

2024 -
2025



Annual Report



Principal
Partner



Performing Arts Centre Sutherland

The Pavilion Performing Arts Centre Sutherland acknowledges the Dharawal people as the Traditional Custodians of the land within the Sutherland Shire. We pay respect to the Elders and their families, past and present, and through them, to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island peoples.

Contents

About Us	4
Welcome from the Chair & Executive Director	6
2024-2025 Snapshot	8
Our Goals	10
Program	12
Connect	20
Support	22
Sustain	24
Governance and Leadership	26



About Us

Mission and Values

OUR VISION

The Pavilion is a dynamic cultural hub and premier destination for live performance that connects our Shire with Greater Sydney.

OUR PURPOSE

To deliver exceptional artistic experiences that entertain, inspire and enrich our community.

OUR VALUES

Authentic



Creative



Relatable



Engaging



In 2025, The Pavilion developed a multi-year strategy that sets out our vision for the future. This plan includes four clear goals that will guide our work: to **program** broad and adventurous performances, **connect** with and strengthen our community, promote and **support** local artists, and **sustain** our long-term future as a cultural venue.

Welcome

From the Chair & Executive Director

As we reflect on the past year, we do so with deep pride and gratitude. Now in our second year of operation, The Pavilion has continued to evolve into a vibrant cultural destination. A place where creativity, community and connection truly come together.

We extend our sincere thanks to our Board, whose leadership, guidance and strategic insight have been instrumental in shaping The Pavilion's success and ensuring its continued growth as a key arts hub for the region.

Our heartfelt appreciation also goes to our exceptional staff, whose commitment and professionalism underpin everything we do. From our skilled technical teams and welcoming front-of-house staff, to the operations, programming and marketing teams who engage and inspire new audiences, your dedication, creativity and teamwork bring The Pavilion to life each day.

We remain deeply grateful to our principal partner, Sutherland Shire Council, whose continued support allows us to deliver outstanding performances and events. Their investment reflects a shared belief in the power of the arts to enrich lives and strengthen our community's creative future.

To the artists who grace our stage, from local talent to visiting performers, thank you for your creativity and passion. You are the heart of what we do and the inspiration behind many of our artistic choices. And finally, we thank our audiences. Thank you for your enthusiasm, loyalty and trust. Your energy fills our venue and makes The Pavilion a true cultural home for the Sutherland Shire.

Looking ahead, our new strategic plan will guide us in continuing to foster an inclusive, inspiring and creative space where the arts can flourish. As we approach our building's 50th Anniversary in 2026, we look forward to celebrating not only the centre's rich history, but also the extraordinary creativity that has shaped it for five decades, and will continue to inspire The Pavilion's future.



Councillor Carmelo Pesce
Chair,
The Pavilion Board



Justin Boschetti
Executive Director
(Acting), The Pavilion



2024-25 Snapshot

Performances



Top Performing Genres

(based on audience sales)



