

MULTICULTURAL ARTS VICTORIA
MEDIA RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Thursday October 18th

Visy and Multicultural Arts Victoria today launched a new funding program VISY MULTICULTURAL EVENT ASSISTANCE to assist multicultural communities and organisations in the City of Hume.

VISY MULTICULTURAL EVENT ASSISTANCE initiative was officially launched by the Mayor, City of Hume Cr Gary Jungwirth. The launch was attended by Maria Vamvakinou MP Federal Member for Calwell and Liz Beattie MP Member for Yuroke, Parliamentary Secretary Assisting the Premier in Multicultural Affairs both long standing supporters of diversity representing the interests of people living and working in Melbourne's north-west. The initiative was launched in City of Hume which is a vibrant, culturally-diverse city with a strong sense of community and a proud history.

Visy Multicultural Event Assistance will provide multicultural groups and community organisations with assistance to use community spaces for multicultural events and community celebrations for the benefit of all in the City of Hume. The launch was attended by members of the Samoan, Iraqi, Turkish, Lebanese, Assyrian, Maori, Tibetan, Ukrainian, local government representatives, Arts Victoria, several neighbourhood houses, community groups and local schools.

"Hume City –is a prosperous, sustainable and vibrant City renowned for it's diversity, social justice, lifelong learning and community inclusion. The Visy Multicultural Events Assistance is a new initiative supported by Visy and Multicultural Arts Victoria that will contribute significantly to enhancing the vibrant multicultural events program in our great City," stated Mayor Gary Jungwirth.

Multicultural Arts Victoria Chair Stefan Romaniw - "Multicultural Arts Victoria is proud to work closely with Visy to bring to life this exciting new initiative. The Visy Multicultural Events Assistance pilot in Hume will ensure greater participation of our multicultural artists and communities in the cultural life of our community and reflect our States greatest asset – our diversity. The Pratt Family have made an enormous contribution to our multicultural community and are continuing to do so. "

For more information, please call Jill Morgan Executive Officer Multicultural Arts Victoria (03) 9417 6777 www.multiculturalarts.com.au

Multicultural Arts Victoria (MAV) provides opportunities and support structures to artists and communities from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds as well as offering culturally diverse art to the public at large.

Visy is the international packaging company owned by the Pratt Family. It is a large manufacturing facility in Coolaroo and has a multicultural workforce.

