

Thank You From Our Crescendo Violinists!

Late last year, so many of you generously responded to our call out for support with purchasing violins for the students in our free music education program, Crescendo, in Kwinana. Crescendo started as a vocal-based program in 2014, encouraging students to use their in-built instrument and help 'give them a voice', and the results we have seen since have been impressive and heart-warming. Crescendo is modelled on the international El Sistema program, which has a proven record of improving behaviour, numeracy, literacy, social skills and fine motor skills, as well as lowering truancy and youth violence in disadvantaged communities.

After three full years of program delivery, we are now excited to enter the second phase with the introduction of string instruments for the Year 4's at Medina Primary and North Parmelia Primary Schools. The violin program has now officially kicked off with your help through the purchase of the first **116** violins for our Crescendo students!



All current Year 4 students, and many Year 3's, have been working towards achieving their Violin Licence in their Crescendo music lessons by receiving 5 gold stars across a range of musical and behavioural learning areas. Our Crescendo Teaching Team are super proud of the students'

achievements, and look forward to working with instrumental teachers at the Department of Education Instrumental Music School Services (IMSS) to deliver this important next stage in our program.



Kalisha Podmore (yr3) and Griffin Wright (Crescendo Teaching Artist)

The first big batch of violins ranging in sizes from $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ were recently delivered to the WASO office, and in anticipation of this major step in our program, Cassandra Lake, our Executive, Manager, Community Engagement, consulted widely with musicians and other colleagues on the "right" violin for our participants. Graeme Norris, WASO's Principal 1st Violin, is a distributor when not playing in the Orchestra, and he worked with Cassandra to order our first shipment of instruments.

In sourcing violins for beginners, the goal is to balance easy playing, a nice sound, and great value for those starting out on the instrument. It can be a challenge to find the right balance in a student model instrument, and the Eurostring violins chosen by us come set up by a professional luthier, so students can learn all the correct playing habits from the beginning of their instrumental music journey.

Crescendo is delivered by WASO at no cost to these two schools in Kwinana, and provides weekly music lessons at school as well as the opportunity to enjoy WASO performances at Perth Concert Hall and at local venues in Kwinana. By 2020 all students across both schools will be involved in WASO's Crescendo program. This means that Crescendo is continually evolving, with new Pre-Primary students joining each year, and we therefore have a continuing need to purchase violins. If you would like to help with a \$150 donation towards the cost of a violin for a Crescendo student, please contact Emily Kennedy on **9326 0016** or kennedye@waso.com.au.

If you feel you would like to do more to make this long-term program sustainable, we invite you to sign up to our Crescendo Giving Circle with a gift of \$1,500 annually, which is approximately the cost of one student participating in the program per year. Each student participates in the program from Pre-Primary through to Year 6. Joining the amazing group of Patrons that is our Crescendo Giving Circle is as easy as calling Sarah Tompkin on **9326 0017** or getting in touch via tompkins@waso.com.au.

Crescendo is supported by Crown Resorts Foundation, Packer Family Foundation, The Stan Perron Charitable Foundation, Tianqi Lithium and the Crescendo Giving Circle.



Wesfarmers Arts
Principal Partner

Events for WASO Patrons & Friends



WASO Philanthropy is delighted to present to you our 2018 Calendar of Patrons & Friends Events! We invite you to join us at one of the many opportunities this year to peek behind the curtains and become involved in our wonderful community of WASO Patrons & Friends.

We have also produced a pocket calendar containing all the important event details in one handy package - if you have received this edition of *Encore* in the mail, the calendar will be included in the envelope. Otherwise we encourage you to pick one up from Perth Concert Hall soon!

Ticket sales for our Patrons & Friends events support the Friends of WASO Scholarship, which provides professional development opportunities for full-time WASO musicians.



WASO Soirée with Asher & Stuart

Tuesday 20 March | 6pm
The Orangery Gallery, Shenton Park

By invitation

An intimate evening hosted by WASO Board Member, Mark Coughlan, to celebrate our Orchestra's achievements and plans for the future, featuring a recital with Principal Conductor & Artistic Adviser, Asher Fisch, and visiting world-class tenor, Stuart Skelton.

Asher Fisch is supported by Wesfarmers Arts.

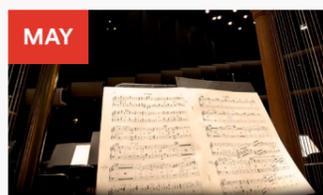


Celebrating 10 & 1 Years in Annual Giving

Wednesday 2 May | 6pm
Perth Concert Hall

For Annual Giving Patrons by invitation

An evening to celebrate those Patrons who have been a part of WASO's Annual Giving program for ten years, and those who joined us in 2017! Invitations to follow.



