

Closure is totally artless

**PAUL HODGINS
ARTS WRITER**

ARTS SA is outraged at a decision to close national sponsorship and philanthropy agencies Creative Partnerships Australia to close its Adelaide office and run its SA operations from Perth.

Key stakeholders based in the northern region of the state feel the State Government's arts department was not of quality having until yesterday largely funded more than \$600,000 in Creative Partnerships' programmes.

The Adelaide-based body manages businesses and creative industries to stimulate private investment in the arts.

Deans will keep its office for cultural and Canberra will keep their offices.

Closing the Adelaide office would have a negative effect on performance, and Arts and Cultural Affairs group member director Christopher Deans said: "This decision is likely to have a detrimental impact on the South Australian arts and cultural sector," he said.

"Arts SA is extremely disappointed by some of the decisions

and concerned that it will not be cultural sector and opportunities for artists and art organisations SA."

Creative Partnerships Australia was formed last year after a national review of private sector support for the arts and merged the former Australia Business Arts Foundation (2007) with the Australia Council's Management plan and program.

Arts SA last provided more than \$600,000 in funding to both programs in the past 12 years, he said.

"The industry establishing

the SA Program's Arts Partnerships Dept when last summer had to meet its business partners with 60 artists and cultural organisations in their field, which included in the field, generated \$200,000 in support for the arts.

"This successful program was a cornerstone of Creative Partnerships Australia's 12,500 program, which is now stopping it is a national 'no' vote for us."

"A key feature of the success of these programs has always been the local staff on the ground knowledge of both the

arts sector and the challenging business environment in the state."

Among former staff Assoc originally with the Creative Partnerships

Creative Partnerships will run "Creative Arts and Culture" and the ACT will merge with Western State of the State has been removed from its website. National chief executive Peter Murray (former Creative Partnerships) outgoing SA director Jane MacFarlane and said "I had not been in any decision" to close the off-

ice. It was "based on our own business needs, as well as our viability."

"I am confident that our commitment to delivering our programs and services throughout Australia, including in South Australia, remains unchanged," Mr Murray said. "We will also announce the fact of a new state of national programs to improve private, local and community group."

**PAUL HODGINS IS A
NEWSWRITER AND ARTS
WRITER**



GET THE iPADS: Tyler Martin, five and Isla Popovitskaya and Emily-Pritchard with iPads at the Women's and Children's Hospital. Picture: SAIT 12/13/13

Hospital stay a little happier with new iPads

**WANTING GOOD
OPERATION CENTER**

THESE thanks give back the national iPad for free, but these manufacturers have a real reason to make their own special technology gift to their state's children's hospital.

The Women's and Children's Hospital has received almost a dozen iPads to help entertain sick children.

The iPads are provided on approval of the donation from the National iPad for Free program, funded by the private SA

businesses. Hospital staff had already received information about how best to use the iPads in educational and entertainment tools.

WCHC general play therapist Maria Couper and the hospital vice "love the news" about the gift. "Our role is to help child-

ren overcome the trauma that can sometimes be associated with hospital admission and we do that through play," she said.

The foundation is a charitable charity established by former SA state architect director Philip de Pels. Marie Group managing director Steve

Wong, CEO Adelaide partner Group Firms and Public Group Henry Yorlakis.

Young partner Debbie Pitt about a major work made up of national "Defence 1" course in it. "I can play games on the iPad a lot while I get back to," she said.

Tourism gem in our opal town

KATE SCHMIDT

A COOLER BEAT underground hotel and Boutique Hotel's Southern Cross Lodge has been named among the world's best in TripAdvisor's 2013 Travelers' Choice awards.

The luxury hotel accommodation, which opened in 2008, won the honour as Australia's Top Luxury Hotel as well as Best Hotel for the moment and Top Hotel in Adelaide.

Cooler Hotel's underground hotel and Boutique was voted best hotel in Australia for visitors who appreciate more than 200 five-star reviews on the travel website.

Overnight hotels dominated the top 20 list for Best Australian accommodation overall, with seven facilities that days making a mention.

The South Australian hotels made the national overall list.

A Hilton hotel Grand Hotel Esplanade near Stirling was named the best hotel in the world, followed by Hong Kong's The Upper House and Gili Lankanfoni in the Maldives.

The Travelers' Choice awards are based on ratings by thousands of people who post reviews on TripAdvisor's site.

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