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Don't Stop the Music: thousands of children to benefit from donated instruments

Thousands of children will now experience the benefits of a music education thanks to the generous number of donations that have been received as part of the <u>Don't Stop the Music</u> campaign.

Following the request for donations in November, more than **4200 instruments** have been donated to local Salvation Army stores around Australia.

On top of that, approximately \$67,000 has been donated across both Musica Viva Australia and the Salvos' Just Brass programs.

The donation campaign has seen some generous contributions from businesses who heard the call out and wanted to support the campaign.

Fender Australia were so inspired by the series that they donated **300 brand new classical guitars** directly to Musica Viva, a huge donation that will directly benefit students.

Brisbane Music store **Simply for Strings** donated **40 high-quality European violins and violas** to the campaign.

The 3-part documentary series <u>Don't Stop The Music</u>, follows the journey of primary school students in an underprivileged area of Perth as they embarked on a music program. The students had no prior music knowledge, and many had never touched a musical instrument, but nearly 9 months later they performed on stage at the Perth Concert Hall.

During the series, the benefits of learning an instrument became clear; higher attendance rates, improved concentration and a sense of happiness and confidence amongst the students.

There is still time to donate unused instruments to your local Salvation Army Store or donate online abc.net.au/dontstopthemusic

Volunteers familiar with basic instrument repair and assessment are needed to help us sort through donations. Register through the <u>Salvos' volunteer portal</u>

Don't Stop the Music is available on iview.

For further information contact:

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