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Great news

Wide Angle Tasmania's staying open! It's been an absolute privilege to support screen culture in Tasmania since 2005, and we're both delighted and humbled to be able to continue to deliver opportunities, training, equipment and advice to those starting out telling screen stories.

As a community, we've really appreciated your ongoing support over the last 18 months – it's been tough going, but the insight, passion and tenacity shown by our community has made the rollercoaster ride a whole heap smoother.

Wide Angle Tasmania is incredibly grateful for a donation that will provide operational support and stability to our organisation. Director Roberto Benigni reckons that "It is a sign of mediocrity when you demonstrate gratitude with moderation."

Agreed. So let's be immoderate. Here's to an audacious new beginning!

Xx the WAT team

MEDIA RELEASE
WED 13th APRIL, 2016

BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR TASMANIAN FILMMAKERS

Wide Angle Tasmania – the state's screen training and development organization - has been saved from closure.

In October 2015 Wide Angle announced it would shut its doors following the withdrawal of Screen Australia funding. State Government agency Screen Tasmania was unable to make up the shortfall caused by the loss of federal government funding, which has threatened similar agencies throughout the country.

Now a group committed to encouraging new Australian filmmakers has stepped in to ensure that Wide Angle's work will continue.

The group's donation will provide operational support and stability to Wide Angle Tasmania. With this in place, Wide Angle Tasmania anticipates that future partnerships with government agencies, the screen industry and the wider community will enable it to continue to support emerging Tasmanian filmmakers.

Since its foundation in 2005 Wide Angle Tasmania has provided essential skills training, production opportunities and advice to thousands of screen practitioners in the state. It has enabled the screening of hundreds of Tasmanian films to national and local audiences, and offered Tasmania's only comprehensive production equipment hire service.

Wide Angle Tasmania Chairman, Tony De Cesare, said today, "We are humbled and incredibly grateful that those with the capacity to donate so generously have helped Wide Angle to continue serving our community into the future."

A delighted General Manager, Abi Binning, expressed her thanks for the latest and largest donation to the organization. She added that community support in the form of large and small contributions, and assistance from Creative Partnerships Australia, had helped Wide Angle to continue operating into 2016, after Screen Australia funding ceased. Ms Binning promised that Wide Angle supporters will be rewarded by an ongoing program of relevant training and production activities, the availability of production equipment, and the continued existence of an important hub for filmmaking activity in the state. Ms Binning foreshadowed some bold new initiatives to develop the skills of Tasmanians. "The best is yet to come," she said.

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