256

Total events



67,496

Total Audiences



Audiences

69%

Sutherland Shire

16%

St George / Georges River

3%

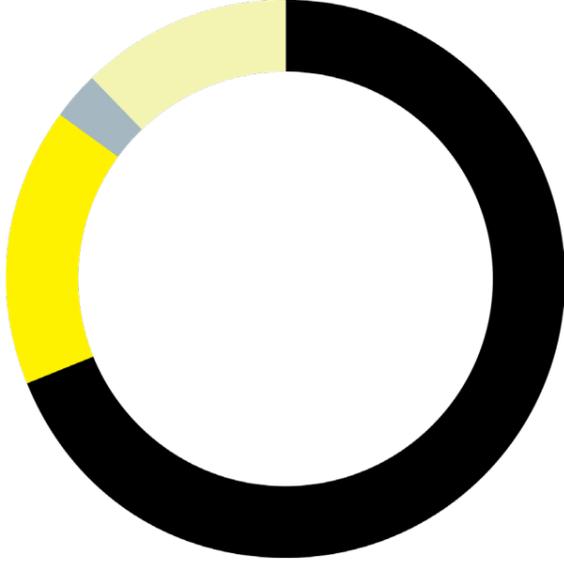
Illawarra

12%

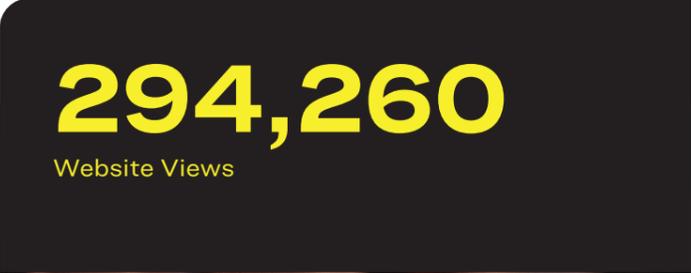
Greater Sydney / Other

50%

Patrons attended more than one event



Website & Digital Channels



Our Goals

Goal 1: Program

a broad range of performances that reflect and expand our audience.

To achieve this goal, The Pavilion presented a diverse mix of self-programmed and hired events spanning multiple genres and artforms across its two venues, The Pavilion and Sutherland Arts Theatre. In partnership with local presenters, we delivered performances that were relevant, engaging, and upheld the highest artistic standards.

Our curated **Pavilion Presents** season featured 32 exceptional works from leading national and international companies, further realising our commitment to creating accessible, adventurous, and creatively ambitious programs.



All Pavilion Auditorium Events

Pete Helliard: Gives Zero Flips

In The Zone

Arts On Tour (SALON)

Bohemian Rhapsody

Mark Vincent

Circus Workshops

Children Are Stinky

In Tails - Colin Lane and David Hobson

All Fired Up

SSC Evolve Program

Tokyo Sister Cities Welcome Ceremony

12 Gold Bars: A Celebration of Status Quo

Sutherland Shire Council Citizenship Ceremony

Creedence Clearwater Collective

The Robertson Brothers

Council Business Summit

Ahn Do

Sutherland Shire Schools Music Festival

Dave Hughes - Fully Furnished

Sydney Symphony Orchestra

St George Performing Arts Festival

Music of the Night

Burn The Floor

Judy: The Judy Garland Story

Punchline! An Evening of Comedy

Primary School Olympics

Beetle

NSW Fire & Rescue Concert Band

Twinkle Stars Concert

MAMMA MIA

Play! Kids Festival Workshops

The Listies: Make Some Noise

Peter & The Wolf

Tahir: The World's Best Worst Magician



A Little Bit of Blue

Emma Memma

How to Start a Creative Business Workshop

The Johnny Cash and June Carter Show

Studio 23 Concert

RockWiz

Women of Song

St George Christian School Performance

Arj Barker

Edith Parsons School of Physical Culture

Ignite Dance Co.

