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MEDIA RELEASE

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Five outstanding Queensland musicians shortlisted for 2018 Carol Lloyd Award

Five talented female singer-songwriters from the Sunshine Coast, Brisbane, Toowoomba and Cairns have been shortlisted for Queensland Music Festival's (QMF) 2018 [Carol Lloyd Award](#) from across the state to compete for the \$15,000 grant.

The finalists are Sunshine Coast songstress [Sahara Beck](#) (who now calls Brisbane home), Brisbane vocal powerhouse [Rivah \(Bec Laughton\)](#), Brisbane indie-pop artist [Harriette Pilbeam \(Hatchie\)](#), Toowoomba country crooner [Sue Ray](#) and Cairns blues 'n roots artist [Leanne Tennant](#).

The 2018 recipient will be announced at the [Songs That Made Me](#) concert in the QPAC Concert Hall on Sunday 8 April, offering an unprecedented international platform as part of [Women of the World \(WOW\) at Festival 2018](#).

The special concert will close [WOW](#) featuring Australian stars [Clare Bowditch](#), [Deborah Conway](#), [Emily Wurramara](#) and [Hannah Macklin](#) alongside special guest voices from across the Commonwealth of Nations including Fiji's "Queen of Pop" Laisa Lualala Vulakoro and ShoShona Kish from Juno award-winning Canadian duo [Digging Roots](#), backed by a sizzling all-women house band.

The winner of the coveted award - named in honour of Australia's original "Rock Chick" Carol Lloyd - can use the funding to assist in recording an original full-length album, or record and tour an EP, and will have the opportunity to broaden their experience in the music industry and connect with some of Australia's most respected artists.

Katie Noonan said the [Carol Lloyd Award](#) was all about finding the next generation of exceptional female artists and helping them kickstart a career in music.

"The winner selected out of these talented finalists from across the state will have an amazing platform from which to launch their music career," Ms Noonan said.

"At a time when the music and festival industry is under fire for a lack of female representation, QMF has long been a champion of women in music. 6,150 female artists and participants featured in last year's program, including the choirs we recruited for the mass choral event [You're the Voice](#), making up 78 per cent of all festival participants," Ms Noonan said.

"On top of that the behind the scenes team in last year's festival was also made up of 58 per cent women, including key leadership roles.

“Queensland Music Festival will continue to strive to provide opportunities like this for women in the Australian music landscape - we are still underrepresented here and around the world and we hope awards like this will help to bring about necessary change.”

Joining Katie Noonan on the 2018 judging panel are 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 through Arts Queensland.

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

MEDIA CONTACT

Please click [here](#) to access images. For further information and interviews please contact:

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Notes to editor

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 2017, but the wild woman of rock’s spirit lives on.

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Songs That Made Me at WOW at Festival 2018

When: Sunday 8 April

Time: 7pm

Venue: Concert Hall, QPAC

Tickets: \$69 *a transaction fee of \$7.20 applies per transaction

Booking details: Click [here](#) to book or call qtix on 136 246

