

**OUR COMMUNITY  
OUR FOCUS**

*West Australian Symphony Orchestra respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Custodians and Elders of Country throughout Western Australia, and the Whadjuk Noongar people on whose lands we work and share music.*

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# WELCOME



We all want to live in an inclusive and thriving community with music at its heart.

West Australian Symphony Orchestra has provided the soundtrack to life in WA since 1928. From concert halls to classrooms, hospitals to aged care, we bring joy, inspire learning, and nurture participation in our community, because live music should be a birthright, not a privilege.

Unfortunately, too many children in Western Australia will finish primary school without ever having access to music lessons. Outer-metro, regional and remote areas do not have the opportunities to experience live performance in ways that so many can in Perth.

Live music makes us happy, evokes deep memories and brings people together. Participating in high-quality music education improves cognitive development and enhances general learning. As an artist and music educator I have seen first-hand the positive outcomes, and as the benefits off the stage and outside the classroom increasingly attract the attention of Government, opportunities to improve and grow are there for the taking.

Our vision is to enrich lives through music and we're nurturing programs, people and professional pathways to create more music experiences, because we know it has the power to strengthen our community.

All of the work we do in our community champions the right of all West Australians to access and engage with extraordinary music, regardless of cultural background, geographical location, ability, mobility or economic circumstance. This requires the enthusiasm and support of Government, businesses, foundations and individuals.

Thank you for your support.

**Sara Macliver**  
Board Director, Artist & Educator



# FIRST NATIONS FIRST

*“I was not taught the history of widespread and systematic massacres of Aboriginal peoples or the frontier wars when I attended primary, high school or university. When I became aware of massacres on Noongar Boodjar I was saddened, angry and confused, and it is hard not having these events recognised publicly in the same way we remember many other war engagements as a nation.*

*This difficult fact is always going to elicit disbelief, anger, deep sorrow and loss. However, classical music – respected as a traditional culture of its own – has the power to transform barriers where other forms can’t.”*  
– Barbara Hostalek, First Nations playwright and reviewer, on *Eumeralla*, a war requiem for peace for Seesaw Magazine.

## STRATEGIC ALIGNMENTS

NATIONAL PERFORMING ARTS PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORK

Addressing Diversity

NATIONAL CULTURAL POLICY

First Nations First

# RELATIONSHIPS. RESPECT. OPPORTUNITY. RECONCILIATION.

Every year, in the centre of Boorloo (Perth) and across WA, from Kwinana to Karijini, we are privileged to share music on Country with exceptional First Nations artists and Elders.

WASO has made an organisation-wide commitment to advance reconciliation with our inaugural 'Reflect' Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) endorsed by Reconciliation Australia. While we have for decades worked in collaboration with local Noongar and First Nations artists to present music and stories on the mainstage, the RAP program allows us to connect more deeply; engaging

our workplace structure and harnessing the power of individuals working together to create an impact bigger than any one story or concert.

Increasing our understanding of cultures and histories, stories and songs is fundamental to building respectful relationships with those in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. It is through these relationships based on listening, learning and collaborating that we can offer music that truly reflects our shared history and promotes healing.

*"This enables the West Australian Symphony Orchestra to deepen its understanding of its sphere of influence and the unique contribution it can make to lead progress across the five dimensions of reconciliation: race relations; equality and equity; institutional integrity; unity; and historical acceptance... Congratulations West Australian Symphony Orchestra" – Karen Mundine, CEO Reconciliation Australia.*

First Nations Creative Collaborations are supported by the Bendat Family Foundation.

## OUTCOME HIGHLIGHTS

REFLECT  
RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN

5% First Nations artists featured in annual programs



**LOCAL IMPACT**  
It's important that it's happening here



**CULTURAL CONTRIBUTION**  
It provides an important addition to the cultural life of the area



**ACCESS**  
It gave me the opportunity to access cultural activities





# ENRICHING COMMUNITY

*“We’ve attended WASO Connect events before and they are the best events organised for people with disabilities that I know of. It’s wonderful and a fantastic example for other organisations.” – Disability Support Worker on WASO’s Connect program*

## STRATEGIC ALIGNMENTS

NATIONAL PERFORMING ARTS  
PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORK

Improve Access and  
Participation

NATIONAL CULTURAL POLICY

A Place for Every Story  
/ Reaching the audience

Liam O’Malley, WASO Trombone with Connect patron

# EVERYONE DESERVES THE JOY OF LIVE MUSIC

Music is universal, and WASO is committed to providing everyone the opportunity to relish the joy that it brings.

