



## **Ralph Mclean Microgrants**

*Providing free Fringe registrations to those who can't afford them*

Help an artist get a leg up by supporting our Ralph Mclean Microgrants program. Your gift will help an artist facing structural disadvantage participate in the 2019 Festival by providing them with a free (or half price) registration.

Our vision is to enable cultural democracy so that any citizen can express themselves. But for many artists the biggest barrier to participation in the Festival is financial – the costs of a registration.

Your gift will not just help an artist to create new work and further develop their careers... it also supports a program that celebrates diversity, champions inclusion and amplifies voices from the margins. You know, all the good stuff.

### **What do you mean by structural disadvantage?**

Opening Fringe participation to anyone is key to our mission but we know that not everyone starts on the same playing field. That's why our Ralph Mclean Microgrants program supports artists facing structural disadvantage including people who are Deaf or with disability, people who are culturally or linguistically diverse, LGBTIQ+ people, people who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, or people who are experiencing significant financial hardship. We think they have some of the most interesting stories to tell.

### **Ralph sounds great, who was Ralph?**

Ralph Mclean was both an arts legend and on the Board of Melbourne Fringe for over ten years. His great passions aligned with those of Melbourne Fringe – he wanted to celebrate diversity and art in all its forms. So, with the support of his family and friends we created the Ralph Mclean microgrants program in his honour continue his legacy.

A bequest from Ralph's Estate has supported 11 artists during the past three years on a variety of levels, but now we invite our community to step-in to continue this program.

And that, my friend, is where you come in.



### How does it work?

We're seeking donations which go directly to support an artist's registration at Fringe.

- \$425 will support an artist by covering the full cost of their registration
- \$220 will support an artist by partially covering their registration
- \$100 will cover the cost of a Fringe Furniture registration

We hope you can help us reduce barriers to access so we can all celebrate Melbourne's cultural democracy at Fringe.

### How do I donate?

- You can donate by credit card online [here](#)
- You can donate by direct credit to our bank account (Melbourne Fringe, **BSB 033-009 Account number 502446**)
- You can donate by filling in the attached form and returning it to us with a cheque
- You can donate by carrier pigeon if you like, any which way, we'll make it happen!

### For more info

Simon Abrahams, CEO & Creative Director  
simon@melbournefringe.com.au  
03 9660 9600  
0407 422 496

*"Presenting Social Staples at our venue, being involved in the work's development, seeing them get a 4.5 star review from The Age on their opening night, achieve the houses that they did, be nominated for Best Circus and have their lead artist/director win the Best Emerging Circus Performer Award was incredible - especially for a new young company presenting their first work."*

Matt Hirst, *Social Staples*, Ralph Mclean Microgrant recipient, 2018.