

ANNUAL REPORT

Dear Friends,

This year the Foundation has added new programs and consolidated its ongoing programs in four core areas: Health, Music, Visual Arts and Youth Programs.

Health

St Vincent's Hospital

Medical Equipment

The Foundation is a major donor to a number of ongoing programs at St Vincent's Hospital in Sydney.

The Da Vinci Robotic machinery has become the leading method for heart, prostate and other keyhole surgery procedures. Results and recovery times are outstanding, with minimal intrusion and physical trauma.

In a new program commencing this year, the Foundation pays for underprivileged patients to be treated on the Da Vinci platform by the leading specialist surgeon, Associate Professor Phillip Stricker.

The Foundation is very proud of its initiation and long-standing support of the Freedman Emergency Department. The head of that department, Professor Gordian Fulde, the 2016 Senior Australian of the Year, has recently retired after many years of outstanding service to St Vincents and to the entire country.

Children's Hospital Westmead

Research Fellowship – Cleft Lip and Palates

The Freedman Foundation has a continuing partnership with The Children's Hospital at Westmead. Now in its tenth year, the program focusses on treatment and rehabilitation of children with cleft palates.

David Fitzsimmons, speech pathologist in the Cleft Palate Clinic, manages the concentrated care of over 800 children a year. David's ground-breaking research, treatments and therapies enable cleft lip and palate affected children to gradually lead normal lives. He is regarded as the leading cleft palate speech pathologist in Australasia.

Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute

The Freedman Foundation is one of the founders of the Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute. Over the years, it has provided both scholarships for graduate and post-graduate students as well as technical and laboratory research equipment.

Last year the Foundation funded a state of the art cardio vascular imaging system, enabling the study of blood flow in real time.

This year we funded the purchase of a mass spectrometer which enables researchers to discover how tissue adapts in response to acute absence of blood (as in the case of heart attack and stroke); the determinants of why some plaques are stable while others are unstable (thus determining individuals' risks to heart attack); and early changes in metabolism as blood vessels deteriorate towards atherosclerosis.

Garvan Institute Prostate Research

The Foundation is involved in a long-term support program with the Prostate Cancer Centre at St Vincent's Clinic. The Centre was established by Associate Professor Phillip Stricker to improve early diagnosis, research, education and multidisciplinary care through a collaboration of specialists and scientists at the Garvan Institute led by Professor Vanessa Hayes. The results are providing state of the art treatment, a tissue bank and the necessary resources to improve outcomes.

Aboriginal Western Desert Dialysis program

In 2014, the Foundation helped establish a kidney dialysis clinic in one of the most remote communities in Australia. The clinic is at Kiwirrkurra, some 700 km west of Alice Springs.

The Foundation bought and installed two dialysis machines and a water treatment system, enabling a full time nurse to live and work in the community. Operating continuously, it is able to dialyse four people at a time, treating some 620 patients a year.

The service has, for the first time, enabled people to take back their lives, to spend time with family and to participate in community activities, including passing on their cultural heritage.

EndoActive Australia & NZ Inc.

This year the Foundation has added an important new funding program to assist women with endometriosis. EndoActive is a health promotion charity representing the interests of women and girls with endometriosis, a chronic, incurable disease that affects one in ten women globally. It is estimated that there are over 500,000 women and girls suffering from endometriosis in Australia.

Freedman Neurological Scholarship

Starting this year, the Foundation has established an ongoing Neurological PhD scholarship at the Children's Hospital Randwick. Graduates are researching neurological conditions in children, with a view to better results in both diagnoses and treatment.

Academy for Emerging Leaders

Another new program this year is with the Academy for Emerging Leaders in Patient Safety. The program facilitates professionals to develop and share skills to overcome barriers to transparency and patient safety. It provides new insights into providing high quality healthcare from the patient and family point of view via open, honest and effective communication.

Youth Programs

HIV Positive Children camps

Over the past 11 years the Foundation, together with the Sydney Children's Hospital Randwick, has supported a series of programs called The Positive Camp Goodtime Teen and Primary camps. These are national camps for HIV positive children and teenagers.

The camps provide a safe and supportive environment where children up to 17 years old meet other HIV affected young people. They participate in daily support groups, including a range of recreational activities focussing on HIV management, psychosocial support and peer support.

Youth Sailing Program

Now in its 17th year, the Youth Sailing Program with the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, having begun modestly with four schools and 16 students, now hosts 16 schools in two courses and some 80 students.