In hospitals and aged care, bespoke performances and programs bring the healing power of music across Western Australia to those who may not be able to access a live orchestral performance in a concert hall setting.

Our Hospital Orchestra Project (HOP) sees WASO work with the School of Special Education Needs: Medical and Mental Health (SSEN:MMH) at Perth Children's Hospital to enable children and adolescents in hospital to benefit from the power of music. Our musicians present a range of performances and participatory music events, visit classrooms and wards, and inspire patients with emotionally supportive experiences and sounds.

WASO's Connect program brings equally tailored programming to Perth Concert Hall, engaging adults living with disabilities through chamber concerts and bespoke rehearsal viewings. These unique experiences for people living with a disability and their carers also include opportunities to meet the WASO musicians, creating memories and bringing joy in an intimate and considered setting.

On the road, WASO delivers small ensemble performances to nursing homes and aged care settings as part of Music For The Ages. In between sharing stories about life working in an orchestra, the musicians discuss the music and perform excerpts creating curated experiences that for many listeners, transport them back to moments of their youth, times of joy with family and friends, or spark memories that may be faded by age.

*"My grandad passed away in May of this year and my grandma has dementia and is unable to form short term memories. The morning after the performance and celebrations, my mum went to visit her. She does not recall the morning tea or the family being there but she said to my mum "I think I saw music yesterday, it was beautiful. Fred would have loved it."*

*"This is the first short term memory she has created in quite some time! Over the days that followed she also got her photo albums out with mum and looked over the travels that she and Grandad shared. There were lots of tears, both happy and sad, but I think she actually grieved, something she had not really done either because of the dementia or because she was not ready (we will never know). In any case, the music broke through her dementia and reached her."*

*"The gift you and the quartet gave my family of creating a new memory for my grandma is something my family and I will forever be grateful for. Music truly is incredible."* – Deanna, granddaughter of Music For The Ages attendee, Margaret.


Across outer metropolitan Perth and around the state, WASO Community Ensembles perform to over 5,000 people annually, bringing orchestral music to the regions, the city and everywhere in between, fostering a sense of connectedness to community through music.

Giving people an opportunity to participate in music-making is another way WASO brings people together through live performance.

The Rusty Orchestra provides an annual opportunity for community musicians from all over Western Australia to sit alongside WASO musicians on the mainstage for a performance of classical repertoire. This community side-by-side celebrates 10 years in 2023, continuing to provide music-lovers and players with WASO mentoring and performance experience. Previous participants have joined the program from as far as Albany and Geraldton, truly connecting WA's music community.

## OUTCOME HIGHLIGHTS

 **5,000**  
community program participants in outer-metro and regional areas per annum

**98%** satisfaction level of participants in community programs 

Net Promoter Score **87**  
(Community Ensembles)

**87%** agree  
**RIGOUR**  
It was well thought through and put together

**88%** agree  
**LOCAL IMPACT**  
It's important that it's happening here



Music for the Ages performance



HOP Christmas Concert at Perth Children's Hospital



The Rusty Orchestra rehearsal



HOP ward visit with Rob Gladstones, WASO Horn

# CRESCENDO: MUSIC EDUCATION CASE STUDY

Play-based learning programs for young children, such as WASO's flagship music education program, Crescendo, provide a strong basis for future success at school. Students engaging with and playing music have improved school attendance, accelerated learning, and more confidence to face challenges and create solutions.

Since its pilot in 2014, participating students in the Crescendo program have demonstrated they are generally happier young people who are more connected with their community. And, happier young people grow up to be more resilient adults with brighter futures.

