Media Release

Gary Higgins
Minister for Arts and Museums

NT Song of the Year 2016 revealed

9 July 2016

The annual NT Song of the Year title was awarded on Saturday night at the Museum and Art Gallery of the NT to “Salt” by Dave Crowe aka Resin Moon by a panel of industry judges.

12 songs in total were recognised with awards on the night and the songwriters came from all corners of the NT including remote communities.

Minister for Arts and Museums Gary Higgins presented the TourismNT Territory Song Award on behalf of Chief Minister to “Next Time” by Joshua Tarca aka Ben Evolent.

‘I am very heartened by the marked growth in the number of entrants in the competition, from 300 last year to 450 this year,’ said Minister Higgins.

‘For the past five years, MusicNT and its various sponsors have been celebrating music in the NT with the NT Song of the Year Awards. Not only is it an opportunity to recognise and applaud the wealth of music being made, but the awards are a particular celebration of local song writing across a wide range of genres, representative of a diverse industry.’

‘The artists are given a platform to have their music reach a broader audience and as a result, past winners have gone on to secure national radio play, international song writing opportunities and extended tour options.’

In 2016, a record breaking 450 entries were submitted for consideration, and it became the task of a judging panel of over 50 industry figures from around the country to whittle those down to 40.

From folk to metal, through to hip hop and electronic music there really was something for everyone.

Music NT receive through the NT Arts Grants Program in 2016:

- $210 000 plus GST per annum under a multiyear agreement (2016-2018) through the NT Arts Programs and Services category (funding to Leading arts organisations) to deliver identified contemporary music program and services. Funding purpose is to support the delivery of identified arts programs and services for the development of the NT contemporary music sector and presentation of NT music that contributes to the cultural, social and economic development of the NT.
- $175 000 plus GST in 2016 through the Strategic Initiatives category to deliver Indigenous outcomes including the management and presentation of the 2016 National Indigenous Music Awards;
- $10 000 in 2016 through the Community Festivals category to deliver the 2016 Bush Bands Bash.

In 2016, Music NT to date, will receive $395 000 plus GST through the NT Arts Grants Program.

The NT government is committed to recognising and celebrating our vibrant cultural identity. The government is also
investing in arts and cultural infrastructure to grow opportunity and participation across the Territory.