

MUSIC: COUNT US IN RECORDS SMASHED IN 2016!

At least 600,000 students from more than 2,500 schools
same song, same day, same time



MUSIC: COUNT US IN JUST CELEBRATED IT'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY IN STYLE!

Music: Count Us In's 2016 song 'Let It Play' was heard across Australia as a record breaking number of students from schools around the country sung it with gusto on the same day, at the same time.

More than 2,500 schools participated to make this year's event its most successful to date, raising a tonne of much needed awareness about the importance of music education in schools.

2016 saw the introduction of new partnerships and initiatives which served to not only spread the **Music: Count Us In** message further, but also enable greater access to the program and its benefits.

A partnership with **Arts Empower!** who support disadvantaged young people and their communities to achieve their creative potential, particularly indigenous and remote communities, proved pivotal in opening the door to further engage with an even more diverse group of students; Especially with the introduction of 'Let it Play' being translated into an indigenous language.

The **Music: Count Us In** Celebration Day, which took place on the 3rd of November culminating in a major event at the Sydney Opera House, also featured an Auslan translation for children with hearing impairments.

And who can forget the students at Oxley State School in Queensland, who on Celebration Day in front of a giant crowd, broke the Guinness World Record for World's Largest Marimba Ensemble... Unbelievable!

Plus so many more new initiatives for us all to be extremely proud of!

A big thank you needs to go out to all those who were involved. From our supporters and partners, to the amazing teachers and students who did everybody proud!

Needless to say, there are countless people behind the scenes who made 2016's **Music: Count Us In** the wild success that it was, including our fabulous 2016 ambassadors and mentors Jay Laga'aia and John Foreman who so generously donated their time, energy and expertise.

However, none of this would have been possible without the wonderful song that sits at the heart of the program. 'Let It Play' was written by students Stella Kelly (16, WA), Tom Meadows (11, VIC), Bonnie Staude (14, WA) and Breanna Truscott (14, QLD) with the help from our program ambassadors.

And that's a wrap on **Music: Count Us In** for 2016, and while we all accomplished so much together in what was an incredible 10th anniversary celebration, there's still so much more we need to achieve.

So we're just going to go ahead and pencil you in again for 2017... What do you say?

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