

MEDIA RELEASE
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WASO gives the gift of music to Crescendo Kids



The joy of music and pride achieved by mastering a musical instrument is something that should be accessible to all.

Inspired by the Venezuelan social action music program El Sistema, and now in its fourth year, West Australian Symphony Orchestra's Crescendo is a one of a kind program delivering free, ongoing musical education in schools.

Weekly music lessons are provided to all students from Pre-Primary to Year Four at two Kwinana Primary schools. Starting as a vocal based program in the first two years, before moving on to string instruments; students play in ensembles and are able to take instruments home to practice.

"This is a wonderful program and I am so glad that my daughter will get to participate again in Year One. It offers a range of opportunities to these children that they would not normally have access to. The development of a love of music is a precious gift to give. Thank you!" – Parent, Crescendo student.

According to ABC News, schools have reported higher NAPLAN results and better social and emotional wellbeing among students since becoming involved in the Crescendo program.

The Crescendo program is supported by Tianqi Lithium, and uses music to create a sense of togetherness, teaching the children to listen to and respect each other. In 2018 Tianqi increased their support to enable WASO to take the Education Chamber Orchestra (EChO) into the schools for a special performance increasing accessibility with all year groups able to attend.

"Our business is based in the heart of Kwinana and we are committed to supporting the local community. This is a life changing experience for the children involved and it is great to be able to assist WASO and the two schools in such a wonderful program" Phil Thick – General Manager, Tianqi Lithium

Channel 10's *The Project* visited North Parmelia and Medina Primary schools to film a feature on Crescendo set to air Thursday 20th December. The segment focussed on a student from each school and the positive impact this program has had on them and their personal growth.

By 2020 WASO will be providing lessons to every student in the school, from Pre-primary through to Year Six. WASO is proud to work with the Kwinana community to provide students with opportunities to develop emotional and social wellbeing through Crescendo.

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

This program is delivered by WASO's award winning Education and Community Engagement program and promotes a lifelong journey with WASO and the joy of music!

Visit our website for more information on this project [https://www.waso.com.au/education-community/outreach/crescendo/](https://www.waso.com.au/education-community/community-outreach/crescendo/)

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