

# MEDIA RELEASE

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## Future MONA FOMA funding welcomed: Mayor

City of Launceston Mayor Albert van Zetten has welcomed the State Government's funding commitment for Mona Foma for the next three years.

The State Government will announce today a three year, \$5 million funding arrangement to secure Mona Foma for Launceston.

The funding arrangement will see the event run through until at least 2021.

Mayor van Zetten said the success of the 2018 artistic festival was a testament to the people of Northern Tasmania, who embraced the inaugural Mona Foma.

"We're delighted by the State Government's commitment to Launceston to secure this event for the next three years and we're definite excited at the prospect of working with the Mona Foma team again," Mayor van Zetten said.

"We know the impact this year's event had on the city - bringing in an estimated \$46 million to the Northern economy and we fully expect that will grow year upon year as the event cements itself in the Launceston calendar of events.

"It just shows that as a city, we're willing to embrace significant cultural events such as Mona Foma and that we're a city that's open for business.

"And now with Mona Foma secured for the next three years, it will just build on the growing number of well-organised and well supported community events such as Festivale and Junction Arts Festival.

"Mona Foma in Launceston will continue to attract people from across the country and even the world, putting our great city firmly on the map."

Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery Director Richard Mulvaney:

"The centrepiece of this year's Mini Mofo event was a Block Party at QVMAG and what a success it was - our courtyard was packed with people in bright onesies, having a sensational time eating, drinking and dancing the day away."

"We're thrilled the festival is returning to Launceston and are excited to see what more fun can roll out throughout the city," Mr Mulvaney said.

"Bring back the onesies!"