WASO Song Book Event

Monday 7 May
Holmes à Court Gallery at No. 10 West Perth

By invitation

A philanthropic event to celebrate and support new works with WASO. The event includes a tour of the Gallery's first exhibition *The Border Crossers*: Clyde McGill. Invitations to follow.



Patrons & Friends Annual General Meeting

Thursday 7 June | 5pm
Perth Concert Hall

PATRONS & FRIENDS EVENT

Judy Sienkiewicz Lecture: Emeritus Professor Alan Harvey 'Music & the Meeting of Minds'

Thursday 7 June | 6pm
Perth Concert Hall

For all Patrons, Friends & Bequestors

Join us for the annual Judy Sienkiewicz Lecture, this year hosted by Prue Ashurst and delivered by Emeritus Professor Alan Harvey (UWA) (pictured), who is widely regarded for his fascinating research on music and what it does to the human brain. Be astounded by the incredible links Professor Harvey draws between music and the mind, and the true importance of music in today's world.

Tickets are \$20 for Patrons & Friends (\$25 for guests) and include a glass of wine.

Please book via the WASO Box Office on 9326 0000.



Tristan und Isolde Rehearsal & Backstage Tour

Friday 10 August
Perth Concert Hall

For 'WASO & Wagner campaign' Patrons by invitation

A chance to peek behind the scenes of an historic production. Details to follow.

Tristan und Isolde Reception with The Richard Wagner Society of WA

Friday 17 August
Perth Concert Hall

For 'WASO & Wagner campaign' Patrons by invitation

The Richard Wagner Society of WA, supported by WASO Philanthropy, invites you to celebrate WASO's concert performance of *Tristan und Isolde* with them. Invitations to follow.

Tristan und Isolde Cast Party

Sunday 19 August | Post performance
Perth Concert Hall

For 'WASO & Wagner campaign' Patrons by invitation

Join us as we toast the incredible cast of *Tristan und Isolde* and celebrate a momentous achievement for WASO. Details to follow.



2019 WASO Season Preview

Wednesday 22 August | 6pm
Perth Concert Hall

For all Patrons & Bequestors

Be the first to know what the 2019 WASO Season holds and celebrate with your fellow WASO Patrons. Invitations to follow.



PATRONS & FRIENDS EVENT

WASO Chorus at the Cathedral

Tuesday 16 October | 6pm
St Mary's Cathedral

For all Patrons, Friends & Bequestors

In the stunning surrounds of St Mary's Cathedral, step into the world of the WASO Chorus and observe a rehearsal for *Three Masses: Haydn, Mozart & Schubert*. The evening will include a glass of wine and light refreshments as well as an invigorating introduction from Prue Ashurst.

Tickets are \$40 for Patrons & Friends (\$45 for guests) and include a glass of wine.

Please book via the WASO Box Office on 9326 0000.



WASO 90th Anniversary Dinner

Thursday 15 November | 6.30pm
Fraser's Restaurant, Kings Park

For all Patrons & Bequestors

Join us in celebrating WASO's 90th Anniversary year with a sumptuous evening at Fraser's, Kings Park. Be entertained by your WASO musicians through intimate performances and conversation throughout the evening. This will sell out, so book early to avoid disappointment!

Tickets are \$110 (early bird \$100 until 30 June 2018) and include a three course dinner and performances throughout the evening.

Please book via the WASO Box Office on 9326 0000.



PATRONS & FRIENDS EVENT

Patrons & Friends Christmas Party

Thursday 13 December | 4.30pm
Perth Concert Hall

For all Patrons, Friends & Bequestors

Finish off the year on a high with us as we listen to the final rehearsal for *Symphony in the City 2018* and enjoy a BBQ dinner on the Perth Concert Hall Terrace*.

Tickets are \$45 for Patrons & Friends (\$55 for guests).

Please book via the WASO Box Office on 9326 0000. *Weather permitting

Full Circle Philanthropy: A commission with a surprise!



Dr Ken Evans, Dr Glenda Campbell-Evans, Josh Davis and Paul Stanhope

On 17 November last year, many of you would have made their way to Perth Concert Hall for yet another night of symphonic delights, but one of you (a very special WASO Patron) was heading into the Hall not knowing what was in store that night.

