



# INFORMATION PACK 2018

The National Institute of Dramatic Art is supported by the Australian Government



**Australian Government**

National Institute  
of Dramatic Art

**NIDA**

NIDA is Australia's National Institute of Dramatic Art – a centre of excellence in education and training for the performing arts and cultural industries.

*Our graduates become future leaders and innovators helping to grow Australia's cultural identity both at home and internationally.*



## OUR STORY

NIDA was founded in 1958 as the first professional theatre training school in Australia. The earliest classes were held on the grounds of the University of New South Wales (UNSW) with Robert Quentin as the inaugural Director. Teaching began in 1959 and in 1960 the first 23 students graduated with a Diploma in Acting.

Today we regularly welcome over 200 full-time students to our Kensington campus, as well as thousands of public course participants from across Australia each year.

## VISION

NIDA aspires to be one of the world's pre-eminent education and training institutions for the dramatic arts and an international creative hub of innovative collaborative practice, knowledge exchange and thought leadership.

## OUR PEOPLE

At NIDA, we look for people who are committed to developing new and improved ways to engage with our students, audiences, customers and each other. NIDA staff come from a range of professional areas, including the creative industries, IT, marketing, human resources, finance and administration.

## PURPOSE

NIDA's purpose is to provide future-focused, practice-led education and training and to inspire a new generation of creative leaders to drive the cultural evolution of Australia and influence international arts practice.



## VALUES

- Originality and experimentation
- Collaboration and partnership
- Creative impact and relevance
- Sustainable practices
- Diversity throughout the organisation
- Scholarship, research and innovation
- Cultural enterprise and entrepreneurship

## FULL-TIME COURSES



In over 50 years, NIDA has grown from a single acting class to a provider of hundreds of courses for both the professional and the passionate student. We offer immersive higher education in a collaborative environment to support our students on their creative journeys.

NIDA offers **Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA)** courses in Acting, Costume, Design for Performance, Properties and Objects, Staging, and Technical Theatre and Stage Management.

NIDA's suite of **Master of Fine Arts (MFA)** courses is growing each year. In 2017 NIDA will offer MFA courses in Cultural Leadership, Design for Performance, Directing, Voice and Writing for Performance.

NIDA also offers **Vocational Education and Training (VET)** diploma courses in Musical Theatre, Specialist Make-up Services and Live Production and Technical Services.

Graduates from all NIDA courses are in great demand and go on to work in areas as diverse as theatre, film, television, opera, dance, production management and events management.

Each year we welcome more than 15,000 students of all backgrounds and abilities through **NIDA Open**. Our flexible short courses offer unique creative experiences for children, young people and adults and are delivered by expert tutors. There are hundreds of courses on offer across Australia all year round covering everything from musical theatre to television presenting.

**NIDA Corporate** offers practical skills-based training in professional communication, presentation and leadership for individuals and businesses in the public and private sectors. Tutors draw directly from their expertise in training some of Australia's best performers, providing individuals and corporate teams with the skills and confidence to be effective workplace communicators and successful public speakers.



NIDA's advanced technical facilities are an essential part of our internationally renowned education and training. Our award-winning building houses the **NIDA Theatres** complex, featuring five state-of-the-art theatres, a film studio, rehearsal spaces, workshops and event spaces.

The NIDA Theatres complex is also available for hire and provides a unique setting for awards ceremonies, conferences, product launches, sit-down dinners and cocktail receptions, supported by NIDA's team of expert technical and front of house staff.

