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MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday 7 November 2017

Female Queensland musicians – entries for the 2018 Carol Lloyd Award open on 10 November

Queensland Music Festival (QMF) are thrilled to announce entries open on Friday 10 November for the 2018 Carol Lloyd Award, an annual \$15,000 prize supporting the state's emerging female singer-songwriters and honouring Australia's first 'Rock Chick'.

Each year, one exceptional artist, either born in or currently residing in Queensland, will be awarded the funding to assist in recording an original album, or an EP with a tour, as well as broadening their experience in the music industry and connecting them to some of Queensland's most respected artists.

In 2017, eclectic alt-pop musician Georgia Potter, also known as <u>Moreton</u>, was selected to win the inaugural Carol Lloyd Award. Ms Potter has used the opportunity and Lloyd's legacy to make crucial industry connections and take the next step in her career.

"Winning the Carol Lloyd Award has meant I've been able to throw myself into my record in a very focused and committed way. Having the black cloud of 'but-how-will-we-fund-it?' hanging overhead can absorb a lot of time and energy, time that can be better spent honing your skills and writing more material," Ms Potter said.

"Being able to do that in these early Moreton days is a very special opportunity that I am truly grateful for, and to do so in the name of such a spirited woman, Carol Lloyd, makes it all the more empowering and significant."

APRA AMCOS (Australasian Performing Right Association and Australasian Mechanical Copyright Owners Society) earlier this year revealed that only 21.7 percent of its songwriter/composer membership identifies as female. In stark contrast to this figure, female artists made up 38 percent of musicians involved in the 2017 Queensland Music Festival.

QMF Artistic Director, musician and Carol Lloyd Award judge Katie Noonan said the award is another opportunity for the organisation to discover and support talented female Queensland musicians, in honour of the ultimate trailblazer, Carol Lloyd.

"Carol Lloyd was and continues to be a great inspiration, her incredible legacy encourages women of all ages from around our great state to pursue their musical ambitions," Ms Noonan said.

"It was an absolute joy to receive such strong and diverse applications for the inaugural Carol Lloyd Award in 2017. We will continue to work hard to provide springboards such as this for female musicians, who are still underrepresented in Australia's music industry."

The Carol Lloyd Award is presented by Queensland Music Festival with the generous support of Queensland Government, APRA AMCOS and Hutchinson Builders.

APRA AMCOS CEO Brett Cottle said the award keeps Carol Lloyd's indomitable spirit alive and celebrates and mentors future stars.

"With the vision and passion of Katie Noonan, the Carol Lloyd Award pays tribute to an Australian music legend and continues to help emerging female singer-songwriters in Queensland to forge their own path."

"APRA AMCOS is committed to ensuring equal representation of women working and creating in the Australian music industry, and we're very proud to support this award," said Brett Cottle.

Hutchinson Builders has been a part of Brisbane's landscape for over 100 years and is delighted to be able to support Queensland female musicians through the Carol Lloyd Award.

"Hutchies is always pleased to help live music in Queensland in every way we can," said Hutchinson Builders Chairman Scott Hutchinson.

Carol Lloyd was the first Australian female singer-songwriter to front a successful rock band, making her name in the ultimate boys club when she started out with Railroad Gin in the 1970s, then the Carol Lloyd Band, and finally as a solo artist, stacking up number one hits along the way.

Her ground-breaking, worldwide EMI publishing contract saw Carol release hits like *A Matter of Time, Do Ya Love Me* and *You Told The World* in 27 countries. Carol Lloyd lost her battle with pulmonary fibrosis in February, but the wild woman of rock's spirit lives on.

The submission process for the Carol Lloyd Award involves both written and recorded material - more details, terms and conditions can be found at qmf.org.au. Entries close on 9 March 2018.

The 2018 judging panel consists of QMF's Artistic Director Katie Noonan, Time Off Media's Sean Sennett, Rock & Roll Writers Festival Director Leanne de Souza, QUT Head of Music John Willsteed, former co-owner of The Zoo Joc Curran and Women in Voice founder Annie Peterson.

ENDS

Queensland Music Festival is a state-wide celebration of music with a vision to transform lives and communities through music. Queensland Music Festival is an initiative of the Queensland Government.

The Carol Lloyd Award is presented by Queensland Music Festival and supported by APRA AMCOS, Hutchinson Builders and the Queensland Government.

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