



## Amplifier Media Release – For Immediate Release

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### Pencil it in: arts business training

Propel Youth Arts WA is proud to introduce the first year of a new initiative, *Amplifier*. The FREE workshop and forum program, proudly supported by the Foundation for Young Australians (FYA), is designed to sharpen the arts business skills of Perth metro artists and artworkers aged 18 – 25 years.

As the peak body for youth arts in WA, Propel Youth Arts WA is dedicated towards creating opportunities for young West Australians to engage in the arts. Creative young artists will have access to a program aimed at improving their business skills and helping them to be competitive, especially in tough economic times when funding for arts programs has traditionally been a challenge.

Held throughout August-September 2009, the program consists of six workshops, three forums and opportunities for young creatives to connect with creative industry workers. The workshops, hosted at Central TAFE, focus on such topics as: arts law, arts marketing, Tax-ABN-GST for artists, grant writing, event management and business planning.

The first forum of the program, hosted at the Sugar Blue Burlesque Lounge on 1 August, will address *Arts Survival* - making it in the arts world and being an entrepreneur with confirmed panellists Lawrence Leung (from ABC TV's *Choose Your Own Adventure*), artists Jodee Knowles and Stormie Mills and musician Tristen Parr lead by MC Damian Smith from RTRfm.

The *Creative Collaborations* forum at Central TAFE on 19 September will profile the varying formats of local creative collectives and their operations, and *The Space Issue* on 3 September will be an informal discussion on the need and nature of spaces for creative practice with Marcus Westbury (from ABC TV's *Not Quite Art*) and guests. *Amplifier* will also provide a host of opportunities for young people to meet, talk with and learn from local and national artists and artworkers, creative thinkers, entrepreneurs and professionals.

*Amplifier* was developed through *ArtsMAP*, a youth-led project initiative as part of the FYA Partnership Grant Program in 2008. The project provided the opportunity for ten creative Western Australians to map out their youth arts community, profiling their present and future arts needs. The \$190,000 grant allocated over a three year period will help Propel deliver the outcomes developed from the *ArtsMAP* initiative.

Foundation for Young Australians Grant and Social Investment Facilitator Jen Sainsbury said she is thrilled with the outcome.

“The *Amplifier* workshop program is a fantastic opportunity for young people to learn about making their arts project self sustainable. We’re excited to support this influential program,” she said.

Participation in workshops and forums is by registration only, with more information available at the Propel Youth Arts WA website at [propel.org.au](http://propel.org.au).

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*Amplifier* proudly supported by