

Minister Geoff Brock

Minister for Regional Development
Minister for Local Government

Friday, 13 November, 2015

New equipment for regional performing arts centre

Dance students with special needs will benefit from new equipment through a State Government grant to Rokit Performing Arts in the Adelaide Hills.

Regional Development Minister Geoff Brock said the purchase and installation of equipment in the Rokit studio would provide a much-needed resource for the local community.

“The ‘Rokit Rocks the Adelaide Hills’ project was voted a worthy community project through the Adelaide Hills, Mount Barker and Alexandrina round of the Country Cabinet ‘Fund My Idea’ program in late 2014,” Mr Brock said.

“Rokit received a \$31,470 grant which the group used to install a sprung floor in its Mount Barker studio, as well as providing occupational therapy equipment for students with special needs.

“This new equipment will provide a safer, more comfortable and energetic performing space for students of all ages,” Mr Brock said.

The studio will be officially opened tomorrow by international guests Haley Huelsman and Ashtin Roth from Candy Apples, as seen on the TV show ‘Dance Moms’. They will be joined by Australia’s Got Talent finalists, the Rybka Twins and The Dream Team Australia. The three acts are currently touring Australia as part of the ‘Edge of Dreams’ tour.

Rokit Performing Arts Director Noni Vassos said the studio fit out wouldn’t have been possible without the ‘Fund My Idea’ grant.

“The dance and movement programs we offer the Adelaide Hills community will now be so enriched thanks to being awarded the grant,” Ms Vassos said.

“The Rokit Performing Arts group is very grateful to the community for voting our idea to the top of the list. Our previously sparse performing area has now turned into something really special thanks to the grant.

“To have the ‘Edge of Dreams’ tour take time out of their schedule to visit us and perform as part of the studio opening at our newly furnished Mount Barker studio is a real coup.

“We are thrilled that they want to see our studio, meet our students and find out more about the work we do with the community.”

The Country Cabinet 'Fund My Idea' program is part of the State Government's Regional Development Fund.

The program provides \$50,000 to regional areas that host a Country Cabinet meeting, with three meetings held each year. The funding supports community programs nominated and voted on by the general public.

For more information visit www.pir.sa.gov.au/rdf