*"The Crescendo program engages all students. The use of voice initially, immediately captures the child's innate desire to express themselves, whilst the use of melody, rhythm, story-telling using rhymes and books, movement activities and the use of musical instruments ensures all students will be engaged with the program. The development of the students' creative capacities through a structured and highly organised learning experience is extremely beneficial to the development of the whole child and it complements academic and creative programs in operation within the school.*

*The program has value on its own merits as a highly motivational and valuable learning experience, but further*

*to this, there is considerable evidence that programs such as Crescendo demonstrate a high level of transference of skills to learning areas such as Literacy, Numeracy and social development, which are our core responsibilities in a primary school setting. The learning experiences involve the students in narrative exercises, memory development, word and sound recognition, meaningful repetition, scales and independent and team-oriented activities. These experiences are highly relevant to the core learning areas of the school curriculum. Studies completed by Doctor Anita Collins, a noted academic in the area of neuro-musical education, confirm the empirical and anecdotal evidence regarding the power of music to enhance learning." – Peter Elsegood, Principal, North Parmelia Primary School*

## OUTCOME HIGHLIGHTS

90%  
classroom  
happiness score



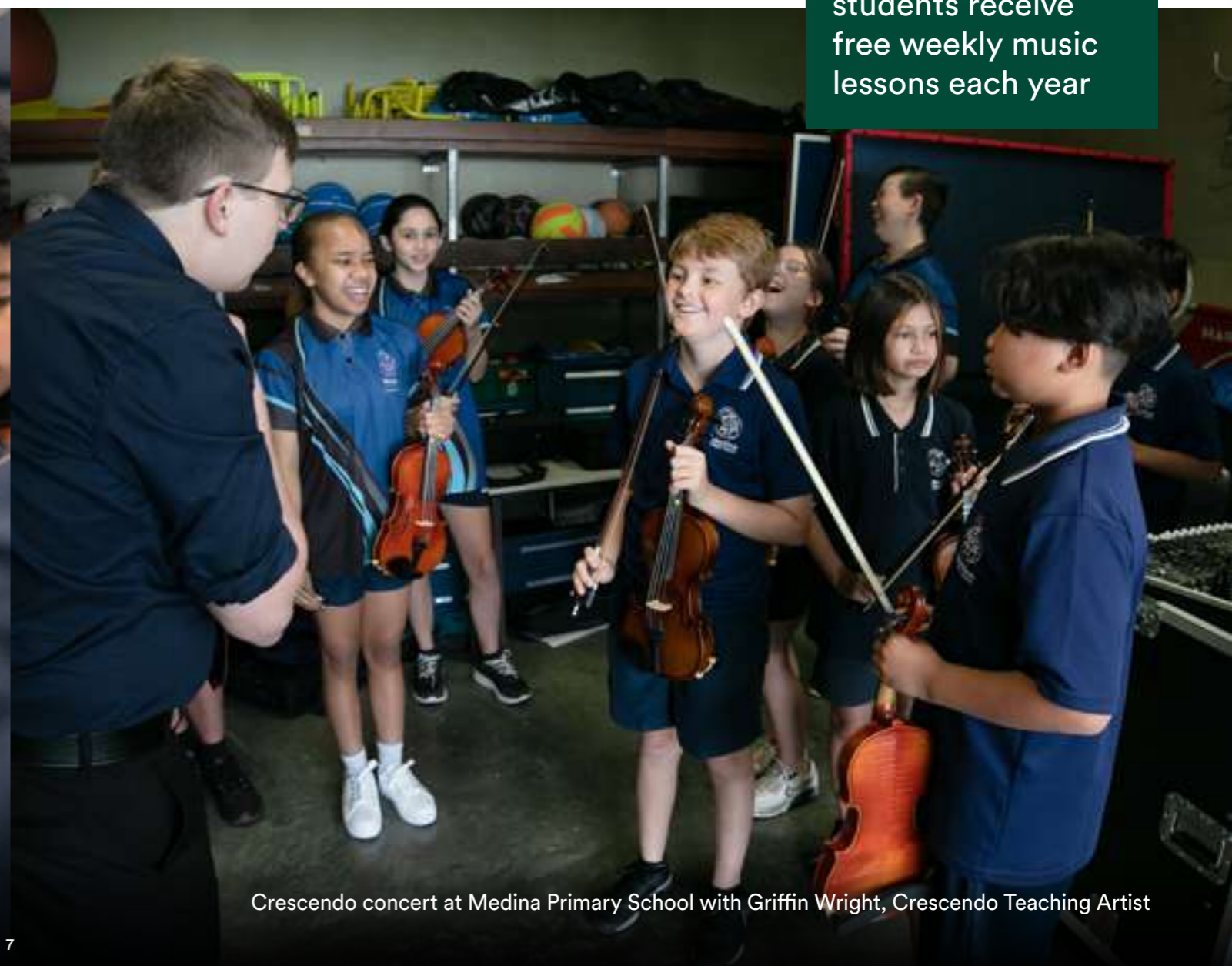
96% supporting  
student needs

17,000+  
teaching hours of  
music education  
per annum

450+  
students receive  
free weekly music  
lessons each year



Crescendo students



Crescendo concert at Medina Primary School with Griffin Wright, Crescendo Teaching Artist



# ENGAGING LEARNING

*“The biggest impact I have seen has been on the students. It really is the development of their confidence... The music lessons are very scaffolded and supported, the kids are happy to take a risk with their learning and if they make a mistake it is not a big deal in the WASO classroom... that confidence has transferred over into other learning areas.” – Karen Davey, Principal, Medina Primary School*

## STRATEGIC ALIGNMENTS

NATIONAL PERFORMING ARTS PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORK

Deliver Arts Education in WA

NATIONAL CULTURAL POLICY

Strong Institutions



# THE MUSIC STARTS HERE

All young West Australians should have the opportunity to engage with cultural life in the town that they live. With these opportunities they can reach their full potential; become more resilient, and better connect with their community and our national identity.

Over the last decade, West Australian Symphony Orchestra has built and nurtured one of the most significant education programs of any Australian orchestra alongside our year-round mainstage program. The work that we do on the mainstage, with Crescendo in Kwinana and across our community, changes lives.

