

New Helpmann Academy CEO Appointed

The Helpmann Academy Board of Governors has appointed Ms Alison Dunn as the new Chief Executive Officer of the arts support organisation.

Alison Dunn is a passionate advocate for the arts with a broad business background, particularly in the area of communications and marketing.

She has worked with SA Water as well as some of Australia's flagship cultural organisations and events including the Sydney Opera House, Adelaide Festival Corporation, JamFactory Contemporary Craft and Design, Powerhouse Museum, Belvoir St Theatre and the Australian Broadcasting Corporation.

A Fellow of the Governor's Leadership Foundation (a program of the Leader's Institute of South Australia), Alison holds a BA from the University of Adelaide and studied postgraduate Communication Management at University of Technology Sydney.

Alison Dunn said, "I am honoured to be a part of the future of the Helpmann Academy – a unique organisation with an incredible reach. With the support of its generous sponsors, individual patrons and donors and Friends, the Helpmann Academy makes a difference in the lives of emerging artists - in turn, these artists greatly enrich us all with their ideas, expression and brilliance. It's a wonderful thing to be a part of."

From 2 June Alison Dunn will take over from Libby Raupach whose efforts have seen the Helpmann Academy grow from strength to strength and become part of the fabric of Adelaide's Arts scene.

Libby Raupach is leaving the Helpmann Academy to take up the role of joint CE at Common Ground Adelaide, where she will establish a range of programs for homeless people, including arts initiatives.

Helpmann Academy Chair, Karen Thomas said, "On behalf of the Board of Governors I am delighted to introduce Alison Dunn as our new CEO. Alison takes over the mantle from Libby Raupach, who leaves the Helpmann Academy better placed as a result of her significant contribution to the careers of emerging artists in South Australia.

"With Alison on board, we look forward to continuing to build on the Academy's successes in promoting South Australia as a recognised centre for excellence in Arts education."

The Helpmann Academy is a not-for-profit support organisation for the tertiary art schools in South Australia. Through grants, awards, mentorships, international artist residencies, events and exhibitions, publicity and visiting artist programs the Helpmann Academy aims to support artists' transition from tertiary education into professional practice.

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