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## AUSSIE MUSIC LEGEND, PETER GARRETT ANNOUNCED AS PATRON OF BOOST MOBILE ROCK THE SCHOOLS

Wednesday 29 April: Former Midnight Oil front man and Federal Minister for the Arts, Peter Garrett, will draw on his knowledge and experience to inspire Australia's youth as the official Patron of Australia's largest FREE national school tour Boost Mobile Rock the Schools.

Since 2006 Boost Mobile Rock the Schools has provided an invaluable music experience to over 130,000 students around the country at over 170 schools and has acted as a career springboard for up and coming Australian bands such as; ARIA Award winning Operator Please and Van She. The 2009 tour kicks off in Melbourne on 4 May.

Following a visit to one of the participating schools on the 2008 tour at Randwick Girls High, Peter saw first-hand that Boost Mobile Rock the Schools was a fantastic initiative and insight for students to see the different facets of the music industry and possible career paths they could pursue.

"Rock the Schools is exciting, loud and a great training ground not only for up and coming artists but also all those integral support roles that are so important to be successful in the rock industry- sound, lighting, management and the like. It is my great pleasure to be supporting a program that nurtures, inspires and educates young people about the diversity of opportunities within the music industry" said Peter Garrett, Federal Minister for the Arts

With a thirteen-album career with Midnight Oil culminating in the ARIA lifetime achievement award in 2006, Peter knows and understands the music industry intimately and he was the obvious choice for Boost Mobile Rock the Schools.

Peter's first official engagement as Patron will be at the media launch of the tour scheduled for Wednesday 6 May at Brunswick Secondary College in Melbourne.

Nikki Smith, General Manager of School Tours Australia, organisers of the Rock the Schools tour said "We are proud to have Peter Garrett become Patron of our tour. Being such an icon within the Australian music



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industry both our bands and students can really benefit from his association with the tour. We are looking forward to working with Peter and having him as our Patron. "

Travelling to 70 secondary schools across Australia, Rock the Schools will conduct one day workshops with industry experts providing insight, advice and education on the music business. At each school there will be a 'rock concert' performance by an up and coming Australian band – for some students this may be their first ever live music experience. The young and emerging Australian acts on tour for 2009 are The Take, Claire Clarke and Stone Parade all who have just released new material around the country.

The 15 week tour will kick off in Melbourne on Monday 4 May and then continue through VIC, ACT, NSW, QLD and finish in WA on 14 August.

For further information and full touring schedule for 2009 please visit;

[www.rocktheschools.com.au](http://www.rocktheschools.com.au)

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