Our connections with schools and students open up opportunities for the State Orchestra to enrich the West Australian music curriculum from Kindergarten to Year 12.

We support teachers with the music syllabus through our in-school Education Chamber Orchestra visits, free WASO in Schools ensembles and bring the classroom to the concert hall for our mainstage concerts, while providing detailed education resources to enliven the learning process.

Education Support Centres and Education Support Schools are also invited to bring the joy of live music into the comfort of their school environment, as WASO tailors our presentations for students living with a disability. Here, our Harmony Music program enables small ensembles to perform informal classroom concerts and introduce students to the instruments of the orchestra with popular music. The concert is often accompanied by a book reading, with the whole experience allowing both students and carers respite through arts curriculum learning.

*“The performance was just wonderful. It was at their level, interactive, and gave them the opportunity to experience live orchestral music. Just wonderful in every way.”* – Education Support Staff member

These initiatives make music more accessible for schools across WA and broadens each students’ musical experiences.

As students begin their journey to tertiary study we enhance both general and ATAR music education in Years 11 and 12, delivering concerts and workshops to provide real value and relevance for their study.

Supporting teachers through music education is key and introducing students to music education unlocks the spark; as we connect and engage with students across the state, on stage and online.

## OUTCOME HIGHLIGHTS

**7,000+**  
students engage with WASO education activities each year

**1,000+** ★  
Education Support students each year

Enthusiasm **98%**



**ACCESS**  
It gave me the opportunity to access cultural activities



**LOCAL IMPACT**  
It's important that it's happening here



Kathryn Lee, WASO Violin leading our Education Chamber Orchestra at Mosman Park Primary School



Harmony Music Performance at Armadale ESC



WASO String Quartet performance at Mercy College



# ARTIST DEVELOPMENT

*"I feel I have been on a really huge learning curve and this is a really exciting new chapter in my development."* – Jen Winley, WASO Assistant Conductor

## STRATEGIC ALIGNMENTS

NATIONAL PERFORMING ARTS PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORK

Build sector capacity

NATIONAL CULTURAL POLICY

The centrality of the artist

Jen Winley conducting John Williams: 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Bonanza

# CELEBRATING THE CREATORS OF CULTURE

While delivering world-class performances, WASO works to develop and empower the next generation of musicians, conductors and composers. Assisting them in finding their professional pathways in Australia and beyond, we are striving to secure a bright future for music.

