



## MEDIA STATEMENT



**Brittany Lauga** MP B Urb Dev (Urb&Reg Plan)(Hons), C.Dec

MEMBER FOR KEPPEL AND ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

2 March 2021

# Coast writers festival wins \$17,500 arts grant

World-class writing and reading workshops at this year's Capricorn Coast Writers Festival have received a \$17,500 boost from the Queensland Arts Showcase Program (QASP), the Member for Keppel and Assistant Education Minister Brittany Lauga said today.

The Festival will run from June 11-13, "for anyone who dares to write, loves to read, and wants to learn", says its web site.

Ms Lauga praised festival organisers who work diligently to bring nationally and internationally recognised authors to the area.

"They also aim to highlight local literary talent and shine the spot on the importance of books and reading to the local community.

"The Premiers Reading Challenge each year aims to reinforce the value of reading also, focusing on primary school children."

The Festival organisers say that in collaboration with industry professionals, participants are offered a program of professional development, networking, and audience access, helping to address the solitary nature of writing, and difficulties of accessing professional development in regional centres.


The Festival is one of 21 Queensland arts projects receiving a share of \$812,037 from the latest round of the QASP to deliver diverse cultural experiences across the state.

Minister for the Arts Leeanne Enoch said this investment supported the development of new works and arts experiences that connect communities, address important local social issues, create employment opportunities and build creative skills and career pathways.

### Delivering for you in Keppel

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“The arts are key to delivering the Palaszczuk Government’s plan for economic recovery, each year injecting \$8.5 billion into the state’s economy and supporting more than 92,000 jobs for Queenslanders,” Minister Enoch said.

“The program was redesigned in 2020, in consultation with the arts sector, with a renewed focus on supporting social outcomes in communities, stabilising arts companies and driving employment in the creative industries.”

For more information about Queensland Arts Showcase Program (QASP), and other Arts Queensland funding programs, visit [www.arts.qld.gov.au](http://www.arts.qld.gov.au)

Applications for QASP Round 3 are now open, for more information visit: <https://www.arts.qld.gov.au/aq-funding>

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