Wharf Revue: The End Of The Wharf As We Know It

KRS Dance

All Starz

Yowie Bay Presentation Evening

Ev & Bow Graduation Performance

Creative's Guide to Marketing Workshop

Katie Noonan & Karin Schaupp

The Beach Boys Experience

Select Dance - End of Year Concert

Demi Jean Dance End of Year Performance

Planet Dance End of Year Performance

EP Dance Performance

Sutherland Shire Council's Seniors

Christmas Concert

Jimeoin

Chapmans Academy of Dance

Ettingshausens End of Year Concert

Heathcote Public School Presentation Day

Connells Point Public School Presentation Day

Compeat Dance

DNE Studios End of Year Concert

Pulse Studios End of Year Concert

Dance Works Studio Dance Concert

Elite Dance Concert

Oyster Bay Public School Presentation Day

The Avenue - End of Year Dance Concert

KRS Dance Concert

AP Dance Concert

Pose Performing Arts

Rogerson - Dance Concert

K&V Dance Concert

LD Dance Concert

Mark Vincent Christmas Spectacular

Animal by Cirque Alfonse

Sutherland Shire Council Citizenship Ceremony

The Spooky Men's Chorale

Sons of Sun

Jessica Hitchcock & Penny Quartet

Wilegitimate

The Australian INXS Show

Georgy Girl: The Seekers Musical

Sutherland Shire Council's Seniors Concert