Industry-leading partnerships with the Australian National Academy of Music (ANAM), the Western Australian Youth Orchestra (WAYO) and UWA Conservatorium of Music enable WASO to mentor young talent across the country through in-depth development programs and side-by-side performances on the mainstage.

On the podium throughout each year, WASO's Emerging Conductors program, Assistant Conductor position and participation in the Australian Conducting Academy see aspiring conductors learn from experienced orchestral leaders, whilst working with WASO and the other major Australian orchestras.

2017 Assistant Conductor, Elena Schwarz, exemplifies the quality of graduates WASO has seen from our conducting programs, going on to a role as Associate Conductor of the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra and securing a position as Dudamel Fellow with the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra for their 2018-19 season.

Composition Project nurtures emerging West Australian composers, providing them with the opportunity to develop their skills in a professional environment through lessons, workshops and rehearsals. Participants compose works for a chamber ensemble, cumulating in world premiere performances on the Perth Concert Hall stage.

Graduates from the program have gone on to gain placements in national and international composition programs and attain professional commissions and residencies, with 2022 Composition Project winner Victor Arul securing one of only two places annually to study a PhD in composition at Harvard University.

WASO's Composer in Residence provides a local composer with long-term support to create new works for both small ensembles and full symphony orchestra. Previous Composers in Residence include James Ledger, now lecturer in composition at UWA's Conservatorium of Music, and Iain Grandage, now Artistic Director of Perth Festival, amongst others. Olivia Davies commenced as Composer in Residence in 2022 for a three year term, having already composed two works for the mainstage. Davies' first work for WASO, *Stratus* was awarded Large Ensemble Work of the Year at the 2022 Art Music Awards.

*"Stratus is a significant work for me, given that it was my first professional commission with WASO. A big thank you to the musicians, to Asher Fisch and the extended WASO family. To Prue Ashurst especially – this piece simply wouldn't exist without her support." – Olivia Davies on winning her 2022 Art Music Award*

Assistant Conductor and Emerging Conductors Program is supported by the Simon Lee Foundation. Olivia Davies is supported by Prue Ashurst.

## OUTCOME HIGHLIGHTS

50+ Mainstage performances of Australian works commissioned each year 

93% participant experience score

150+ amateur musicians perform side by side on the mainstage with WASO each year

90% agree LOCAL IMPACT It's important that it's happening here

87% agree CULTURAL CONTRIBUTION It provides an important addition to the cultural life of the area



Moses Kington-Walberg, Composition Project participant with John Keene, WASO Double Bass



