

WITH ONE VOICE MID-YEAR PROGRAM EVALUATION 2011

Creativity Australia's vision is to deliver inclusive, creative programs that result in positive social and economic outcomes. Here is a snapshot of feedback from our mid year program evaluation:

IMPROVED WELLBEING ON A WEEKLY BASIS 90%

INCREASED SELF-ESTEEM, REDUCED ANXIETY & RELIEVED DEPRESSION 80%

MADE NEW FRIENDS 80%

INCREASED UNDERSTANDING & ACCEPTANCE OF DIVERSITY 70%

GAINED NEW SKILLS FOR WORK & LIFE 70%

Quotes that support our mission of inspiring people to find their voice:

- Thank you Sunshine Sings, your existence brings hope to the community. I am constantly spreading the word of how great your program is.
- Choir is great, and helpful in so many ways that are not obvious as well. Keep up the good work!
- I really enjoy the choir and it is helping my health issues greatly.
- The choir is helping improve my mental state reducing anxiety and relieving depression. When I am in a more confident and happier state I look forward to helping people.
- I sincerely appreciate all your help in the choir, which has not only brought us a happy, harmonious and passionate atmosphere which can relieve us from stressful work and study, but also provided us many good job opportunities that are just so helpful! Thank you for a wonderful opportunity to get my current job!
- Great common ground to build rapport and relationships with people of all cultures and backgrounds!
- It has been the best one hour every week, just coming together and singing your heart out. It has been very relaxing and, at the same time, quite a sense of achievement.
- Very worthwhile teambuilding exercise. Very well run.
- I think that being part of the choir has been very beneficial to my wellbeing. More than I would have imagined. I have met lots of very nice people in the 10 months that I have been participating. I always leave choir feeling better than when I got there!
- This is a great concept and a wonderful community builder. I really appreciate the creativity and the effort of the paid and the volunteer staff, and the other singers.
- I love the choir. It's one of ANZ's best ideas! I leave the choir and feel alive and full of energy. I have met some lovely new people also which is great. Our conductor is wonderful, couldn't ask for a better trainer. He makes the choir so enjoyable with his great sense of humour.
- Attending choir is the best hour of my week. So much of my work involves left brain thinking so it's a joy to be able to tap into my creative and emotional side for a few brief minutes. I decline meetings with very important people so I can attend! I've learned a lot about how to motivate and encourage a team from the inspirational conductor.
- Overall joining the choir has been one of the most enjoyable things I have done during work time. I am more motivated to come to work on Tuesdays eager to attend practice sessions. After the session, I usually feel so much happier and uplifted for the rest of the day. This activity is really helping to improve staff engagement.

(As at the 25 July, 205 responses)

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MODEL FOR WITH ONE VOICE CHOIR

Establish	Year 1
	Pre-establishment phase
	1. Feasibility study <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Target demographics• Ease of community engagement• Outline of key operational risks
	2. Funding applications <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Secure funding for minimum 1 year of operations• Includes plan for 2nd and 3rd year funding
	3. Stakeholder event <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Event held in local community, run by local advocates• Engage local business, community and government for marketing support
	4. Advisory committee established <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Including representatives from funding groups, CA and local government
	5. Venue finalized <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Venue donated, donation MOU signed• Venue accords with CA's checklist/requirements
	6. Conductor finalized
	7. Marketing <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Marketing plan established including: print media, social media etc• Direct marketing to stakeholders from stakeholder event is key
	Operational phase
	8. Launch
9. More intense office work to run program <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Representative from CA attends rehearsals, helps with administration and maintains 'grass roots' engagement	
10. Choir performance ready and first performance	
11. Choir members join advisory committee (CA chairs) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Direct marketing to stakeholders from stakeholder event	
Grow	Year 2
	12. Members take over administrative roles
13. Training for choir members for governance, funding and marketing of choir <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Training to be conducted by CA and external parties	
Sustain	Year 3
	14. Choir member chairs advisory committee
	15. Marketing and fundraising handed over <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Training to be conducted by Creativity Australia and external parties
16. Choir is self funding, with CA as consultants <ul style="list-style-type: none">• CA provides support, invitations to With One Big Voice performances	