



Embassy of Australia
Washington

The Hon Tony Burke MP
Australian Minister for Employment,
Workplace Relations and the Arts
Parliament House, Canberra 2600

Dear Minister

I'm delighted, in my new role as Australia's Ambassador to the United States, to enclose an invitation from the American Australian Association (AAA) to the G'Day USA Arts Gala on 1 February 1 2024, in Los Angeles.

This Gala, now in its 21st year, is a unique partnership between the Australian Embassy, the AAA, Tourism Australia, Austrade and Qantas. It showcases the best of Australian talent and creativity in Los Angeles - the global centre of the entertainment industry. Past honourees include Nicole Kidman, Geoffrey Rush, Olivia Newton-John and Hugh Jackman. Next year's line-up promises to celebrate the breadth and diversity of Australia's creative talent.

In my few months here in DC and in visits to Los Angeles, I have developed a keen sense of how important Australia's cultural and creative links are to the US. There is a lot of interest in the Australian location offset, which the government has confirmed at 30 per cent, and in our local content rules. In addition to celebrating the Gala, in Los Angeles you would also have an opportunity to meet key industry players to discuss these initiatives and highlight the 2023 Australian Government cultural policy.

The Embassy team as well as the Australian Consulate in Los Angeles can work with your department in developing a program for your visit.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Kevin Rudd'.

The Hon. Dr Kevin Rudd AC
Ambassador of Australia to the United States



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Australian Minister for Employment,
Workplace Relations and the Arts
Parliament House, Canberra 2600

June 14, 2023

Dear Minister

On behalf of G'Day USA and the American Australian Association, we invite you to join fellow distinguished guests at the *G'Day USA Arts Gala* on Thursday February 1, 2024 in Los Angeles. For over 20 years, this annual event has recognized the diverse contributions made by Australians in advancing and strengthening the friendship between our two great nations through the arts and creative industries.

Your presence would underscore the importance of the Arts in the US-Australia relationship and the accomplishments of our honourees. In addition to honouring outstanding Australians and their contributions to the Arts, the event will showcase Australian musical performances.

Funds raised from the event support the American Australian Association and its Arts Fund, which provides scholarships and grants to emerging American, Native American, Australian and Indigenous Australian artists for study and artistic development in each other's countries.

The G'Day USA program supports and shines a spotlight on our creative talent with a strong focus on our first nations peoples. The Gala, along with the ancillary events surrounding the Gala, offer opportunities for engagement between Australian arts organisations and US creative industries.

We hope you can join us for this important celebration of the Arts.

Yours sincerely,


Amb. John Berry (Ret.)
President, American Australian Association



The Hon Tony Burke MP
Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations
Minister for the Arts
Leader of the House

MC23-070973

The Hon Dr Kevin Rudd AC
Ambassador of Australia to the United States
1145 17th Street NW, Suite GP410
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Dear Ambassador Rudd 

Thank you for your letter of 1 December 2023 and your kind invitation to the G'Day USA Arts Gala in Los Angeles this coming February. I greatly appreciate the invitation to the Gala, but unfortunately, I am unable to attend on this occasion.

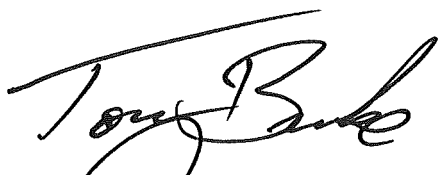
In *Revive: a place for every story, a story for every place*, Australia's cultural policy, the Australian Government committed to continue to encourage large-scale screen productions to film in Australia. As you have mentioned, subject to the passage of legislation, the Location Offset rebate rate will be increased for eligible productions from 16.5 per cent to 30 per cent from 1 July 2023. This increase will secure Australia's competitive position in attracting large budget screen productions, including from the United States of America, and maintain our world-class reputation for filmmaking.

I appreciate the vital role that the arts plays in strengthening relations with our global partners, including the United States of America. Events such as the G'Day USA Arts Gala are incredibly important in recognising the significant contribution of the arts in shaping our national identity.

I look forward to continuing to work with stakeholders from across the arts industry to foster meaningful creative partnerships between Australia and the United States of America, and wish you the very best for these events.

Thank you for taking the time to write to me on this matter.

Yours sincerely


TONY BURKE

15/12/2023