



Media Statement - 17 May, 2019

Surry Hills Festival takes a break in 2019!

The iconic and much loved inner city community festival, the *Surry Hills Festival* today announces it is taking a break for 2019.

A fantastic spring celebration of all there is to love about Surry Hills, last year's *2018 Surry Hills Festival* was an enormous success, attended by an estimated 50,000 people, showcasing talents of over 200 musicians, hundreds of visual installations and performance artists and over 50 participating local venues, eateries, creative studios and businesses. An important program on Sydney's live music and creative industries calendar, the festival celebrates the vibrant culture, innovation and diversity of spirit for which Surry Hills is famous.

Produced for over 20 years by Surry Hills Neighbourhood Centre (SHNC), funds raised through the festivals programs go towards important creative and community programs delivered by SHNC. The festival is important to the SHNC role in connecting communities, fostering well-being and opportunities for locals and creatives to flourish.

"Being produced and managed by a not-for-profit community centre, means the Festival is reliant on financial support and commitment from the community, be that government, businesses or individuals, said centre manager Gillian Elliott.

With rising costs, and unexpected changes to key operational partners, Surry Hills Neighbourhood Centre's board and management have made the difficult decision to postpone this year's Festival. The decision ensures no financial loss to the community and provides time to work with our team and partners towards future planning, negotiations and securing corporate, government and community partners...

We're excited by the opportunities to partner with existing and new stakeholders and sponsors to deliver another fabulous Festival in 2020. This is a community event that highlights the diversity and creativity in and around Surry Hills ... an amazing creative Surry Hills Festival program that is renowned for showcasing fantastic live music, creativity and local business innovation in the heart of Surry Hills...

The board of SHNC would especially like to thank our long term partners for their ongoing support of Surry Hills Festival their support has been fundamental to ongoing success of the Festival to date." said spokesperson for the Surry Hills Neighbourhood Centre, Gillian Elliott.

For further information please contact: Gillian Elliott, SHNC Centre Manager 02 9356 4977