

# The Kennedy Foundation

Compassion in confidence

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Kennedy Foundation elects a new chairman**

*Monday 18 November 2019*

The Kennedy Foundation is honoured to announce that respected independent Sydney artist Rocco Fazzari has been unanimously elected as its new chairman, replacing Simon Dulhunty after four years at the helm.

Mr Fazzari, who has had a long and productive career as a professional artist and whose cartoons and illustrations appeared in the former Fairfax press for 28 years, has been a tireless worker and advocate for the Kennedy Foundation before and after he joined the board in 2016.

He has also been a long-serving judge of the prestigious Vince O'Farrell Award for Outstanding Illustration or Cartoon at the annual NRMA Kennedy Awards for Excellence in Journalism.

Mr Fazzari succeeds Mr Dulhunty who was unanimously elected the third chairman in 2016 after serving two years on the board, helping in that time promote the work of the Kennedy Foundation, a registered charity to support media professionals in hardship, and to promote valuable partnerships with business and philanthropic organisations.

Mr Dulhunty was an inaugural trustee of the foundation and, as a former editor of Les Kennedy at The Sun-Herald, played a unique role in helping to build the charity and the national awards named in tribute to one of the greats of newspaper reporting.

While Mr Dulhunty has stepped down as chairman and a trustee of the Kennedy Foundation due to increasing work commitments, he has pledged to continue his support for the board, the foundation and the Kennedy Awards as a senior judge.

"My heart will be with the Kennedy Foundation as long as it exists – which will be a very long time," Mr Dulhunty said.

Mr Fazzari said he was honoured to be elected and thanked his predecessor for his loyal and productive service as chairman of the foundation, established as a fledgling charity back in 2013.

The Kennedy Foundation this week also elected Kennedy Foundation trustee and senior Sydney journalist and Communications Manager, Mr Michael Duffy, as deputy chairman of the foundation, further helping to consolidate the strong representation of media professionals on the board.

\*The 2020 NRMA Kennedy Awards for Excellence in Journalism, the ninth year of the awards, will be held on Friday, August 7 at the Australian Turf Club's Grand Ballroom, Royal Randwick.

### **About Rocco Fazzari**

Mr Fazzari is an independent artist and graduate of the South Australian School of Art.

He has had a long and productive career as a professional artist and his cartoon and illustrative work appeared in the Fairfax press for 28 years, regularly featuring in the Sydney Morning Herald.

As a painter he has regularly exhibited over the past 15 years and is currently represented by Maunsell Wickes Gallery. Represented in public and private collections, Mr numerous art and media awards, including the 2013 Kennedy Award for Outstanding Illustration and Cartoon.

A pioneer in digital art, Mr Fazzari feels as comfortable drawing on paper as he does on his smartphone or iPad with his work appearing in Rolling Stone magazine, American Sports Illustrated among others while regularly leading drawing workshops at the Art Gallery of NSW.

He is also a producer of short form video and animator.

Along with many others Mr Fazzari has created and collaborated on works for the ABC, the Greater Sydney Commission, News Ltd, the Law Society of NSW, UTS and UNSW.

In 2017 he was awarded a grant by the Pulitzer Foundation to create a 3-minute animated video for the Washington based International Consortium of Investigative Journalists.

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