Olivia Davies at the 2022 APRA AMCOS Art Music Awards



WASO & WAYO side-by-side in Dreams of Place

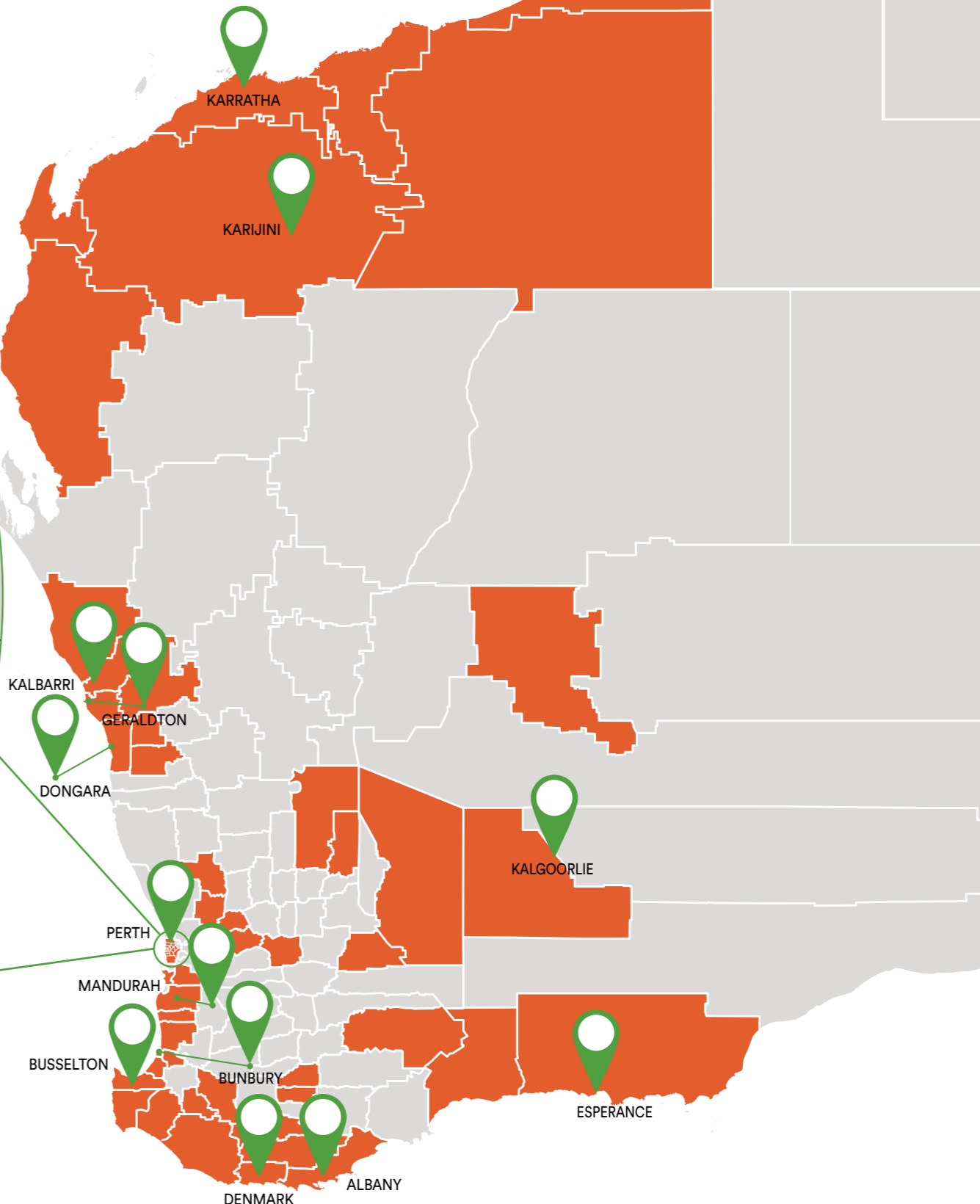
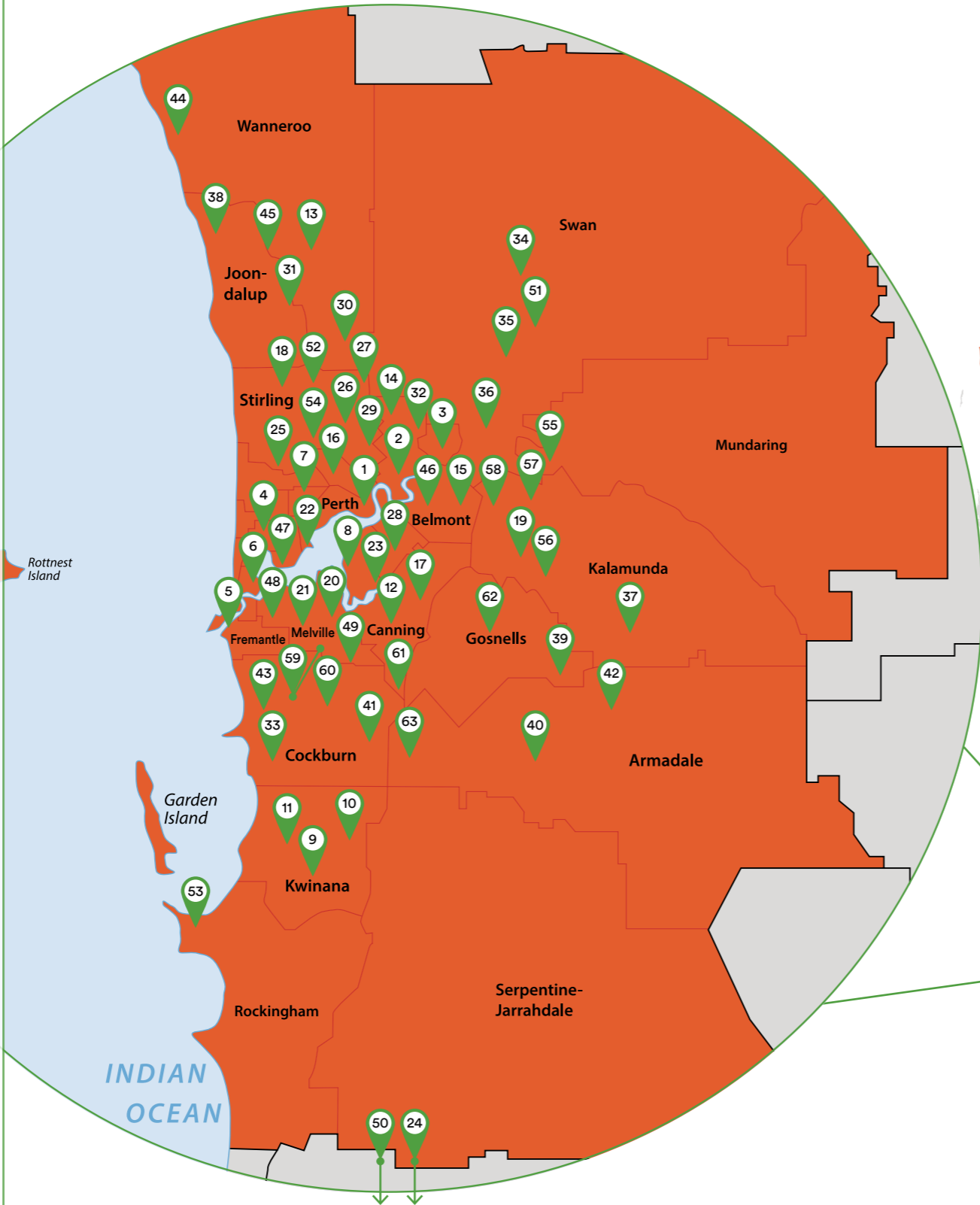
# SOUNDTRACK TO WA

