

# COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS & PARTNERSHIPS

## CASE STUDY

### Councillor Discretionary Funding

#### Sunshine Coast Chamber Music Festival Ltd

**Project:** Chair and fence hire for Cotton Tree Open Air Concert

**Funding:** \$ 1,000

**Date:** June 2021

**Beneficiaries:** 250

**No. of Volunteers:** 20

#### What happened:

The Cotton Tree Open Air Concert called *Song of the Black Swan*, was a part of the inaugural high-quality Classical Chamber Music Festival on the Sunshine Coast. These grant funds supported necessary event costs of chair and fence hire. The group embedded First Nations artists, stories and language into the event, with prominent inclusion of local indigenous artists. Chair hire facilitated premier seating being available. The fencing secured the outdoor area for the audiences and performers and was a council prerequisite for staging the event.

#### Context:

The broader festival, which included 9 concerts, was supported by other Council grants, including: a Major Grant of \$15,000 for venue and equipment hire, marketing and advertising, Regional Development Arts Funding of \$8,535 for a mentoring program held in the lead up to the festival, and Councillor Discretionary Funding of \$1,500 for marketing and promotions.

#### What changed:

This concert activated Cotton Tree with arts and culture reflecting the location's unique identity and local First Nations stories, the story of Marakuchi (the Maroochy River Black Swan). Inclusion of highest calibre musicians and staging demonstrated what is possible in the arts, created an appetite and set the foundation for a sustainable Sunshine Coast Chamber Music Festival. The success of this event created the opportunity for professional local artists to showcase their talent and created a platform to attract additional talent.

This event employed 13 local musicians, mentored 8 students from the Sunshine Coast youth Orchestra, and employed 26 local arts workers, in addition to using local events industry suppliers for fencing, chairs, staging, lighting, and equipment.

**Strategic Alignment:** SC Community Strategy 2019-2041 – Outcome 5. Creative, Innovative Communities, *our community enjoys rich and diverse arts and cultural experiences, and has a unique identity that sets us apart.*



#### From the group:

*"The feedback we received indicated that this was one of the most outstanding classical music concerts anyone had seen on the coast. We have now established the SCCMF brand, in particular our capability in producing high quality outdoor concerts."*



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