



# Theatre orchestra members commence push for improved base call rates

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The recent Theatre Orchestra Musicians Association (TOMA) industry survey highlighted the stagnation of base call rates for musicians working in theatre orchestras. These rates have not kept pace with cost of living increases and represent a devaluation of professional musicians performing on these productions.

The recent TOMA survey confirms our members concerns, that theatre orchestra base call rates need to be better aligned to major orchestras and include annual increases that reflect a living wage.

The current rate of \$165 has been offered by theatre producers as the industry standard rate for a number of years now.

TOMA members are organised and fighting back.

Members working in theatre orchestras have organised collectively to increase base call rates on local productions. The recent success has increased the base call rate to \$175 on TML Enterprises "Fiddler on the Roof" and Disney's "Aladdin".

The increase is welcomed by our members but more work needs to be done to establish registered collective agreements for theatre orchestras.

TOMA will continue to campaign for:

- Base call rates on par with orchestras,
- Annual base call rate increases,
- Maintain penalty rates,
- Improved acoustics, reduced noise levels and sound pressure control in orchestra pits,
- Orchestra numbers,
- Better flexible arrangements for depping and paying deputies to observe the show,
- Improved instrument doubling rate,
- Indexing instrument upkeep allowance.

[Join TOMA's campaign today](#) and be part of the movement that is delivering better pay and conditions for musicians.

Authorised by Mal Tulloch, director Entertainment, Crew & Sport

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