On the night of WASO performing the world premiere of Paul Stanhope's brand new Trombone Concerto, Dr Glenda Campbell-Evans was looking forward to hearing WASO's Principal Trombone, Josh Davis, proving his virtuosity in this exciting new premiere. Glenda and her husband, Dr Ken Evans, have a keen interest in this particular instrument and purchased a new trombone for WASO's Instrument Fund a few years back. What she did *not* know, is that Ken had commissioned this new Trombone Concerto as a surprise for her on the occasion of a special birthday! So it was not until Executive Manager of Artistic Planning, Evan Kennea, and the composer Paul Stanhope himself entered the stage, and the spotlight suddenly turned on Ken and Glenda, that she realised what a huge surprise she was in for!

Glenda is a much loved Patron of our Orchestra, who is not only sitting on the Patrons & Friends Committee, but is also the face of our bequest program. Ken is also a wonderful supporter in his own right and thought it would be a marvellous idea to take their support of the trombone to the next level by commissioning a work especially written for the trombone, as they felt it was an instrument that rarely received the level of attention it deserves. Ken's conversations with the WASO Philanthropy team started in 2015, and the rest, as they say, is history.

The project was a full two years in the making, and the

Philanthropy team had a lot of fun keeping this very special surprise for Glenda secret! Luckily, Paul Stanhope and Josh Davis had the opportunity to work together on this commission very closely throughout the whole process - which is a rare luxury - and we were very happy to hear that Paul later commented that working with Josh, Asher Fisch and the WASO on this commission felt like 'a Rolls Royce experience'!

If you as the reader now wonder 'what next'... you are actually spot on! As a terrific after-note to this beautiful project, Ken and Glenda have recently notified us that they have decided to support an Orchestral Chair, namely the position of Principal Trombone that Josh is occupying, to further deepen their understanding of the instrument, learn more about the life of an orchestral musician and deepen their personal connection with the musician of their choice. A fantastic commitment that surely will see their involvement with the Orchestra grow further, and goes to show just how many different forms philanthropy at WASO can take!

On behalf of everyone at WASO, a big thank you to Ken and Glenda for their continued love of WASO, and for being such fun supporters to work with! We hope they will continue to enjoy the amazing composition that is their very own Trombone Concerto in the comfort of their home via recording and printed score.

If you are interested in learning more about supporting an Orchestral Chair or funding a new musical commission for the Orchestra, please get in touch with Sarah Tompkin on **9326 0017** or tompkins@waso.com.au.



Jacinta's Coffee Corner

Our new Philanthropy and Annual Giving Manager, Jacinta Sirr, has been enjoying settling into her role and invites you to have a coffee with her in 2018! She is enjoying getting to know all our wonderful Patrons and in our 90th Anniversary year would love the chance to say thank you in person and hear about your personal journey with WASO over the years. If you enjoy a cuppa and a chat, this is for you! Please call **9326 0014** or email sirrj@waso.com.au to book in a coffee catch up.

Thank you! Here are just a few examples of how your donations made a difference to the Orchestra in 2017. Your donations:

supported our highly acclaimed **Wagner & Beyond** mini festival in September



raised over **\$600,000** for the **Annual Giving** program

purchased a **cor anglais**, a **bass clarinet** & **four new trumpets** for the Orchestra



commissioned a **trombone concerto** as a surprise for a WASO Patron



enabled **4 world premieres** at Perth Concert Hall



supported our Principal Bassoon and Tutti Viola Chairs through **Orchestral Partnerships**



awarded the **Friends of WASO Scholarship** to Principal Trumpet, Brent Grapes



helped deliver our Crescendo Music Program in Kwinana through the Giving Circle and through purchasing **116 student-sized violins**

Celebrating 10-Year WASO Chorus members in the memory of Sagitte Yom-Tov



The WASO Chorus plays an integral role in WASO's artistic program and is comprised of hardworking and dedicated volunteers. In 2017 alone, the Chorus joined the Orchestra for four concerts at Perth Concert Hall and performed two of their own at St Mary's Cathedral! For this reason, every year we celebrate those

members who have spent an incredible ten years with the WASO Chorus.

This is made possible by Carmela and Zvi Yom-Tov, who in the memory of their late daughter, Sagitte - a dedicated member of the WASO Chorus - wish to recognise and support the long-term artistic commitment that is given by the Chorus.

On Tuesday 12 December 2017, Sagitte's parents presented certificates to the 2017 recipients before the final rehearsal for Symphony in the City 2017.