WASO provides the soundtrack to life by creating, curating and presenting high quality musical and entertainment experiences for the enjoyment of all West Australians.

 = AUDIENCES  
 = ACTIVITIES

## SUBURB KEY

- 1 Perth
- 2 Bayswater / Ascot
- 3 Bassendean
- 4 Claremont
- 5 Fremantle (North, East & Central)
- 6 Mosman Park
- 7 Subiaco
- 8 South Perth
- 9 Kwinana
- 10 Parmelia
- 11 Medina
- 12 Canning Vale
- 13 Marangaroo / Koondoola
- 14 Morley
- 15 Redcliffe
- 16 Leederville / West Leederville
- 17 Willetton
- 18 Carine
- 19 Forrestfield
- 20 Melville
- 21 Winthrop
- 22 Crawley
- 23 Como / Kensington
- 24 Dawesville
- 25 Wembley Downs / Churchlands
- 26 Yokine / Tuart Hill
- 27 Mirrabooka
- 28 Victoria Park / Carlisle
- 29 Menora / Mt Lawley
- 30 Madeley
- 31 Kingsley
- 32 Noranda
- 33 Spearwood
- 34 Bullsbrook
- 35 Ellenbrook
- 36 Beechboro
- 37 Kalamunda
- 38 Kallaroo
- 39 Huntingdale
- 40 Armadale
- 41 South Lake
- 42 Kelmscott
- 43 Hamilton Hill / Coolbellup
- 44 Quinns Rocks
- 45 Woodvale
- 46 Rivervale / Wilson
- 47 Nedlands
- 48 Palmyra
- 49 Leeming / Bull Creek
- 50 Mandurah
- 51 Aveyley
- 52 Balcatta
- 53 Rockingham
- 54 Innaloo / Woodlands
- 55 Helena Valley
- 56 Lesmurdie
- 57 Darlington
- 58 High Wycombe
- 59 Murdoch
- 60 Hilton
- 61 Thornlie
- 62 Gosnells
- 63 Treeby



# MUSIC FOR EVERY MOMENT

Our impact story is made possible with the support and enthusiasm of our entire community. If you would like to know more about the work we do to enrich lives through music, please contact:

**Alena Tompkins | Executive Manager, Community Engagement**  
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# THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

We gratefully acknowledge the support of our Corporate and Philanthropic communities, who partner with us to deliver these transformative Community Engagement and Education programs.