NEWK: The John Newcombe Story

Circe's Chords

The Good Old Days of Rock 'n' Roll

Abbalanche

The Mik Maks

Velveteen Rabbit

Spellbound

Sydney Comedy Festival Gala

Ballet Blanc presents Coppelia

An Evening Without Kate Bush

Solo and Duo Comp Calisthenics NSW

Sydney Comedy Festival

The Roy Orbison Story

SPACE - Sydney Performing Arts Competition

Experience

The Eagles Greatest Hits

Anthony Callea & Tim Campbell

The Joe Cocker Express

You Are A Doughnut

Sutherland Dance Festival

The Ten Tenors

The Queen's Nanny

Paulini Sings the Music of Bond & the 60s

The Scots College Musical

Melbourne International Comedy Festival Roadshow

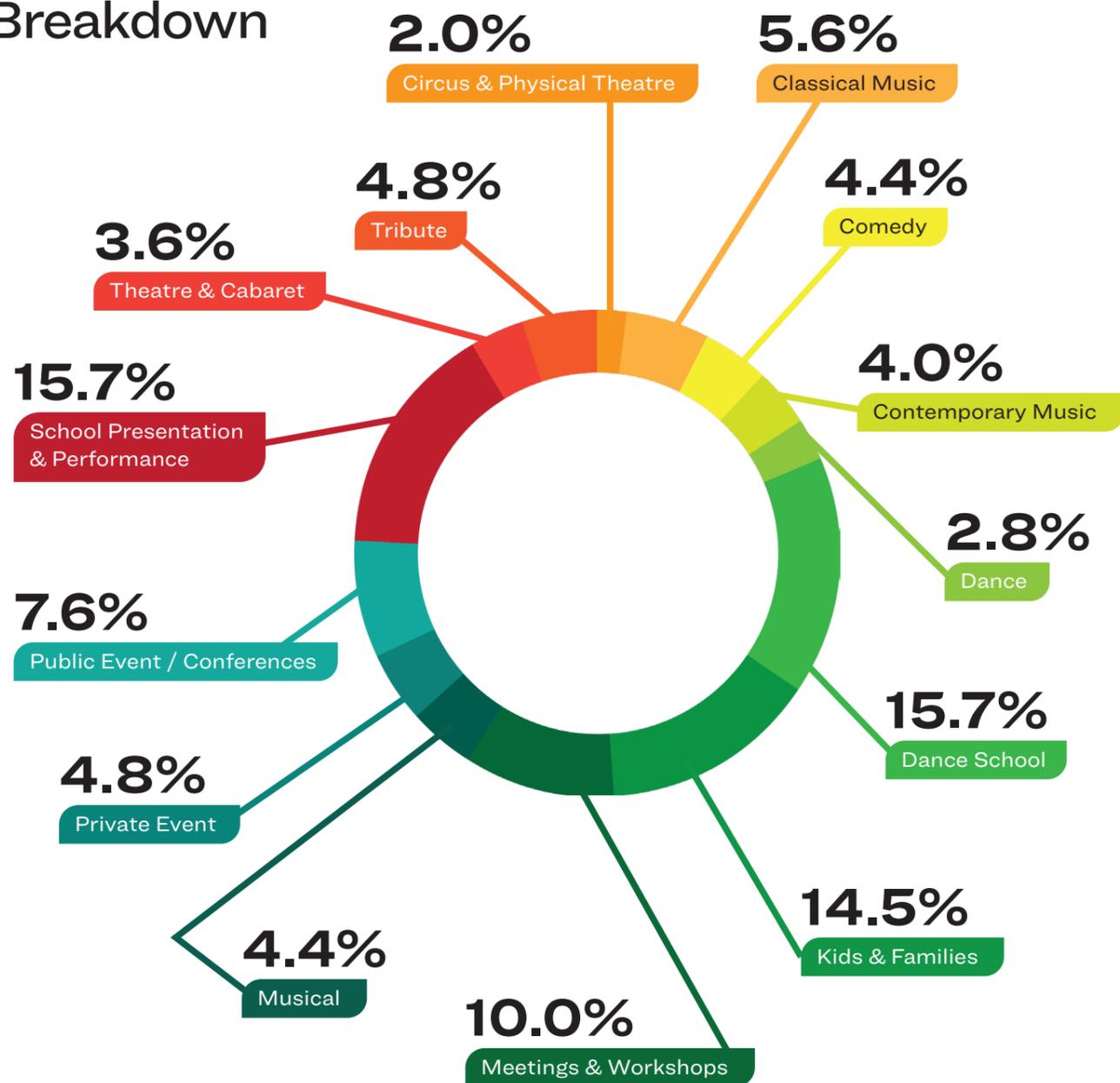
Create South 2025

Akmal

Do More Dance



Event Genre Breakdown



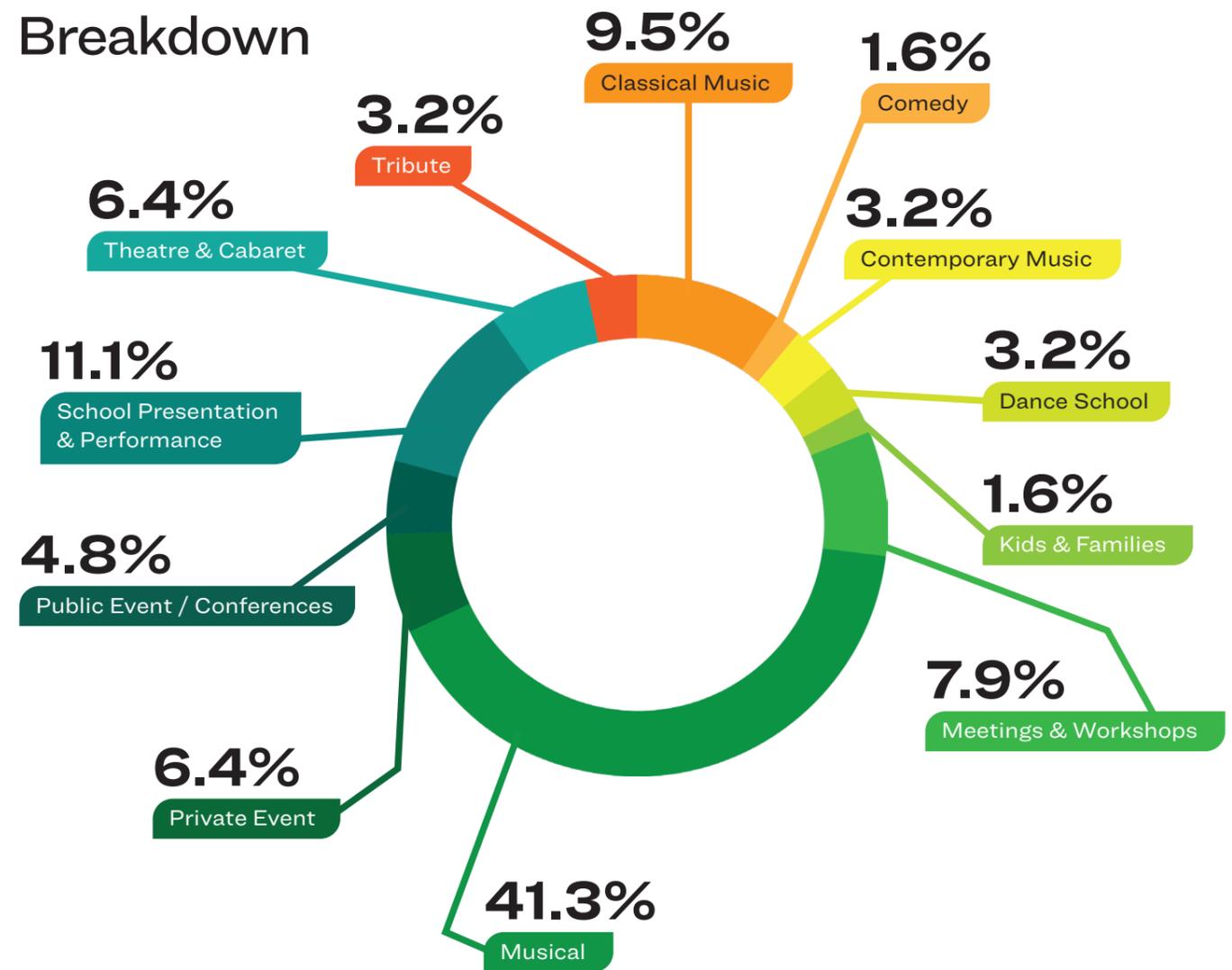


All Sutherland Arts Theatre Events

Youth Music Awards Finals Concert
 Live Music School Concert
 James Bustar - Hilarious Antics and Mayhem
 My Strengths 100K
 Sutherland Music Club – Harp’s Journey
 The Full Monty
 Busy Izzy & Friends
 Hot N Fresh Burlesque
 Sutherland Shire Council Bushcare Event
 Kirrawee Piano Concert
 Sutherland Shire Council Presentation - Safe Work Month
 HCA - End of Year Concert

