

New Carclew appointments to drive vision and impact of youth arts and creativity

News Release

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In its ongoing mission to drive youth arts and creativity, Carclew has today announced the appointment of executives Lisa Baker as Head of Programming and Robyn Jones as General Manager, as well as award-winning actor, digital producer and entrepreneur, Jude Henshall as Producer.

Lisa and Robyn will report to CEO Mimi Crowe and form the new Carclew leadership team tasked with implementing the organisation's new strategic plan, while Jude will activate the house and work with the sector to amplify and elevate youth arts.

"These appointments strengthen Carclew's mission to connect children and young people to the world of creative possibilities as artists, learners and audiences," Ms Crowe said.

"We are delighted to have Lisa, Robyn and Jude join our team as each brings a unique set of skills and experiences that will be invaluable as we continue to expand our programs and reach more children and young people," she added, emphasising that their passion and vision align with Carclew's new strategic vision.

As Head of Programming, Lisa Baker brings to Carclew two decades of experience in creative collaboration, community engagement and government-industry initiatives. Most recently, she was the driving force behind The Northern Sound System, a vibrant community music hub and creative industries precinct in Adelaide's north.

Lisa sits on the Music Australia Board and is a national leader in youth music initiatives, where her leadership has cultivated an environment that fosters artistic expression and community development, contributing significantly to South Australia's cultural landscape. Lisa's multifaceted expertise and dedication will be instrumental in shaping Carclew's programming, ensuring it continues to inspire and empower young creatives across the state.

General Manager Robyn Jones holds a Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting), a Bachelor of Education and numerous leadership qualifications and is highly regarded as a dynamic senior leader with a proven track record of driving strategic initiatives and operational excellence.

With extensive experience in financial management and governance within the South Australian film industry, Robyn has held key positions at the South Australian Film Corporation (SAFC), Adelaide Film Festival and Mercury (Media Resource Centre), where her strategic acumen and innovative approach have led to the successful implementation of transformative projects and key government contracts. At Carclew, she will leverage her skills to drive impactful change and foster organisational growth.

In her role as Producer, Jude Henshall brings a wealth of experience in the arts and entrepreneurship, having performed with Australia's leading theatre companies and earning accolades such as a Helpmann Award nomination and multiple Adelaide Critics Circle Awards. She also co-founded and led the all-female performance ensemble *isthisyours?* and has directed record-breaking events such as the Adelaide Fringe Opening Parade.

Jude's innovative work in interactive projects and visitor insights technology underscores her commitment to ensuring the arts thrive, and her diverse expertise is sure to enhance Carclew's creative projects and community outreach initiatives.

In welcoming the trio to Carclew, Chair Rachel Healy said the appointments signal an exciting new chapter for the organisation.

"Lisa's expertise in programming, Robyn's operational excellence, and Mimi's leadership will ensure Carclew continues to grow as the home of youth arts and creativity. I look forward to seeing the valuable impact they will have on our organisation and the broader community."

About Carclew:

Carclew is the home of youth arts and creativity. It connects all children and young people to a world of creative possibilities, as artists, learners and audiences. As Australia's largest multi-artform cultural institution dedicated to children and young people, Carclew is a vital part of Australia's youth arts and arts sector.

At a time of unprecedented growth, Carclew is driven by its core value to have the greatest impact on the greatest number, with an ambitious plan to amplify and elevate the youth arts sector in Adelaide, South Australia and nationally.

Carclew staff are holders of an important 52-year legacy in South Australia and at a point of renewal and revitalisation. Carclew is committed to deliver impact and opportunity for children and young people for the next half-century. Carclew is a not-for-profit organisation incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act 1985. Carclew is also Public Authority under the Department for Education and has a role in dispersing State government funds through Carclew grant programs.

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Carclew acknowledges the traditional custodians of the lands on which we live, learn, and work. We pay our respects to Elders past, present, and leaders emerging today.

For further information and interviews:

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