# WHO WE ARE

## Board of Directors

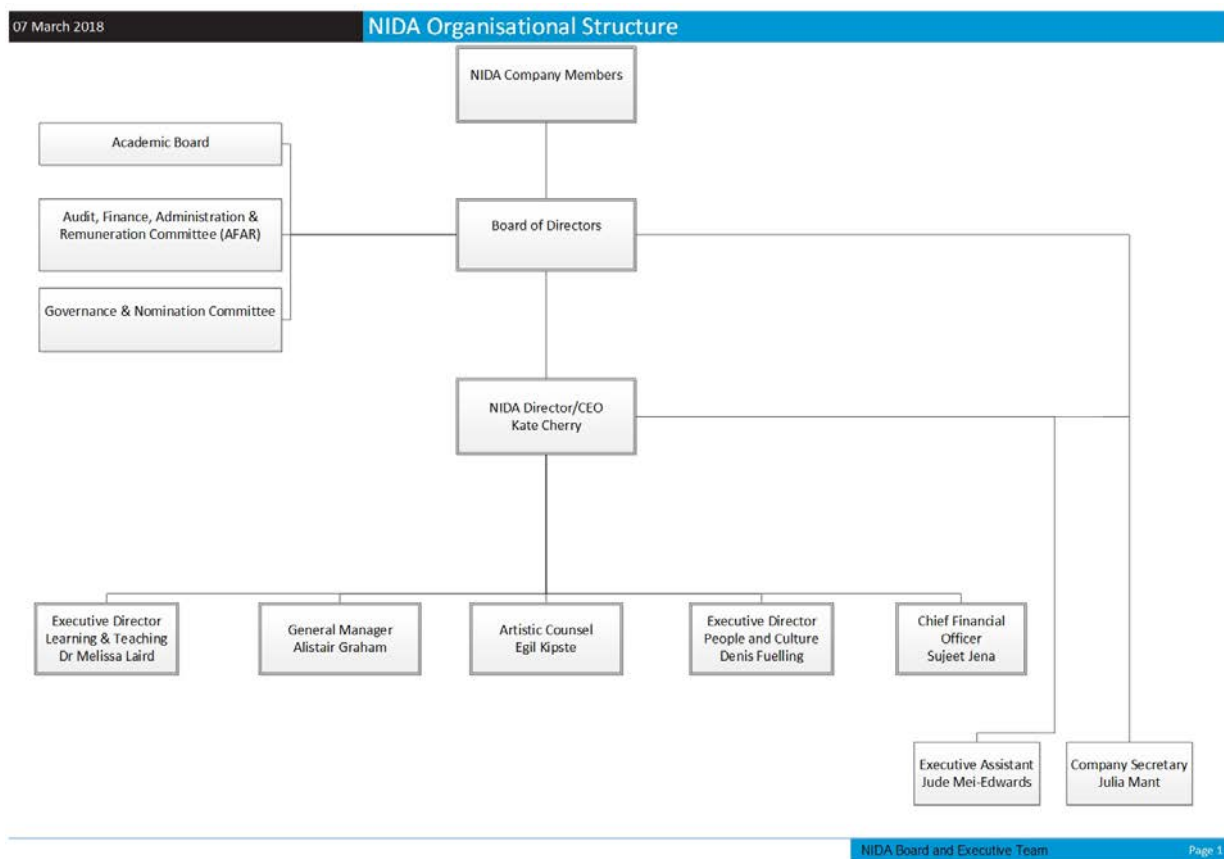
The Board of Directors controls the business of the Company and acts to promote its objects and interests.

The Board of Directors is responsible for:

- directing and guiding the Company's strategic direction
- appointing the Director/CEO
- maintaining and enhancing the role of the Company as a centre of excellence in the performing arts
- monitoring and maintaining the financial integrity and viability of the Company.

## Academic Board

The Academic Board is a standing committee of the Board of Directors. In conjunction with the Board of Directors, it has responsibility for educational policies, the approval of course documentation, the appeals process, course review and monitoring arrangements, and resource acquisition. Members are appointed by the Board on the advice of the Director and are drawn from the arts entertainment industry, as well as related fields of education and educational management.



# SUPPORTERS

As a not-for-profit organisation, NIDA receives support from donors, corporate partners and sponsors who assist us in providing the best teaching resources, training opportunities and educational experiences available.

NIDA receives funding from the Australian Government through the Ministry for the Arts, Department of Communications and the Arts and is a member of Arts8 – the Australian Roundtable for Arts Training Excellence: an initiative between the national performing arts training organisations and the Australian Government committed to providing unique and high-level training for emerging artists.

## Donors

Our donors and sponsors help make everything at NIDA possible. Donations and planned gifts help us to:

- support diversity in the Australian arts industry
- stay at the forefront of dramatic arts training in Australia and internationally
- give our students access to the highest quality materials and technology.

## NIDA Foundation Trust

Established in 1984, the NIDA Foundation Trust is an independent body that raises funds for NIDA. The Trust supports projects and activities not provided for by regular government funding or earned income. The Trust works with NIDA to:

- raise funds through donations, corporate partnerships and bequests
- help to pay for new learning opportunities, play commissions and play productions
- help NIDA grow, respond to change and meet the highest educational standards.



# NIDA DEPARTMENTS

## Academic Program (Undergraduate and Graduate Studies)

The Academic Program is made up of two departments each headed by a Director: Undergraduate Studies and Graduate Studies.

The Academic Program is the core of NIDA's business. This area comprises the departments and disciplines that are responsible for the delivery of NIDA's full-time courses.

Many visiting teachers, artists, professional organisations and members of the performing arts industry contribute their expertise to NIDA's accredited courses.

## Learning and Teaching

The Learning and Teaching department supports the Academic Program in delivering quality educational experiences for students undertaking full-time study.

NIDA's VET program became a part of the Learning and Teaching and Commercial departments in 2017 and is responsible for developing NIDA's vocational education and training (VET) programs.

The Rodney Seaborn Library is part of the Learning and Teaching department and is a specialist library for NIDA students, graduates, staff and the general public. Created in 1980, the Rodney Seaborn Library is now one of Australia's leading performing arts-based libraries.

The NIDA Archives, also part of the Learning and Teaching department, collects, organises and preserves archival records created by or relating to NIDA. As a valuable resource for research, teaching and education, the Archives supports NIDA's role as Australia's leading national educator in the dramatic arts.

## Finance

The Finance department manages all accounting and finance services for NIDA as well as providing support to the NIDA Foundation Trust.

## Commercial

The NIDA Business Development department comprises areas of the organisation that directly contribute to the commercial operation of the business, including driving revenue growth and diversification and promoting the NIDA brand:

- NIDA Open
- NIDA Corporate
- Marketing and Communications
- VET
- NIDA Theatres
- Facilities

## People and Culture

The People and Culture department provides generalist Human Resources services across the organisation. It is responsible for the development of the strategic Workforce Plan which informs the operational outcomes for the department.