Results and Action Planning Workshop
 HCA - Drama Presentation
 Sutherland Music Club - Men’s Shed Chorale
 Studio A End of Year Concert
 Art Umbrella - End of Year Showcase
 Young Actors Assembly - End of Year Showcase
 John Franklin Christmas Lunch
 Sutherland Music Club - The Honeymakers Big Band
 Grease The Musical
 Awakened
 Sutherland Shire Council - International Women’s Day Event

Event Genre Breakdown



Pavilion Presents Season

Across the year, The Pavilion self-presented 32 individual programs and shows as part of its curated annual season: **Pavilion Presents**.

Through a broad range of genres, the season aimed to increase audience diversity and attendance. In total, 66 unique events were hosted.

Peter Helliar: Gives Zero Flips Comedy 6 July 2024

Pete Helliar returned for a brand-new performance – and he came with a whole new attitude – to give “zero flips.”

In The Zone & Dance Workshops Contemporary Dance 9 July 2024

Shaun Parker & Co. brought a unique technology-meets-dance show to The Pavilion, accompanied by Hip Hop Dance Workshops for local students.

Circus Workshops Circus 15-16 July 2024

Circus Experience took over The Pavilion foyer for a unique circus and aerial workshop, with participants learning juggling, acrobatics, silks, lyra and more.



Children are Stinky Children 17 July 2024

School holidays came alive with the arrival of Children Are Stinky, a fringe-festival award winning kids show that combines circus craziness with skit comedy.

All Fired Up Musical Theatre 21 July 2024

80s babies united for this hilarious new Australian musical featuring all the favourite hits of the era featuring three talented women and a live band.

Dave Hughes (Sell-out) Comedy 17 August 2024

Dave Hughes made his return to The Pavilion with his brand new stand up show, a guaranteed laugh generator.

Punchline! An Evening of Comedy Comedy 14 September 2024

Pavilion Presents introduced its own comedy festival, Punchline! into the Winter months, bringing together three comedy giants for one night of laughs. The debut lineup included Dilruk Jayasinha, Geraldine Hickey and Lizzy Hoo.

Beetle Children 20 September 2024

Legs on The Wall brought the daring kids production Beetle to stage, a profound and creative exploration of the life of our tiniest creatures.



Play! Kids Festival 2024 Children 9-12 October 2024

Across four days, The Pavilion hosted our second consecutive Play! Kids Festival featuring performances from The Listies, Australian Metropolitan Orchestra, Tahir – The World’s Best Worst Magician, and A Little Bit of Blue. Each day of the Festival was also accompanied by art and dance workshops, along with free activities for the local community.



Women of Song Contemporary Music / First Nations 25 October 2024

An innovative new show developed by the acclaimed Jessie Lloyd (of Mission Songs Project) including themes of intergenerational practices, singing on and from country, commitment to community, and preserving knowledge in song.

Katie Noonan & Karin Schaupp Contemporary Music 15 November 2024

The ARIA Award winning duo brought their latest co-creation to The Pavilion - Songs of the Southern Skies Volume 2 – which enchanted audiences with covers of Australia female music icons.

Wharf Revue – The End Of The Wharf As We Know It (Sell-out) Cabaret 24 November 2024

The Wharf Revue played its last performance ever, featuring a satirical recap of 2024 and all the characters you’ve come to know and love including Kevin Rudd, Julia Gillard and more.

Animal Circus 16-20 January 2025

The award-winning Cirque troupe from Canada launched the start of the 2025 season with Animal as part of Sydney Festival.

The Spooky Men’s Chorale (Sell-out) Chorale 1 February 2025

Folk-festival favourites made their Pavilion debut with their judicious combination of Georgian table songs, ballads and somewhat inappropriate covers.

Sons of Sun Music 16 February 2025

A musically driven play capturing the glory days of Sun Records, including 35 hit songs from Elvis, Jerry Lee Lewis and more.



