dr Burke to enhance her research skills and gain knowledge that is benefitting her current research. It has also given her the opportunity for collaboration and potential for future funding, publications and supervision on her projects.

## CONFERENCE

### Objectives

The sharing, exchange and dissemination of knowledge are another aspect of the Foundation's contribution to building capacity within Australia's not-for-profit sector. The unique program assists organisations to bring keynote speakers of international renown to Australia. The speakers impart their knowledge and expertise to conference delegates in Australia to inspire new thinking and foster learning.

Conference grants demonstrate how relatively small sums can have a significant impact. The ripple effect of a new approach or way of thinking can make a significant difference to a not-for-profit organisation and inspire new ways of working, spark new research and create networks and knowledge-sharing frameworks.

Grants made through this program area assist with the travel and accommodation costs of hosting an international keynote speaker.

### Overview

For many years, applications to this program area were dominated by universities for academic conferences and seminars. In recent years there has been an increase in grants to not-for-profit organisations across Australia for conferences covering a wide variety of subjects ranging from cyber bullying to autism, environmental issues and suicide prevention.

**“The ripple effect of a new approach or way of thinking can make a significant difference to a not-for-profit organisation and inspire new ways of working, spark new research and create networks and knowledge-sharing frameworks.”**

GRANTS APPROVED

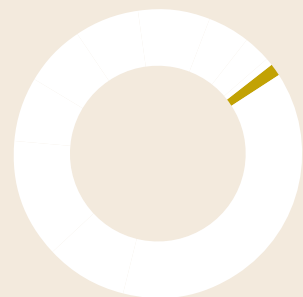
19

VALUE OF GRANTS

\$170k

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL  
VALUE GRANTS APPROVED

1.2%



## FEATURE GRANTS



### Berry Street Victoria

To bring Baroness Susan Greenfield and Mr Richard Rose as keynote speakers to the Berry Street Childhood Institute's The Good Childhood Conference, Melbourne, 10–11 October 2013. \$7,680

The Good Childhood Conference focused on the outcomes aspired to for all children – for children to be supported to thrive, achieve and belong. The conference provided an opportunity for sector leaders, practitioners, policy makers, researchers and young people to come together to consider what sustains a good childhood and also how best to support those who have not had a good childhood.

Baroness Greenfield, a renowned British scientist, focused her two keynote presentations on the developing brain and how technology is contributing to what she calls “mind change” – how digital technologies are leaving their marks on our brains. She also highlighted the importance of promoting wellness in the young mind by encouraging creativity. Richard Rose is the Director of Child Trauma Intervention Services in the UK. He presented his ideas on communication with young people, in particular the importance of positive role models.



### University of Western Sydney: School of Science and Health

To bring keynote speaker Professor Terry McGee from the University of British Columbia to the International Conference on Peri-urban Landscapes: Water, Food and Environmental Security, Sydney, NSW, 8–11 July 2014. \$5,893

Urban expansion is accelerating, with projections that cities will accommodate more than 70 per cent of the global population by 2050. The urbanisation process presents unprecedented environmental, social, economic and political challenges. Although there are diverse local conditions and scales, the problems of expanding cities have similarities worldwide.

The conference grant enabled key speaker Professor Terry McGee from the University of British Columbia to discuss his research on urbanisation in South-East Asia. The event brought people together to discuss the issues affecting future cities and overall liveability of urban areas and to share research and develop new collaborative research projects in this field.



### Connections UnitingCare

To bring Maia Szalavitz as a keynote speaker to the conference: Leading Practice – Making a Difference in the Lives of Children and Families, Melbourne, VIC, 14–15 May 2014. \$2,188

This conference explored themes such as trauma-informed practice, evidence-based outcomes for practice, quality systems, feedback and evaluation and cross-sectoral work and partnerships. It also examined key issues and challenges facing the community services sector, including overviews from experts from the Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare and across the sector.

The keynote speaker was Maia Szalavitz, a neuroscience journalist who explores addiction, love, evidence-based living, empathy and everything related to the brain and behaviour. Maia is a recognised leader and critical thinker in this field and brought a great deal of insight and new ideas to the conference.

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