We congratulate the following Chorus members for their ongoing dedication: Deborah Pearson, Olga Ward, Sheila Price and Andrew Lynch. The evening was made particularly special by a contingent of potential new Choristers watching on as part of an Open Rehearsal and observing our choristers' commitment.

On the night, we also acknowledged all those Chorus members who had previously received ten-year certificates and asked those Choristers to stand. The sheer number of Choristers standing was overwhelming and a wonderful indication of the ongoing dedication and passion that exists in the WASO Chorus!

An Evening of Art with Janet Holmes à Court and Brent Grapes



Our first Patrons & Friends event for 2018, held on Monday 19 February, was a great success with 80 guests attending a special exhibition of the Janet Holmes à Court art collection and hearing from 2017 Friends of WASO Scholarship recipient and Principal Trumpet, Brent Grapes*.

WASO Chairman (at the time of writing) and Patron, Janet Holmes à Court, introduced the story of her art collection, some of which is now on display at Perth Concert Hall - what a fascinating story it is! Commencing in the 1960's, she and her late husband, Robert, purchased some paintings and over the years, 'bitten by the bug', Janet has built the collection to some 5,000 pieces.

Together with her Exhibitions Manager, Sharon Tassicker, Janet spoke of her special interest in aboriginal art, particularly the fine Batik works produced by the Utopian women in extraordinarily limited conditions. These pieces have been toured around the world and are currently displayed at Perth Concert Hall, alongside a collection of wonderful paintings by Peter Skipper. Janet generously shares her larger collection of works with many galleries and has made a significant contribution to the promotion of indigenous works far and wide.

Moving to the music side of the evening, Brent Grapes, who recently returned from his visit to the Juilliard School in New York where he previously spent two years studying, was interviewed by Janet Holmes à Court. Brent was thrilled to be

able to return to New York last year with the assistance of the Friends of WASO Scholarship, to meet with old friends and former professors (some of whom had written the text books he originally studied from at UWA) and engage in professional development opportunities. Brent also acknowledged the generous gift of four trumpets to WASO from two Patrons, John Albright and Susan Lorimer, and spoke about these different trumpets providing varying colour to the music.

Brent, accompanied on piano by Graeme Gilling, entertained the audience with John Williams' *With Malice toward None* from the film *Lincoln*. Following this, Brent demonstrated the Piccolo Trumpet by playing *Prelude to Te Deum* by Marc-Antoine Charpentier. Janet concluded the interview by sharing the story of Brent seeing WASO as a schoolboy and deciding then and there that he would play the trumpet. We are so lucky to have such a talented Perth musician now leading the WASO trumpet section.

The event was a marvellous cultural blend and concluded with guests enjoying a glass of wine and some snacks, beautifully created by Patrons & Friends Committee members, Chris Rtshiladze and Jennifer Gardiner. It was wonderful to see Patrons, Friends and WASO staff catching up with each other after a long summer break.

Article written by Barry Neubecker, WASO Patrons & Friends Committee Vice President.

*Principal Trumpet Chair, Brent Grapes, is partnered by NAB.

Arrivals and Departures

Thank You and Farewell to Jacek and Joan!

In December, we farewelled two long-serving and well-loved members of the Orchestra: Joan Wright and Jacek Slawomirski.

Jacek performed with WASO as a violinist for an incredible thirty-one years! Aside from this long-term commitment, he has had an extensive career working as a conductor, soloist and lecturer across Europe and throughout Australia.

Joan has also been with the Orchestra for an impressive tenure, spanning twenty-seven years. For almost all of these, Joan served as Associate Principal Double Bass, ensuring the right hand side of stage always sounded top notch. Joan shared her WASO life for many years with husband, Jim Mann, who was Principal Trombone for more than 30 years. Together they are known for their tandem bike riding skills, and in 2017 both participated in the Ride to Conquer Cancer raising over \$5,000 for The Harry Perkins Institute of Medical Research.

We thank both Jacek and Joan for their contribution over their extensive careers with WASO and wish them both long, healthy and happy retirements in the years ahead.



New Faces and New Positions

Towards the end of 2017 we congratulated Kate Sullivan as she moved from Tutti Violin to the position of Assistant Principal 2nd Violin. We also welcomed Kathryn Shinnick to the string ranks as a Tutti Violin.

Already in 2018 we have welcomed another two faces to the Orchestra: Lucas O'Brien as Tutti Violin and Zhiyu (Sandy) Xu as Associate Principal Oboe on a six-month contract.

We wish to congratulate all our newcomers and warmly welcome them to the WASO family. Keep an eye out for Kate, Kathryn, Lucas & Sandy at your next WASO concert!