

**This visit by the China National Children’s Theatre to Melbourne in 2017 marks the 45th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Australia and the People’s Republic of China, and will incorporate a range of celebrations led by the Australian Government through the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Australia China-Council.**



## **Australian Government**

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## **Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade**

### **ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE**

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade’s (DFAT) purpose is to make Australia stronger, safer and more prosperous by promoting and protecting our interests internationally and contributing to global stability and economic growth.

The department provides foreign, trade and development policy advice to the Government, and works with other government agencies to ensure that Australia’s pursuit of its global, regional and bilateral interests is coordinated effectively.

DFAT is the lead agency managing Australia’s international presence, with a network of 100 overseas posts in five continents and over 6,000 staff located in Canberra, state and territory offices, and overseas.

DFAT staff are highly skilled at their work which includes developing and implementing foreign, trade and development policy, negotiating international agreements, delivering an effective aid program, and providing high quality consular assistance – often conducted in one of the 29 foreign languages in which DFAT staff are proficient.

### **BILATERAL RELATIONS – FOUNDATIONS, COUNCILS AND INSTITUTES**

Over the past 40 years the Australian Government has established cultural councils supporting people-to-people links underpinning our key bilateral and regional relationships. Eminent Australian business and community leaders are appointed to the boards, providing a range of expertise and input to Australia’s foreign policy and economic diplomacy goals.

Programs support the Government's foreign policy and economic diplomacy interests, project a positive contemporary image of Australia internationally, and facilitate professional, community and institutional linkages between Australia and its international partners on contemporary issues of shared interest including business, education, innovation, science, technology, the arts, media and sport.



**Australian Government**



## **THE AUSTRALIA CHINA-COUNCIL**

“STRENGTHENING FOUNDATIONS AND DEVELOPING NEW FRONTIERS OF AUSTRALIA-CHINA PARTNERSHIP”

### **About the Australia China-Council**

Established by the Australian Government in 1978 to promote mutual understanding and foster people-to-people relations between Australia and China, The Australia China-Council (ACC) is the Australian Government’s advisory and funding body dedicated to strengthening cultural, artistic, educational, business and more broadly, people-to-people links between Australia and China. In 2018 the ACC will celebrate its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

The ACC provides policy advice to the government, and promotes bilateral relations among its network of stakeholders in the strategic priority areas of Economic Diplomacy, Education, Arts and Culture.

### **Strategic Priorities**

- Education: Support practical and effective solutions to enhance China literacy, business and cultural capabilities of Australian institutions and people to effectively engage with China, and promote education, science and innovation connectivity between Australia and China
- Economic Diplomacy: Promote diversity, growth and innovation of Australia's trade and investment relationship with China
- Arts and Culture: Showcase Australian arts and creative industries to Chinese audiences and build closer and broader cultural and artistic partnerships
- Australian Studies in China: Consolidate and strengthen the Australian Studies in China Program

### **Guiding Principles**

- Creativity and Innovation: The Council funds projects that generate new ideas and identify new areas of contact
- Sustainability: Projects deliver medium to longer-term outcomes, strengthen networks and linkages and, over time, become self-sustaining
- Partnerships: Projects are developed and delivered in partnership with Australian and Chinese organisations, promote complementarities and avoid duplication with similar programs
- Equality and Diversity: Projects promote and encourage gender equality, cultural, linguistic and ethnic diversity, and facilitate engagement between Australian and Chinese regions and areas outside major capital cities and business hubs
- Accountability: Projects have clear key performance indicators and comply with the Australian government’s financial and other reporting requirements