

**Independent Arts Foundation's Small Grant report**

The IAF's Small Grant contributed to the development and presentation of our new multidisciplinary (part-theatre part-film) work, *The Good Decisions Project*. This show made its world premiere at the 2025 Adelaide Fringe and received an overwhelmingly positive response.

*"The show cleverly weaves three separate stories. Each follows characters making choices while facing mental health struggles...The first storyline unfolds live on stage with raw emotion. The second case plays almost entirely on screen, creating welcome distance. The third mixes media to show how mental states shift without warning. The multimedia approach works well."*

- [Daniel G. Taylor, Australian Arts Review](#)

For this project, we were also supported by funding through ActNow Theatre's Adelaide Fringe Residency and the Adelaide Fringe Fund/Arts UNLIMITED.

The funding from this small grant contributed to artist wages along with expenses for video production and production design. This funding was crucial to the successful world premiere and presentation of this multidisciplinary work, particularly for its film and animation aspects. Our collaboration on this project would not have been possible without this generous funding, as it ensured that we, along with our Production Designer (Shani Engelbrecht) and Visual Effects Artist (Molly Mao), were paid for our time, creative input and labour on the project. Being independent artists, having financial investment in our creative practice is important for the sustainability and development of our careers.

Our goals for the 2025 Adelaide Fringe season was to present a new work, test new ideas and explore unconventional ways of storytelling, furthering our crafts as actor/theatre maker and director/filmmaker. This funding gave us the opportunity to pursue our ambitions, as presenting a work of multidisciplinary nature without financial support would've been extremely difficult. Being successful in obtaining this grant meant that we could focus on the creative parts of the work rather than limiting ourselves to a tight budget. Our motivation in developing this work was driven by experimentation and audience engagement, rather than the need to generate profit. Using this funding, we were able to pay ourselves appropriately as we explored the various forms that this project could take, without compromising artistic ambition.

Our team consisted of artists who identified as People of Colour, Cultural and Linguistically Diverse, or of the LGBTQIA+ community. Bringing together a diverse team of artist was important, as we are passionate about championing the voices of artists from underrepresented communities. This funding contributed to the employment of these artists along with the presentation of their creativity and talents in this project.

The overall project demonstrated that artists from underrepresented communities are more than just their identities, and that they deserve to make work that doesn't just tackle this subject. The theme of mental health explored in this work is universal and a shared experience with everyone on this team. Hence, we were passionate about tackling this matter in our show as it is important that we work towards destigmatising this issue in our society.

On behalf of our creative team, we thank the members of the Independent Arts Foundation for generously supporting our project and our creative careers with this grant!

**Final project budget:**

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Dbld3W9uDByN3\\_NMRH9zBj7z40dobJ9O/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Dbld3W9uDByN3_NMRH9zBj7z40dobJ9O/view?usp=sharing)

**Marketing acknowledgements:**

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VFfBXrDB6\\_wqDfja\\_6bWdOu8SiNzFam/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VFfBXrDB6_wqDfja_6bWdOu8SiNzFam/view?usp=sharing)

**Production photos (taken by Jamie Hornsby):**

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1dMrtdEPBS\\_QN7cWCyBPATtfXi\\_Xg2Onl?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1dMrtdEPBS_QN7cWCyBPATtfXi_Xg2Onl?usp=sharing)