



MEDIA RELEASE

AURORA OPENS APPLICATIONS FOR 2017 SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM

Applications opened today for The Aurora Group's 2017 Small Grants Program.

LGBTIQ organisations and projects could be eligible for grants of up to \$7,500 each.

Applications are welcome from across NSW.

Aurora's Small Grants funding is awarded to organisations and projects that benefit the LGBTIQ community. We are looking for innovative applications that cover a broad range of areas focused on inclusion and support for our community.

In addition to its Small Grants Program, Aurora gives special assistance to its key funding partner – Twenty10, incorporating the NSW Gay and Lesbian Counselling Service (GLSC).

Since Aurora was founded back in 1999, we have awarded over \$800,000 in grants across NSW, from youth outreach, to counselling, inclusion, education, and creative projects.

Anyone who would like some advice about writing an effective application is encouraged to attend Aurora's first ever Grant Writing Workshop, on October 24.

Information about Aurora's 2017 Small Grants Program can be found at:
<http://www.auroragroup.com.au/grants/>

Applications close on 8 November 2017.

For the second year in a row, Aurora's Annual Ball raised more than \$100,000. The funds generously donated at that event go towards our Small Grants Program, ensuring the whole LGBTIQ community benefits.

Aurora funds its Small Grants Program entirely through donations by supporters – anyone can donate online at any time at www.auroragroup.com.au.

Quotes attributable to the Chair of The Aurora Group, Alison King:

"Thanks to the generosity of our donors, Aurora has been privileged to help a number of the hardworking organisations that are there for the LGBTIQ community, day in, and day out.

"The beauty of Aurora, is that the money raised goes to the coalface: to organisations and programs working to support a broad cross-section of the LGBTIQ community across NSW. The funding we provide lets those organisations get on with what they do best: supporting our community.

"Applications from organisations that have never applied before are particularly welcome."

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Media Partners

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BACKGROUND

The Aurora Group is a charity that raises money to help support LGBTIQ community organisations and projects.

The funds raised are distributed by Aurora as grants to organisations that work with LGBTIQ people and communities.

Recent grants have supported:

- Headspace in Maitland and Wollongong – providing youth outreach and mental health training
- Inner City Legal Centre – LGBTIQ youth legal advice
- GenQ - an LGBTIQ youth group in Gosford, for Outreach and collaboration with PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays)
- The Gender Centre – a new film about the experiences of transgender people in the workplace
- The OutStanding Short Story Competition – focused on telling the stories about the LGBTIQ community
- ACON's 'Smoke Free, Still fierce' project – helping lesbian and gay women quit tobacco

Aurora also gives special support to its key funding partner – Twenty10, incorporating the NSW Gay and Lesbian Counselling Service. Last year Twenty10 reached out to 10,000 people providing mental health, legal and housing services, including helping young people who have been kicked out of home because of their sexuality.

True to its roots, Aurora continues to raise money by organising unique events. These events are important fundraisers, but they also bring fun, glamour, and joy to the LGBTIQ community.