In conjunction with the Youth Sailing Academy, the courses are specifically designed for underprivileged youth from disadvantaged and/or stressed family circumstances. Apart from sailing skills, they learn teamwork, responsibility and life skills. Students from distant areas sleep aboard members' yachts at the CYCA marina, thus adding to their team experience.

The Clown Doctors

Since its inception, the Foundation has helped fund Clown Doctors. They are medical professionals who help alleviate some of the negative experiences of hospitals and bring joy to children's lives. The program addresses the psychosocial needs of children in hospital in a unique way – by making them laugh in an environment that is normally associated with sadness and fear.

Music and the Visual Arts

MUSIC

The Freedman Children's Orchestra

A substantial new program began this year, in conjunction with SIMA and The Music Council; the Foundation is funding a music program for underprivileged children. The Freedman Children's Orchestra is commencing with 30 children, who will each receive an instrument of their choice and regular tuition. The program is designed to be capacity-building and to promote social cohesion, to transform the lives of young participants and the communities in which they live.

Jazz and Classical Fellowships

In 2001, The Freedman Foundation established separate annual Jazz and Classical musical Fellowships for performing artists. In collaboration with The Music Trust, they are unusual among such awards, in that nominations are by invitation only.

The Freedman Fellowships acknowledge and reward professional musicians who are recognised as already being highly accomplished. Recipients are enabled to further advance their careers, as nominees are required to submit a work program and career development plan either within Australia or internationally.

In 2016 at a revised concert format in Sydney Opera House, which now incorporates previous Fellowship winners in concert, three outstanding finalists played to a packed house. 2010 Freedman Jazz Fellow, guitarist Ben Haupmann and his trio played as the judges came to their decision to award pianist Emma Grace Stephenson the **2017 Freedman Jazz Fellowship**.

Following last year's successful concert format, the **Classical Music Fellowship** was chosen from the three finalists performing at a live broadcast on ABC Classic FM from the ABC Studios. 2005 Freedman Classical Fellow, percussionist Claire Edwardes entertained the audience while the judges made their decision. The **2017 Freedman Classical Music Fellowship** was awarded to bassoonist, Matthew Kneale.

The Freedman Fellowship Awards is on Facebook.

The 2018 Freedman Jazz Concert will be held on Monday, 30th July at 7.30pm in The Studio at the Sydney Opera House. Tickets will be available from the SOH Booking office (ph: 9250 7777) or online at www.sydneypoperahouse.com. **Booking is essential.**

Fellowship New Jazz Series

Following their success last year, three Freedman New Jazz public concerts were held, celebrating the work of past recipients of the Freedman Jazz Fellowship. These concerts were again sold out events.

VISUAL ARTS

Artists Travelling Scholarships

Since its inception in 2002, over 80 emerging artists have now benefited from The Freedman Foundation Travelling Scholarships, undertaken in conjunction with the National Association for the Visual Arts (NAVA).

The philosophy behind these grants is to encourage young emerging visual artists to travel internationally, in order to directly experience new environments, cultures and to further develop their artistic endeavours including installation, performance and video art.

Curatorial Travelling Scholarship

Now in its third year in collaboration with the National Association for the Visual Arts (NAVA), The Freedman Foundation awards an annual Curatorial Scholarship to support early career curators to develop their practice through overseas travel to undertake mentorship, residency and/or research programs.

The annual **Freedman Foundation Exhibition** of the works of returned artists and this year's recipients, will run **29th Sep – 3rd Nov** at the Nick Waterlow Gallery, **UNSW Galleries**, cnr Oxford St & Greens Road, Paddington. The **2018 Freedman Travelling Scholarship** recipients will be announced at the opening of the exhibition.

Kimberley Foundation

Since 2011, The Freedman Foundation has supported a number of programs undertaken by Kimberley Foundation Australia in the remote Northern Territory. Initial cultural and educational programs trained young indigenous Australians to record the ancient rock art of the Kimberley region. These expanded to include training to become tourist guides and fauna and flora educators.

The Foundation is currently supporting an extensive research program to date the area's ancient rock art. Results are gaining worldwide interest as it is becoming increasingly apparent that Australian rock art may be among the oldest in the world.

Other

The Foundation also has long term commitments with a range of organisations including Sunshine Home, St Gabriel's School for Hearing Impaired Children, Surf Lifesaving Australia, Humour Foundation and Cerebral Palsy Alliance.

All of the Foundation's programs are designed to provide continuing long-term funding and benefits to the recipients.



Laurence and Kathy Freedman