



The Australian Children's  
Music Foundation  
newsletter

# musical notes



SUMMER 2008

## ♪♪ MUSIC BRINGS... Joy to the World ♪♪

*Wishing you and your family peace and goodwill from Don, Vicki, Sandra, Kerrie, Dee,  
Sarah and the ACMF Board*

### 2008 NATIONAL SONGWRITING COMPETITION



This year's National Songwriting Competition has discovered some wonderfully talented young Australian songwriters, expressing hope, humour and wisdom in their compositions.

The competition this year was promoted by Ambassador, Dicko from Australian Idol, and thousands of entries poured in from every state. Emma-Louise Lobb, a 17yo songwriter from Cairns, took out 1st place in the senior category for her outstanding composition 'Insomnia'. Emma-Louise's song will be featured, along with 12 other winning compositions, at the 2009 Sydney Festival First Night in Hyde Park and the 'Music is Magic' concert in Parramatta.

Georgia Steele from Gladstone Primary in South Australia (pictured) was awarded 1st place in a new category this year 'Lyrics Only' for her song entitled 'The Girl of My Dreams'. Mackenzie White (pictured) from White Cliffs Public School won 1st place in his age category, telling us how much he loved where he lived with his aptly named composition 'The Middle of Nowhere'.



The ACMF National Songwriting Competition is endorsed by the Minister of Education, Julia Gillard and many schools have it as a regular event on their calendars. Winning entrants receive musical equipment or tuition for themselves, and musical equipment for their school.

One of the teachers, Glenys Ferguson from Syndal South Primary School, VIC, described the experience in a letter sent in with their 25 entries.

*"It has been so rewarding hearing the students preparing their songs. The Songwriters project was conducted during lunch and recess. It was an eagerly awaited project for many students, many of whom entered in it last year. The fresh and stimulating lyrics have been very moving and in some cases their words poignantly reflect the important issues in their lives: friendship, parent break-ups and bullying"*

## ACMF WINNING SONGWRITERS TO PERFORM at the 2009 SYDNEY FESTIVAL



We're back to entertain the huge crowds at the free concert in Hyde Park again in 2009 with a selection of some of our winners from the 2008 National Songwriting Competition.

In addition to the Hyde Park event on Saturday, January 10 at 5pm, there will be a ticketed event called 'Music is Magic', at The Riverside Theatre, Parramatta on Sunday, January 11 at 5pm. Tickets to this event can be purchased online at [www.sydneyfestival.org.au](http://www.sydneyfestival.org.au)

Three young winners from the 2008 competition will take centre stage and perform their winning compositions under conductor, George Ellis, and accompanied by the Sydney Youth Orchestra and the Australian Youth Choir. The other songs will be performed by professional soloists.

## Don't Panic...Buy your ACMF Charity Christmas Cards online



Shopping for your Christmas cards is easy and affordable. Just visit the ACMF Shop at <http://acmf.myshopify.com/> and purchase packs of 10 cards for \$10 (plus postage) to send a message of joy to your friends and support the ACMF's music programs..

## AIM to Care



The music students at the Australian Institute of Music in Surry Hills organised a great evening of entertainment at the Institute in November with all proceeds going to the ACMF. Guests were treated to performances by talented students from AIM, and two winners from the 2008 ACMF National Songwriting Competition, Tom Jordan and Sarah Krust. The Australian Institute of Music is a music school with an outstanding record of producing talented graduates. We would like to thank the organisers from AIM (pictured) for nominating ACMF as their beneficiary and look forward to working more closely in 2009. For more information on AIM, please visit [www.aim.edu.au](http://www.aim.edu.au).

## ACMF sing out under the famous Spiegeltent 🎵 🎵 🎵 🎵 🎵 🎵 🎵



Newsboys Foundation recently held their AGM in Melbourne in the Spiegeltent and invited students from a Victorian ACMF program to perform. Children from Albion North Primary School welcomed guests with a wonderful drumming procession into the venue and entertained them with a further two songs. Students from a variety of nationalities performed, demonstrating once again that music is truly the universal language.

ACMF would like to thank Newsboys Foundation for the opportunity to showcase the ACMF's program, and in particular, Mark Grunden, our inspiring teacher who works with these students engaging them in such a positive way.

## FASTERLOUDER and FESTIVALS... ART/MUSIC/CHARITY/ROCK



FasterLouder.com.au is Australia's leading online community of music fans. FasterLouder intend to use their access to major Australian Music Festivals to raise funds for charity and they have selected ACMF as the beneficiary. Artists performing at the festivals will be invited to attend a back stage studio and contribute to large pieces of artwork. Some of the festivals on the 2009 Calendar include Big Day Out, Falls Festival and the V Festival, check out their website [www.fasterlouder.com.au](http://www.fasterlouder.com.au) . About 40 unique artworks will be created and auctioned in June 2009 at the Billich Gallery in the Rocks Sydney. All proceeds will be donated to the Australian Children's Music Foundation. We are really excited about this partnership and look forward to updating you over the coming months on the progress of this initiative.

