

**MEDIA RELEASE**

10 April 2019

## Kim Beazley announced as WASO Patron

West Australian Symphony Orchestra is pleased to announce The Honourable Kim Beazley AC, Governor of Western Australia has accepted the invitation to become a patron of the orchestra.

WASO Chairman Richard Goyder said *“We are pleased that Mr Beazley has accepted our invitation to become a patron of our world class Orchestra. Mr Beazley is a great supporter of culture and the arts in Western Australia. He has demonstrated great advocacy of WASO in his role as Governor and we look forward to continuing this relationship.”*

*“WASO has grown from humble beginnings to a now highly respected orchestra in Australia and across the globe. Celebrating WASO’s 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary last year was a chance to reflect on its many achievements including its comprehensive community and engagement programs, outreach programs – both metropolitan and regional, international sister city relationships and its ongoing collaboration with West Australian Ballet, West Australian Opera, Perth Festival and many other local art organisations.*

*WASO is a major advantage for Western Australian citizens to have in our midst a genuinely world class orchestra.*

*We thank WASO for its unwavering commitment to making Western Australia a culturally richer State. I thank in particular the sponsors of the orchestra and its supporting public who sustain its first class musicians and leaders.”* – The Honourable Kim Beazley AC.

Born and raised in Western Australia, Mr. Beazley completed a Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts at the University of Western Australia. He has had a distinguished career nationally and internationally as Deputy Prime Minister from 1995 to 1996 and Leader of the Australian Labor Party and Leader of the Opposition from 1996 to 2001 and 2005 to 2006.

In 2009, Mr Beazley was awarded the Companion of the Order of Australia for service to the Parliament of Australia through contributions to the development of government policies in relation to defence and international relations, and as an advocate for Indigenous people, and to the community.

Prior to his return to Western Australia to take up the position of Governor, Mr. Beazley was Ambassador to the United States of America from 2010 to 2016 and on his return to Australia was appointed President of the Australian American Leadership Dialogue from 2016-2017 and Co-Chairman of the Australian American Leadership Dialogue from 2016 to 2018.

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