

20 May 2020

To Whom It May Concern,

Re: Aminah Hughes | Daughter of the Southern Cross Funding Application - Recording

West Australian Music (WAM) is the peak music body in Western Australia responsible for supporting, nurturing and growing all forms of contemporary music. Over the past 25 years, Western Australia has established a reputation for producing exceptional and unique world class contemporary music and artists.

I am writing this letter in support of *Aminah Hughes'* application for funding to record her album, *Daughter of the Southern Cross*. WAM is aware of Aminah's capacity as an artist and has assisted in promoting her song writing and vocal workshops in the Perth community and supported her successful application to the DLCSC - Commercial Development Grant for the release of her debut album, *Blue Wooden Boat*.

Aminah's album *Blue Wooden Boat* demonstrates her high-calibre musicianship, vocal prowess, song writing expertise and outstanding work as a producer on an international level. The recordings are of exceptional quality and have resulted in a highly-polished work that has increased her visibility as an artist, received glowing reviews in *The Weekend Australian* and opened doors for a new collaboration with acclaimed Perth composer, arranger and jazz pianist, Ben Matthews. This is a huge achievement for a debut solo release.

The themes Aminah wishes to explore in this new work touch on contemporary Australian issues, such as reconciliation, domestic violence and prisoner rights as well as exploring universal themes such as love, loss and longing for home. Set in various places around Australia and presented in an experimental fusion of jazz, roots and folk, the material will contribute to a strong artistic output for Australian music and continue Western Australia's legacy of producing exceptional musicians.

Aminah has set a realistic timeline for the preparation, recording and presentation of this material demonstrating her experience and capacity for planning. With this in mind, I support *Aminah Hughes'* application and look forward to seeing ongoing success in her music career.

If you would like to discuss this further please don't hesitate to contact me on 08 9227 7962.

Kind Regards



Mike Harris
CEO