SCHOOL OF ARTS
TENTERFIELD INC

MEDIA RELEASE

SOATI'S AMBITIOUS CALL TO ACTION

To mark the 150th anniversary of the official opening of the Tenterfield School of Arts, which occurred on 7th September 1876, the School of Arts Tenterfield Inc (SOATI) has launched their $100 Club.

SOATI hopes to encourage 150 individuals, families, organisations and businesses to join by donating $100 towards SOATI's activities with the aim of raising $15 000.00 by the end of the year.

"It's an audacious and ambitious target, but the community has a real opportunity to contribute to the ongoing success of SOATI in the management of the School of Arts Museum and Theatre" commented SOATI president, Kevin Markwell.

"I realise that $100 is well out of the reach of many people but I also know that there are a lot of us who could spare the money for such a great cause. SOATI is committed to restoring the School of Arts as the arts, culture and heritage hub of Tenterfield and surrounding districts. But we need the community's help and support.

"We are aiming for stronger and more diverse programme of events in both the theatre and museum next year but this takes money. We are grateful for the annual contribution that Tenterfield Shire Council provides us but that doesn't even cover our staffing costs. We are actively diversifying our income stream through grants, sponsorships and fundraising and we believe the $100 Club is a great way for the broader community to show their support," Mr Markwell stated.

Mr Markwell noted that he will be inviting all NSW sitting politicians (at both state and federal level) and former prime ministers as well as many other prominent Australian men and women to consider making a donation.

"Our School of Arts has national significance so I want to give people from outside Tenterfield the opportunity to contribute as well".

It's easy to donate the money. Just go to https://tenterfieldsoa.com.au/100-club/

And as an added incentive, everyone who makes a $100 contribution will go into a draw to win two nights for two couples at Mackenzie Point Airbnb, courtesy of owners, Chris and Margaret Donnelly.

23 August 2026

END

368 WORDS

For further information or for interviews, please contact Kevin Markwell, 0419613294