## **Stuart Ayres**

Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney

## **Don Harwin**Minister for the Arts

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## LIGHTS ON FOR HAMILTON IN SYDNEY

Sydney will tonight become the only place in the world where audiences can see one of the most successful musicals of our time. *Hamilton*.

Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney Stuart Ayres said it was a huge moment for the Harbour City.

"Tonight, the Sydney Lyric Theatre will raise the curtain on the Australian premiere of *Hamilton* – the most talked about Broadway show in the world.

"The NSW Government secured this highly coveted musical for Sydney nearly two years ago and with the hard work of our authorities and the cooperation of the NSW community, Sydney is the only place in the world to see this global sensation right now.

"Sydney is world-renowned for celebrating innovation, diversity, inclusion, and creativity, which aligns perfectly with the powerful themes of Hamilton and the extraordinary effort required to keep this production moving forward for the cast, crew and tens of thousands of fans.

"Hosting the Australian premiere of *Hamilton* reinforces our goal of positioning Sydney and NSW as the premier events destination of the Asia Pacific, and we are so thrilled to be welcoming audiences to see this incredible musical," Mr Ayres said.

Minister for the Arts Don Harwin said so many people had been eagerly awaiting this moment.

"This will be the first time *Hamilton* has been staged outside the United States and London's West End – a reminder of just how significant this is for Sydney.

"With so many accolades already under its belt – including 11 Tony Awards, a Grammy Award and a Pulitzer Prize – and so much excitement from avid fans, we know *Hamilton*'s Australian premiere will be a raging success," Mr Harwin said.

Hamilton's original US producer Jeffrey Seller – in Sydney for the premiere – said he was thrilled that the Harbour City could return the show to the public sphere.

"This is a momentous occasion, and one made all the more significant by the fact that this is the only production of *Hamilton* to be playing in the world right now. Sydney has become a beacon of hope for the rest of theatre community and I'm immensely proud of this opportunity.

"I'd like to thank the Premier and the NSW Government for providing that guiding light and enabling this incredibly talented company to tell this story, at the Lyric Theatre in Sydney from tonight." Mr Seller said.

Tickets are available at www.hamiltonthemusical.com.au.

Footage of bump in to Sydney Lyric Theatre, the *Hamilton* sizzle reel including celebrity endorsement and award ceremony footage, and production footage from overseas is available at:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/xqbii7qqgwqjw6g/AAAf8wmXdf-9G7WfD\_y1bJcYa?dl=0

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