## COCA-COLA AUSTRALIA FOUNDATION supports the ACMF



We are delighted to announce that the ACMF has been successful in a Community Grant application from the Coca-Cola Australia Foundation. The Grant of \$15,500 has been awarded to continue with our music program at the Cook School in Loftus NSW. This program has been operating since 2005. This funding will enable us to continue and develop this valuable program. The children at this school are children who, for a number of reasons, don't fit into the normal school system and yet, when it comes to music, there never seems to be a problem. We look forward to promoting our association with the Coca-Cola Australia Foundation in 2009.

## ST GEORGE FOUNDATION



The St George Dragon will breathe new life into the ACMF's Music Programs for Youth at Risk with their donation of \$28,600. Don Spencer is pictured here with Margaret Dalla and Ian Matheson, North Sydney Branch Manager, at the cheque presentation. This funding will help consolidate our programs in the 14 juvenile justice centres we currently attend, and assist us in reaching our goal to have a program in all 18 centres throughout Australia.

Music can be a pro-social alternative to a cycle of offending and abuse, and we look forward to our relationship with the St George Foundation in reaching out to youth at risk, stimulating their creative energies for a more positive outcome.

## ACMF THANKS EVERYDAY HEROES

Everyday hero, Lucy Graham pledged her support to the ACMF, running 15 kms in the HBA Great Australian Run in Melbourne and raised over \$300 for her effort.

Our latest everyday hero is swimmer, Marjanna Frank, who will be competing in the Cole Classic to be held at Manly Beach on February 1, 2009. If you would care to support Marjanna, in her fundraising endeavour for the ACMF visit [www.everydayhero.com.au/marjanna\\_frank\\_2](http://www.everydayhero.com.au/marjanna_frank_2) to contribute.

## Want to become a hero for the ACMF?

Click here [www.everydayhero.com.au/event/cole\\_classic09](http://www.everydayhero.com.au/event/cole_classic09) to find out more about the Cole Classic Ocean Swim at Manly Beach on February 1, 2009. Registration and building a Hero Page takes a few minutes. Once registered you can email all your contacts...it's as easy as that to make a difference.

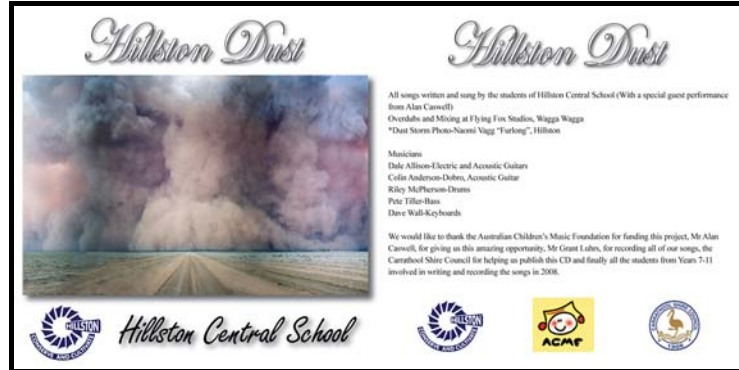


## HILLSTON CENTRAL SCHOOL CD LAUNCH - Hillston Dust

Hillston Central School, situated on the banks of the Lachlan River, about 110 km North-West of Griffith, 700 km West of Sydney, is just one of the remote schools with an ACMF music program in both their junior and senior departments.

At the end of our first full year at the school, the senior students have compiled a CD, 'Hillston Dust' which was proudly launched at a special Principal's Assembly held at Hillston Central school on December 3 attended by dignitaries from the region and the education department along with the parents and community members. The students worked with Allan Caswell, the ACMF teacher, during his regular term visits developing their songwriting skills and finally composing 10 songs for their first CD. Grant Luhrs from Flying Fox Studios, Wagga Wagga attended the school with his portable recording equipment and put the fine tuning on their songs. The young musicians were Dale Allison, Colin Anderson, Riley McPherson, Pete Tiller and Dave Wall. The ACMF were proud to fund this creative project.

The ACMF's Rachel Scott and the teachers in the junior school have also enjoyed working together to instigate music lessons that can now be held weekly thanks to Rachel's 10 week term lessons and supporting material provided for each term. A special music assembly was held with every class in the primary school performing.



## HO HO HO Holiday Time

The ACMF office will be closing from Monday, December 22 for the Christmas and New Year period, and we'll be back and ready for a grand new year on Monday, January 5...

Wishing you a safe and happy holiday.

**HOW TO DONATE:** As ACMF continues to grow so does the need for financial assistance. If you wish to help the foundation further their work with young Australians please call us on (02) 9929 0008

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