

GIRLS FROM OZ



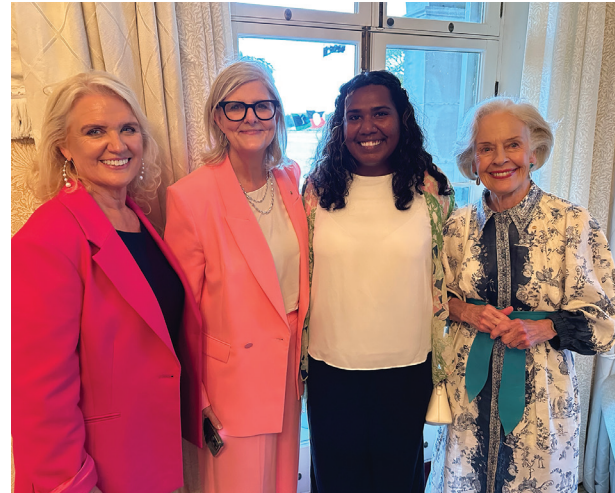
Empowering girls through music

2024 Annual Report

2024 Year in review

Dame Quentin Bryce AD CVO was involved in the dreaming up of Girls from Oz 20 years ago when she was Governor of Queensland and has been our passionate and generous Patron since 2014. We couldn't have been more proud to be the reason Australia's two female Governors - General came together at Admiralty House for the first time on November 3. Eight of our g-oz girls, from four communities, joined their Australian Girls Choir sisters and sang at this iconic location for a very enthusiastic group of supporters.

Many things made this a special occasion, not the least one being that Jenneille Martin pictured here with Dame Quentin, Her Excellency the Honourable Sam Mostyn AC and me, was a participant on our first Travel Program back in 2010. We were delighted to have Jenneille attend, this time, as a staff member from Bidadanga.



We're incredibly fortunate to have the support of so many impressive and hard working women over all these years and this group now includes Tania Major. Tania, among many other things, was Young Australian of the Year back in 2007 and has now joined our Board.

"Over the past few years, I have personally seen the incredible difference that Girls from Oz has made in our community. I am genuinely excited about the opportunity to collaborate with the Board to further enhance this valuable work and expand the reach of this remarkable organisation that focuses on empowering and uplifting young women."

Tania Major – Girls from Oz Board Member



We are grateful to all of our supporters for enabling us to achieve so much in 2024 and we will look forward, with positivity, to all that 2025 will bring.

Nicole Muir AM on behalf of the g-oz Board – Judith Curphey OAM, Kirsty Davis, Kylie Lee-Archer, Tania Major and Sheila O'Sullivan

Funding and our Principal Partner



Girls from Oz is deeply grateful to our principal partner, the Australian School of Performing Arts (ASPA), for 17 years of consistent, committed support that has ensured the longevity and success of g-oz.

We are extremely fortunate to have the ASPA community, most notably the Australian Girls Choir (AGC) network, regularly and enthusiastically raise awareness and fundraise for g-oz, especially during our annual Giving Circles Campaign. We are especially grateful to Sivaganga Sahathevan OAM who led the Taste of India community in raising \$25,000 in their sixth year of supporting g-oz.

This year's campaign, '100,000 reasons why', saw a total of \$105,230 raised over five weeks. Thank you to the 47 Giving Circle Coordinators and to all of our donors. The ongoing success of this annual campaign continues to impress funders, government bodies and our community stakeholders; and proves the sustainability of this funding model.

Girls from Oz acknowledges the traditional custodians of all the lands on which we meet, sing and dance. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Community Programs

Halls Creek, Bidyadanga, Lockhart River and Kowanyama

2024 saw g-oz continue program delivery across four g-oz locations in Western Australia's Kimberley region and Queensland's Far North. g-oz also concluded its programming at Carnarvon Community College (WA) in March after eleven years.

Our 21st Travel Program saw 31 participants in Sydney for a transformative week of new opportunities, rewarding challenges and momentous memories. This included time spent with peer-aged AGC host sisters and their families, workshops at NIDA and Bangarra Dance Theatre, and vocational experiences at Google and Qantas.

