

We will revitalise the Opera House profile. We will build strong, mutually beneficial relationships. We will ensure everything we do benefits our community now and into the future.

Element 1:

Our Stakeholders

Collaborations

Sydney Opera House is a not-for-profit public trading enterprise that in addition to its trading operations, relies on government, corporate partners and private individuals for support. These key stakeholders increase our capacity to create and present world-class performances and events, develop education and access programs for young Australians, offer free events to the public and enhance and expand Indigenous programming and activities.

The NSW Government supported the Opera House through an endowment of \$13.949 million in 2012/13, which represented 13.5% of our operational funding.

In March 2013, the Opera House launched a new donor group, the Idealists, to help expand and deepen its year-round Ideas At The House program, which features talks by outstanding Australian and international thinkers, writers and opinion leaders. The centrepiece of Ideas is the annual *Festival of Dangerous Ideas*, which ran for the fourth time, in October 2012, and continued to increase its audience. A new one-day festival, *All About Women* festival, was launched in March.

The 56 Idealists who joined the program in 2013 donated \$253,000. The total amount donated by individuals during the year was \$921,000.

The Opera House developed two important new corporate sponsorships in 2013:

- Samsung Electronics Australia became our first Principal Partner and is helping to transform the Opera House experience through interactive digital display screens, mobile technologies, live sites and a multimedia education facility.
- A major partnership with Etihad Airways has increased our capacity to bring the world's best talent to Sydney. In 2013 this included one of the most influential contemporary dance companies, the Nederlands Dans Theater, which performed to sell-out audiences in June 2013.

Also in June, the NSW Deputy Premier and Minister for Trade and Investment, Andrew Stoner announced Denmark's Crown Prince Couple, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Frederik and Her Royal Highness Crown Princess Mary as Patrons of the Opera House's 40th Anniversary and officially launched the October 2013 program. Our 40th Anniversary is an opportunity to reflect on the Opera House's heritage and history, and to engage local, interstate and international communities, as we launch into a decade of renewal to secure and prepare the Opera House for new generations of audiences, artists and visitors.

Access Strategic Plan

The Opera House launched a new, three-year Access Strategic Plan this year, to drive employment and artistic opportunities for people with disabilities.

One of the highlights for the year was accepting two industry awards, recognising the Opera House's support for access to the arts.

Access initiatives during the year included:

- A pilot program of two autism-friendly performances for young audiences, was well received by teachers, students and parents.
- Stepping Into: a paid intern program completed by three final-year university students with disabilities. Teaching Creative Arts in the Special Needs Classroom: a professional development day for teachers, run by the Opera House in partnership with Accessible Arts.

A number of the access programs from the year will continue in 2013/14 (p.79).

Environmental Sustainability

The Sydney Opera House achieved a number of important milestones in the final year of its Environmental Sustainability Plan 2010/13, including a 7% decrease in electricity use (compared with the 2000/01 baseline) and an increase in the purchase of recycled office paper from 15% to 96%.

A number of building and sustainable event initiatives were implemented during the period (p.81).

Reconciliation Action Plan

Achievements in 2013 under our second Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) included:

- The *Message Sticks* festival, which attracted an audience of about 15,000.
- School-based traineeships.
- A work experience program completed by 18 students.
- An accredited teacher development program workshop.
- Development of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander protocols to guide Opera House staff.

The new three-year RAP 2014/16 will focus on areas where we can make the most impact: artistic programs, education, employment pathways and cultural awareness and engagement (p.86).

The Future

Deloitte Access Economics report on economic, cultural and digital value of Sydney Opera House released (2013/14)

40th Anniversary celebration events (October 2013)

Inclusive access performances continue (2013/14)

Energy efficient lighting upgrades for foyers and theatres (2013/14)

Increased public recycling bins and improved recycling signage (2013/14)

New Indigenous festival with free activities (2013/14)

Revised Indigenous school-based trainee program (2013/14)