Jess Hitchcock & Penny Quartet Classical Music 7 March 2025

In partnership with Musica Viva, Shire born opera and jazz singer Jess Hitchcock presented a stunning concert of her works alongside Penny Quartet.

Wil Anderson: Wilegitimate (Sell-out) Comedy 14 March 2025

Wil Anderson brought his brand-new stand-up show to The Pavilion, recalling hilarious foibles from his Dad’s 80th birthday celebrations.

NEWK (The John Newcombe Story) Theatre 28 March 2025

An ace new play tracing the life of Australian tennis legend John Newcombe – a comedic exploration of our human desire to balance contentment and ambition.

Circe’s Chords Dance 29 March 2025

Led by Venezuelan dancer Chachy Penalver, this contemporary flamenco dance performance was inspired by the Greek character Circe.

The Mik Maks Children 13 April 2025

Award-winning family band The Mik Maks made their Sutherland debut with this school holiday musical extravaganza.

Velveteen Rabbit Children 17 April 2025

A stunning stage adaptation of the beloved children’s book, set with live projections, original music and puppetry.

An Evening Without Kate Bush Cabaret 2 May 2025

The critically acclaimed, sold-out smash hit show paying homage to the life and music of Kate Bush.



You Are A Doughnut Children 3 June 2025

A hilarious musical-comedy adventure through the human digestive system, featuring silly sketches, dancing, and fascinating facts – the perfect mix of science and fun for curious kids.

The Queen’s Nanny Theatre 13-14 June 2025

Ensemble Theatre returned for their new play, The Queen’s Nanny, based on the life and memoir of Marion ‘Crawfie’ Crawford – governess to Queen Elizabeth.

Melbourne International Comedy Festival Roadshow Comedy 20 June 2025

Returning for a second consecutive year, the Melbourne Roadshow brought the best of the fest right to Sutherland for a night of laughter and good times.



Goal 2: **Connect**

with our community through memorable experiences to build last relationships

The Pavilion is dedicated to strengthening community connections by offering inclusive, accessible, and memorable arts experiences both within and beyond our venue. Through outreach, educational programs, and collaboration with local businesses, we create opportunities for all to engage with live performance.



Key Initiatives

1. Developed and launched The Pavilion's first Schools' Program – making theatre inspiring, accessible and engaging for students across the Sutherland Shire.



\$29

student tickets (plus free teacher tickets)

30

school performances, workshops and Q&As hosted

250+

members in Schools Database

2. Established the Community Arts Forum, convening local arts leaders to provide strategic guidance on enhancing community engagement.



8

community advisors appointed

3

local artist development platforms established

Formal feedback forum

established

3. The Pavilion launched its first full season, featuring innovative programming and partnerships with key festivals and organisations to extend reach and strengthen community connection. The year also saw significant improvements in accessibility across programs to ensure a more inclusive experience.



3

Festival partnerships

350+

Season Launch attendees (including VIPs, Councillors & other audience members)



Enhanced visibility with 15 performances AUSLAN-interpreted or audio-described

Goal 3: Promote

local artists and creators by supporting and showcasing their talent and stories

At The Pavilion, we actively promote local artists and creators by providing opportunities for them to showcase their talent and connect with the community. Through financial support, employment opportunities, educational programs, and cultural initiatives, we help sustain a vibrant, accessible arts ecosystem in the Sutherland Shire.

Key Initiatives

1.

Partnering with touring companies to deliver workshops and educational content, expanding local knowledge and engagement.



26

workshops and Q&As hosted

20

artistic companies hosted in Pavilion Presents

46

free or low-cost performances hosted

2.

Support the development of local works that celebrate the Sutherland Shire and its cultural heritage.



\$5K

invested into new creative projects

\$106K

in community subsidies provided

1

development reading hosted for new play set in The Shire

Play!

Kids Festival at The Pavilion

3.

Provide meaningful performance and employment opportunities for local creatives and organisations.



2

work experience students hosted

54%

staff employed live in the Sutherland Shire

73

local performance groups and companies hosted

\$172.8K

invested into local business and artists

Goal 4: **Sustain** our people and partnerships

To secure a thriving future for The Pavilion, we aim to build a robust model that balances financial responsibility with creativity and exploration. By pursuing strategic partnerships, fostering donor relationships, and investing in our team, we aim to build a resilient organisation equipped to deliver long-term cultural value.

