

29 September 2020

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION! FOR GOLD COAST SCREEN CONFERENCE

Screen Producers Australia (**SPA**), alongside Principal Partners Queensland Government and Screen Queensland, today confirmed that Australia's flagship screen industry conference and content market, **SCREEN FOREVER**, is safely at home in the Sunshine State.

The event will now take place on **16-18 February 2021** at The Star Event Centre Gold Coast, with all necessary safety measures in place.

"Queensland is more than ready to make the most of the opportunities our successful handling of the pandemic has afforded us, including safely hosting **SCREEN FOREVER** on the Gold Coast in February 2021," Queensland Premier **Annastacia Palaszczuk** said.

"I am delighted Australia's preeminent screen industry conference, with its new interactive digital platform, is set to take place in the most screen-friendly city and state in the nation.

"The Queensland Government is proud to sponsor this important networking opportunity for screen professionals at such a critical time for them and for their industry as a whole, as it eagerly takes a lead role in Australia's economic recovery by generating jobs, vital revenue and more local content for the world to enjoy," she said.

"The health and wellbeing of our delegates, staff and the wider community is our number one priority. Without Queensland's strong health response to this pandemic it would not be possible for us to proceed with our event," said SPA CEO **Matthew Deaner**.

"The amount of interest we have received in recent months has proven how critical **SCREEN FOREVER** is to the Australian screen industry, particularly the production sector, and we thank everyone for their patience and support while we determined the safest and best way to proceed," Mr Deaner continued.

Screen Queensland CEO **Kylie Munnich** reiterated how important it is for Queensland-based producers and creatives to connect with inter-state and international producers at a time when Australian-made content is in such high demand, yet travelling overseas is not an option.

"For over 30 years, **SCREEN FOREVER** has been one of the major highlights on the Australian screen industry's calendar, opening doors for Queensland producers to pitch their projects to national and international big-hitters in the film industry.

"In the current landscape, the continuation of significant international markets like **SCREEN FOREVER** is excellent news for our local screen sector, which has shown enormous resilience during this challenging period. We are fortunate to have an industry conference of this calibre on our doorstep and very proud to partner with SPA," Ms Munnich said.

Major Partner City of Gold Coast reiterated that the region is open for business for the screen sector.

“It’s great to see SCREEN FOREVER coming to the Gold Coast once again – another huge coup during these difficult times. Our film industry is thriving and why wouldn’t it be? We have great infrastructure, a globally respected creative and technical sector, and we remain one of the safest places in the world right now,” said City of Gold Coast Mayor **Tom Tate**.

SPA also announced that for the first time in the event’s history, SCREEN FOREVER will be complemented by an interactive digital platform, presenting the opportunity for screen professionals from around the world to gather online to network, learn and do business on a greater scale than ever before.

“SCREEN FOREVER is an unmissable opportunity for the creative workers behind Aussie films, TV shows and immersive media content to secure deals which will generate millions in revenue for the Australian economy.

“We are excited to offer this digital companion to our event to connect with our colleagues displaced by the pandemic and expand the pool of content hungry buyers and sellers to unprecedented levels,” Deaner continued.

Tickets for SCREEN FOREVER will go on sale in the coming weeks. In the interim, SPA is calling for session ideas to be submitted [here](#) by **Friday, 9 October**.

The Queensland Government and Screen Queensland are the Principal Partner of SCREEN FOREVER.

For media enquiries, please contact:

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About Screen Producers Australia:

Screen Producers Australia unites screen businesses to campaign for a healthy commercial environment. For over 60 years we have supported the interests of large and small enterprises from across the nation with a diverse production slate of feature film, television and immersive content. Our 500+ members employ hundreds of producers, thousands of related practitioners and drive more than \$1.2 billion worth of annual production activity for the independent production sector.

SPA is a proud Campaign Associate of the Australian Made campaign.

