

ADFAS KU-RING-GAI YOUNG ARTS PROJECT 2023

This year ADFAS Ku-ring-gai devoted our major philanthropic efforts towards the purchase of rhythmic instruments for the pupils of **La Perouse Public School**. This initiative is facilitated by the **Australian Children's Music Foundation** whose mission is to take music into schools by providing specialist teachers and instruments so all children can participate.

Several members of the committee attended the end-of-year concert performed by all years of La Perouse Public School and conducted by the ACMF music teacher, Rachel Scott. With the school having an indigenous population of around 50%, there was no shortage of didgeridoo players! Needless to say, it was an inspiring and uplifting experience – see photos below. The three young girls in the photo were MCs for the concert and spoke articulately, clearly and confidently as they introduced each act.



As the tee shirt says, '**Changing young lives through music**'. Teachers report that students prove more attentive in the classroom and in their learning and cognitive achievement when participating in music-making.



The Young Arts Project has been expertly managed for the last three years by committee member, Sue Meares, who will be retiring at the end of the year. Our thanks go to her for her passion and dedication. We thank all members too, of course, as it is through their loyalty to the values of ADFAS that has allowed us to make donations to worthy recipients.

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As with previous years, we continued our contribution to **Boonah Creative Arts Centre** which is located in the Ku-ring-gai area and provides a valuable space for people with a disability to express themselves through the artistic process guided by specialist facilitators. Art making is a therapeutic tool which promotes confidence, resilience and transcends the artist's disability giving them meaning and purpose.

Boonah's online presence and annual exhibition is of paramount importance to the artists as it highlights and cements their identity and provides a platform for the artists to be appreciated in a mainstream space.