Key Highlights



Strategic Plan for 2025-2028 developed.



Partnerships formed with two local beverage suppliers: Sunday Road Brewing Co. & Scylla Distilling Co.

Key Strategies



Diversifying revenue streams through partnerships, co-productions and grants.



Implement best practices in governance, risk sharing and financial management.



Strengthening our philanthropic support and donations.

Income

\$1.79M

Box office, Performance Fees and Venue Hire

\$1.55M

Support from Sutherland Shire Council

\$54K

Donations and Other Income

\$3.40M

TOTAL INCOME

Expenditure

\$2.18M

Employment and Contractors

\$526K

Program and Production Costs



\$261K

Marketing and Communications

\$3.34M

TOTAL EXPENDITURE



Surplus

\$60K

Annual surpluses are re-invested into next year's performance program

Governance and Leadership

The Pavilion Performing Arts Centre Sutherland is a not-for-profit company. We are governed by a volunteer board of directors who bring a wealth of professional experience.

Board Members

Councillor Carmelo Pesce *Chair*

Cr Pesce served as Mayor to Sutherland Shire from 2015 - August 2024, where he was then re-elected as an independent Councillor for C Ward. A successful local business owner and strategist, he was a key supporter of the redevelopment of The Pavilion.



Lisa Cachia *Marketing, Digital Technologies & Communications*

Lisa is a local business owner and marketing strategist, the current Managing Director of Flaunter PR Software, as well as the General Manager of Marketing for The DisplayWise Group.



Councillor Jack Boyd *Council Nominated Board Member*

Cr Boyd has served as a Sutherland Shire Councillor from 2016 before being elected to Mayor in October 2024. Jack is a Cyber Security Manager and is an admitted solicitor for the Supreme Court of New South Wales.



Olivia Ansell *(until Dec 2024) Live Performance*

Olivia is a highly accomplished arts professional, who after finishing her four-year Sydney festival tenure (2022-2025) was appointed Artistic Director of Luminato Festival, Toronto in early 2025.



Clare Phelan *Council Nominated Board Member*

Clare joined Sutherland Shire Council in 2019 and was appointed CEO in 2024. Clare has extensive experience in executive leadership roles across regional and metropolitan Councils.



Rachel Healy *Cultural Venue Management*

Rachel is the Chief Executive of the Queensland Performing Arts Centre who worked as the Interim Executive Director of The Pavilion throughout its construction and opening in 2022-2023.



Rayna Toman *Accountancy & Risk*

Rayna is a Chartered Accountant (CA ANZ) and is currently the Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer at Australian Business Growth Fund. Rayna is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.



Amanda Oscuro *Community Cultural Engagement*

Amanda Oscuro is the President of Engadine Musical Society, a respected community theatre organisation. She is a dedicated advocate for the arts, championing accessible and community focussed art programs.



The Pavilion Team

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

- Justin Boschetti** Executive Director (Acting)
- Emily Silburn** Operations Manager (until Feb 2025)
- Laura Danielsson** Operations Manager (April 2025-present)
- Caroline Leyden** Venue Coordinator
- Dale Hollingsworth** Finance Manager
- Lanna Tan** Finance Officer
- Alana Bishop** Hire Coordinator
- Sean Moloney** Programming Supervisor

PRODUCTION SERVICES

- David Grigg** Technical Manager
- Harry Provins** Technical Supervisor
- Liam Dijkstra** Sound AV Supervisor
- Mehran Mortezaei** Lighting Supervisor (until May 2025)

MARKETING AND TICKETING

- Emilie Lawson** Marketing Manager
- Luke Evans** Ticketing Coordinator (until March 2025)
- Bartholomew Quizon** Ticketing Coordinator (March 2025-present)



Support Us

The Pavilion is proud to be a fully registered not-for-profit charity with DGR status, meaning that all donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible. We welcome any contributions from the local community, which are securely processed through our trusted giving platform GiveNow. Every donation strengthens the future of the arts in the Sutherland Shire. Scan the QR code to learn more.



thepavilionarts.au/support-us/



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