## CORPORATE PARTNERS

### PRINCIPAL PARTNER



### LEAD PARTNERS



### GOVERNMENT PARTNERS



Government of Western Australia, Department of Education - Instrumental Music School Services

### MAJOR PARTNERS



### SUPPORTING PARTNERS



## TRUSTS & FOUNDATIONS

### CRESCENDO

### ASSISTANT CONDUCTOR / EMERGING CONDUCTORS PROGRAM

### FIRST NATIONS CREATIVE COLLABORATIONS / COMPOSITION PROJECT



STAN PERRON CHARITABLE FOUNDATION



## ANNUAL GIVING

### CRESCENDO

Jean Arkley	Sue Hovell	Dr Lance Risbey
Arron Arntzen	Rosalind Lilley	Tony Rudd
Ruth Bailey	Lommers Engineering Pty Ltd	Rosalin Sadler in memory of Joyce
David & Suzanne Biddles	Yuko Lucas	Durbin Sadler
Bunning Family	Marilyn Macey	Roger Sandercock
Adrienne & Phillip Buttrose	Louise & Bryant Macfie	Ruth Stratton
Prof Rachel & Rev Dr John Cardell-Oliver	Mrs Morrell	Clare Thompson & Dr Brad Power
S Cherian	G & I Nicholas	Reto Vogel
Brenda Cohen	The Sheena Prince Memorial Fund	Alan Whitham
Kaylene Cousins	Pamela Pitt	Mary Ann Wright
Megan & Arthur Criddle	Rosalind Potts	WA Massed Choir Festival
Gena Culley	The Sheena Prince Memorial Fund	Unnamed (7)
Pauline & Peter Handford	Eveline Read	

### EDUCATION & COMMUNITY

Bernard & Jackie Barnwell	Lee Delaney	Betty & Con Michael AO	Kathryn Stokes OAM
Shirley Barraclough	Judith Fagan	Helen Moorhead & Boyd	Ruth Stratton
Peter Bath	Neville & Jane Gibbs	Craig	Ruth Thomas in memory of
Davilia Bleckly	Dr J S Gladstones AO CitWA	Mr & Mrs Geoff Morris	Ken & Hazel Rowley
Margaret Bloch	Ella, Joni, Regina & Stephen	Jane & Jock Morrison	Ruth & Neville Thorn
Dr John Blott	Grainger	Sunny & Ann Lee	Loma Toohey
Archa Fox & Charlie Bond	Alan Harvey & Dr Paulien de	Marianne Nilsson	Mary Townsend
Ian & Marilyn Burton	Boer	Jim & Wendy O'Neill	James & Rosemary Trotter
R & R Cant	Barbie Henryon	Robyn Owens	Rita Wager
Prof Jonathan Carapetis &	Jim & Freda Irenic	John Paterson	Dr Simon & Alison Williams
Prof Sue Skull	Drs Paul & Janis Jansz	Charmian Phillips in memory	Sally Willis
Fred & Angela Chaney	Eleanor John & Finn Barrett	of Colin Craft	Margaret Wood
Dr Anne Chester	Michael & Josephine Jones	Wendy Powles	Jennifer Woods
Annette Cottee	Dr Ursula Kees	Jennifer Rankin	Michael Young
Penny & Ron Crittall	Abraham Langford	Kim & Annemarie	Chris & Kathy Ziatas
Natalie Cullity	Dr Oon Teik Lee	Riseborough	Unnamed (14)
Edwina Davies Ward in	Louise & Bryant Macfie	Hendrik Smit	
memory of Wanda G Davies	G & K McGregor	Ross & Laurel Smith	

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ENRICHING LIVES THROUGH MUSIC

[waso.com.au](http://waso.com.au)