



4 July 2018

Hear and Say invites you to 'Listen to the Music'

Local Brisbane-based charity Hear and Say's annual fundraising gala is celebrating listening and speaking with the theme 'Listen to the Music' on Saturday 28 July.

This year's gala is again being held at the iconic Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre (BCEC) with an evening of fine food, quality wines and beers, and music across the decades.

Mr Kerry Jacobson, drummer from 70's-80's rock music group Dragon, will be performing on the night alongside his current band members from 'Get on Up'.

Mr Jacobson who now teaches percussion, recently visited Hear and Say to have his hearing checked, and to talk about why all musicians should look after their ears.

"In the early 70's to the early 90's no one wore ear plugs, it was never discussed. I remember, as a kid, coming home from a rock session with ringing in my ears, it took many years before I realised that the ringing was not a good thing", Mr Jacobson said.

When asked what advice Kerry would give to students entering the music industry, he said, aspiring musicians, or really anyone who loves to listen to music, should protect their ears now because hearing loss is a gradual thing, and is irreversible.

Hear and Say CEO Chris McCarthy said, that as we enter our 26th year the range of programs and services we provide are extending to include all ages and lifestyles.

"These include a range of early intervention initiatives for children diagnosed with hearing loss; a 'Hear to Learn' school screening program to identify students with hearing health issues; and more recently the 'Love Your Ears' campaign calling for everyone to consider ways they can look after their hearing, including messages from musicians like Kerry.

Mr McCarthy went further to say that the night will only be a success if we can fill tables with people who are keen to support Hear and Say on the night.

Tickets are selling for \$185 and tables of ten for \$1,750, and can be purchased online at www.hearandsay.com.au/hear-say-gala/ or call to speak to a member of the Hear and Say team on 073850 2111.

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For more details and to arrange interviews contact Lois Shuttleworth, Public Relations Specialist, Hear and Say at lois.shuttleworth@hearandsay.com.au or 0481 212 420



About Hear and Say

Established in 1992 by Dr Dimity Dornan (2018 Queensland Senior Australian of the Year), Hear and Say is a Queensland-wide charity supporting children and young adults across five centres, as well as via a Telepractice program for rural and remote families. Our current programs and services include audiology, listening and spoken language therapy, school hearing screening, social skills programs, and physiotherapy and occupational therapy support. Hear and Say is also committed to clinical research and professional development.

Our aim is to support all children to hear, listen and speak so they can attend mainstream school, and fulfil their potential across all areas of life. Hear and Say combines state-of the-art hearing technology (such as digital hearing aids and cochlear implants) with specialised listening and spoken language therapy.

Almost 100% of children who have graduated from our early intervention program in the past five years have entered mainstream schools, and are speaking at a level equivalent to their typically-hearing peers.

As a not-for-profit organisation, Hear and Say must raise over \$10,000 each year, for up to six years, to fill the funding gap for one child with hearing loss to listen and speak.