

Minister for Fair Trading
Minister for Citizenship
Minister Assisting the Premier on the Arts

Virginia Judge MP



1 October 2009

MINISTER SUPPORTS FUNDRAISER FOR CAMBODIAN ORPHANS

Minister for Citizenship, Virginia Judge will launch a fundraising concert tonight at the Sydney Opera House in support of the Sunrise Children's Villages Cambodian orphanages.

Ms Judge said the event would feature special performances by David Campbell, Kasey Chambers, Beccy Cole, Jane Rutter and a selection of traditional dance routines by 30 Cambodian orphans

"I am thrilled to be supporting this unique event on behalf of the New South Wales Government," she said.

"I commend all those responsible for organising this event including the Australia Cambodia Foundation and the Sunrise Children's Villages.

"It is a privilege to join a group of Australians who have made such a moving commitment to support Cambodia's orphan children.

"The love and care, shelter and medical attention, education and moral support that is so generously given at the Sunrise Children's Villages is truly inspiring."

Ms Judge said the Cambodian orphans will be performing on stage tonight for the first time.

"The dance routines will give these children an opportunity to share their stories and show the beauty and grace of Cambodia," she said.

"I must express my deep admiration for Geraldine Cox, the President of the Sunrise Children's Villages, who runs two orphanages caring for hundreds of children and preparing them for a better adult life.

"I wish the Australia Cambodia Foundation great success with its plans to open a third orphanage next year in South East Cambodia, which will specifically care for HIV-AIDS affected children."

Ms Judge said tonight's fundraiser will also include a photo auction to raise much-needed funds for the orphanages.

"Acclaimed Czech photographer Irena Moore has taken a series of beautiful images of the Sunrise Children which she will be auctioning off tonight," she said.

"I hope that this event raises plenty of money and I urge all Australians to dig deep and help support the Australia Cambodia Foundation and the Sunrise Children's Villages."

Media contact: Georgie Klug

9228 5900/0427 066 616