Highlights from the year include:

- The girls' performance of Cyndi Lauper's 'True Colours' at the Sydney Opera House as part of the AGC Annual Concert.
- 39 instructors delivering 17 Community Programs that directly reached and positively impacted the lives of more than 600 girls.
- 12 AGC choristers visiting Lockhart River as part of the 'Illuminating Lockhart' Reverse Travel Program where they connected with Lockhart Songman and Cultural Liaison Officer, Simon Butcher, and the Lockhart State School g-oz participants.
- Community and regional performances including the 'Party In The Park' at Kununurra's Ord Valley Muster and a concert at the Lockhart River Social Club.
- Collaborating with language experts in Kowanyama and Halls Creek to translate 'True Colours' into Kokobera and Jaru for participants to learn and perform.

"As a teacher who went on a Girls from Oz trip, I witnessed the hard work the girls need to put in to be able to put on a show; the commitment they have to give; and the change in them from before and after the show. After the performance they seem to walk more tall [and] hold their heads up high. This is a great thing for Aboriginal children...Thank you."

Jodie Cannon, Teacher, Lockhart State School

Spotlight on success

g-oz Across Generations

Jaru and Kija woman and former g-oz Board Member, Carolyn Polkinghorne, has seen three generations of her family positively impacted by g-oz:

"We need our young girls to be our leaders, to share their stories, to have a voice, to challenge the things that are unfair, unequal, the inequity that we face living in a small, remote community and that's what Girls from Oz gives to them...there's something special about this program."

Carolyn attended the very first Travel Program, as a staff member of Halls Creek District High School, with her eldest daughter, Kaite, as a participant. Carolyn has since witnessed her younger two daughters, Skye and Zoey, enjoy a similar opportunity as they attended the 2024 Travel Program, performing beside each other at the Sydney Opera House.

"I know all girls have a voice and they can sing with it and do anything with it." – Skye

Carolyn's granddaughter and Kaite's daughter, Isla, is now at school in Halls Creek and an enthusiastic young g-oz participant. We hope she will be able to enjoy the same rewarding experiences as her grandmother, mother and aunties in coming years!



Thank you to our Founding Supporters

Our Founding Supporters are the backbone of our fundraising strategy. In addition to their direct contributions totalling over \$222,000, they have inspired many others to become regular donors, from immediate to extended family members; friends; community members; colleagues and beyond!

Michelle Chow & Michael Cameron
Jasmine Cruickshank
Judith Curphey OAM
Jamie Doolan
Libby Franke
Belinda Gray Matthews

Vicki King & Mark Puddy
Carole Knox
Kylie Lee-Archer
Mari & Kevin Lee-Archer
Wendy MacGibbon
Kellie Mentlikowski

Nicole Muir AM
Dale Pope
The Rice Family
Margaret Sheehan
Wandijafta Family Trust
Sciona Brown

FY 2024 Financials

Proctor Major conducted an independent review in accordance with the Auditing Standard on Review Engagements ASRE 2415 *Review of a Financial Report – Company Limited by Guarantee*, and concluded that the accounts comply with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012*, giving a true and fair view of the company's performance for the year ended 30 June 2024 and the financial position on that date.

INCOME STATEMENT

INCOME	
Donations	\$244,791
Contributions	\$123,432
Charitable Foundations	\$ 67,000
Interest	\$ 13,929
TOTAL INCOME	\$449,152
EXPENSES	
Program delivery	
Personnel	\$208,644
Travel	\$193,728
Other	\$ 15,444
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$417,816
OPERATING SURPLUS	\$31,336

BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS	
Bank accounts	\$515,111
Trade Debtors	\$ 19,800
GST settlement	\$ 11,377
TOTAL ASSETS	\$546,288
LIABILITIES	
Trade Creditors	\$ 698
Unearned income	\$ 80,000
Payroll liabilities	\$ 9,690
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ 90,388
TOTAL EQUITY	\$455,900

FY24 delivered all planned community and travel programs. Contributions and expenses were in line with expectations. Donations increased, complemented by continued support from charitable foundations. We ended with a surplus, reflecting the strong support this financial year. We are well positioned for the upcoming year.

Helping to make it possible

PRINCIPAL PARTNER



AUSTRALIAN SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS

CORPORATE PARTNER



PHILANTHROPIC PARTNERS



COMMUNITY PARTNERS



KIMBERLEY
LANGUAGE
RESOURCE
CENTRE



INDUSTRY SUPPORTERS



The g-oz Board sincerely thanks our talented and dedicated team members, volunteers and instructors for all that they contribute to the success of the program.

General Manager: Kylie Lee-Archer

Communication and Grants Officer: Daniella Raniti

Program Assistant: Hallie Paul

Finance Volunteer: Carole Knox