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I would like to make a tax-deductible donation now

I am enclosing a cheque for \$ _____

I am interested in making a donation in future

Please communicate in future by email

Please communicate in future by post

Please delete me from your mailing list

Cheques should be made out to 'Melbourne Community Foundation' and addressed to:

Melbourne Community Foundation
Hamer Family Fund
Suite 6, 19-35 Gertrude St
Fitzroy 3065



A receipt will be sent out promptly.

Thanks to v.i. for the design.
www.vi.com.au

About the Hamer Family Fund

The Hamer Family Fund was established in 2004 as a sub-fund of the Melbourne Community Foundation to honor the lives and work of Sir Rupert (Dick) Hamer, David Hamer, Alan Hamer and their sister Alison Patrick. Other related families and friends, in particular the Martin family, have joined with us to support initiatives in

- The arts, especially the performing arts;
- Innovation in care for the environment;
- Talented youth;
- Good government.

Our finances in brief

- Melbourne Community Fund (our umbrella fund) has approximately \$33m in its corpus and is home for 105 other sub-funds like us.
- The Hamer Family fund (including the Martin Environmental initiative) has approximately \$305, 300 so far.
- The net return on funds over the past twelve months was 3.12%.
- We received over \$93,885 in new gifts during this financial year.
- We have made grants of just over \$52,400 during 2007-8.

Adding value

We see it as critical that we add value above the effect that donors might achieve through direct giving to the arts, democratic causes or the environment. For this reason we have actively sought, and found, partners and networks which can increase the 'leverage' of our relatively modest financial resources.

We're on the 'net at last!

At last you can check us from your computer and communicate by email. Visual Identity has again given us most generous support to create a bold and beautiful site that works. Check us out at www.hamerfamilyfund.com.au and send us an email at contact@hamerfamilyfund.com.au



Wren hatchling at Ecocentre Westgate project



Albert Park school project



Watbalimba Bindi project

Grants for the environment

Last year our capacity as a Fund was excitingly enlarged by the Shirley and Digger Martin environmental initiative. We have chosen to begin by supporting one organization that works with young people in Melbourne.

St Kilda Ecocentre

The Ecocentre is a grassroots organization supported by the City of Port Phillip that runs practical, carefully planned sustainability projects (energy-saving, water-saving and gardening).

For 2008 we made two grants totalling \$16,560 towards 'seed' projects at the Ecocentre. The first grant was to launch a biodiversity / wildlife program aimed at following up successful previous activities with local schools and community groups.

The second grant to Ecocentre is for the purpose of updating and improving its website. This is an essential tool enabling the organisation to engage the local community, especially young people, and inspire more action and support on climate change and sustainability.

Both projects are progressing well and we look forward to the Centre's report on outcomes.

For details see www.ecocentre.com

Networking with other funds

The Hamer Family Fund is intent on making further environmental grants before too long, and for this reason has joined the Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network, alongside like-minded individuals and funds such as the Mullum Trust, the Norman Wettenhall Foundation, the Poola Foundation (initiator of the Climate Institute). We have also begun discussions with the Reichstein Foundation with a view to jointly supporting a project or projects on climate change abatement.

For details google any of those organizations.



St Kilda Ecocentre



Tosiya Australis

The Hamer Oration on Good Government

Another important aim of our Fund is to foster public discussion and initiatives which advance good government. Our main activity in this area to date has been the Hamer Oration, although we have been involved in various forums concerning Accountability of Parliament and Government which received quite good media coverage in the run-up to the last State and Federal elections. We also promote the Melbourne Conversations series of symposiums convened by Helen Sykes and the Future Leaders organization – see www.futureleaders.com.au

The 2007 Hamer Oration, given in association with Melbourne University, was a resounding success. Vice-Chancellor Glyn Davis introduced Hugh Mackay to a packed house. With a characteristic blend of engaging narrative and sociological research, Hugh argued 'relaxed and comfortable' approaches to Australian political life had in fact often been 'diminished and disengaged' over the past few years. Happily, he saw a change emerging with values like a fair go, honesty and accountability in public life and a vision for the country being once more asserted.

The 2008 Oration to be given by another national figure is scheduled towards the end of this year and will be announced shortly.

Grant to Australia Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra

A huge pleasure has been our continuing relationship with Pro Arte. APA is now clearly established as one of the nation's leading groups – and probably its most youthful with many players in their 20s and some only teenagers! Both the Melbourne season of concerts and the outreach program of workshop / concerts at regional centres are expanding. APA's core player policy provides financial and artistic security for emerging star players to build their careers. APA has thus added to its own successes a growing acclaim as a seedbed for other award-winning ensembles and for our national orchestras.

Last year the Hamer Family Fund underwrote APA's launch concert for

the season. In 2008, the orchestra has a new Artistic Director, William Hennessy, and a new Patron, Sir Neville Marriner. It has programmed a marvelous series of concerts, several broadcast by the ABC and 3MBS FM. It is also poised to take a major step up by moving to a new home at the Elisabeth Murdoch Recital Centre on Southbank which promises to be not just Australia's, but one of the world's finest chamber auditoriums.

The Hamer Family Fund is delighted to fund the APA's first crossover concert in its new home on Southbank. We hope you will join us for this great occasion.

For details see www.proarte.com.au

Hamer Quartet

This dynamic young group – Cameron Hall, Rebecca Chan, Stefanie Farrands and Michael Dahlenberg – goes from strength to strength. In May this year they added a highly successful European debut to their Australian successes. When we learnt that Michael's cello really had to be upgraded for the Quartet's overseas trip, we delighted to be able to engage the interest of Dame Elisabeth Murdoch, through the Australia Business Arts Foundation. With her support and help from others, Michael now has a splendid late eighteenth century French instrument. This was a striking case where philanthropic support was not just about money. The cost of an international standard instrument was certainly beyond our Fund's capacity. However by networking with others and Michael's own efforts, a very challenging goal of \$55,000 was achieved.



Hamer Quartet

Arts Scholarships

The RJ Hamer Scholarships

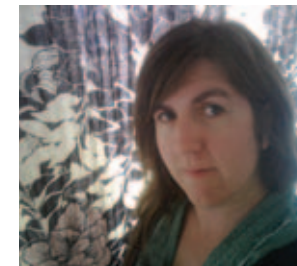
We have awarded a further two scholarships providing \$20,000 support for post-graduate professional performers of outstanding promise at the Victorian College of the Arts. The 2008 recipients are:

Amanda Hodder, Accompanist and Repetiteur

Amanda has experience with opera companies as well as accompanying and coaching students for several years. We are supporting her during master's degree studies at the end of which she will be ready for employment in any of the major operatic houses in Australia. The scholarship enables her to further her studies as a repetiteur, and at the same time advance the careers of other VCA students whom she is required to accompany. Already she has been described as a constant source of support to singers she works with.

Rachael Guy, Puppeteer

is also a postgraduate student, in the Production Department of the VCA. She has performed in numerous theatrical productions as an actor/singer and writer, and created several community murals. The scholarship enables her to embark on a diploma in puppet-making.



Amanda Hodder



Rachael Guy

More Success for Shahin Shafei Former Grant Recipient

Congratulations to Shahin who graduated with his Masters in Community Cultural Development from the VCE in May this year. Shahin continues a hugely prolific output of writing and productions with a special focus on refugee experience. A man to watch!

For details see www.vca.unimelb.edu.au