

Big Things Grow

From Little Things



***Hotel Grand Chancellor
Hobart, Australia
13 – 15 May 2011***

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Deaf Australia Inc. invites submissions for papers/presentations that explore the conference theme and sub-themes at its 2nd National Conference and 25th Anniversary Celebration to be held in Hobart, Tasmania, 13 – 15 May 2011.

The conference theme is inspired by the song, 'From Little Things Big Things Grow'^{*}, which tells a story of struggle, determination and triumph that could well be adapted to the experiences of the Australian Deaf Community. As shown in the painting by the late Ron Wild^{**}, the Australian Deaf Community was once small and met under street lamps where the light allowed them to see each other to communicate. Today we have a large, well organised and active community with strong influence on relevant government policy and service provision. The conference will celebrate the 'little things' we started from and the 'big things' we have achieved, but mostly it will focus on the 'bigger things' we look to in the future. It will also celebrate 25 years of Deaf Australia.

Deaf Australia is pleased to announce that Mr Markku Jokinen, President of the World Federation of the Deaf, will be Conference Keynote Presenter.

The Conference will be fully accessible with Auslan interpreting and real-time captioning. It is for everyone – Deaf and hard of hearing people, family and friends, service providers and policy makers.

While the conference theme offers much scope for the focus of your presentation, and we welcome presentations that look at where we have come from – how the "big things" have grown from "little things" – the major focus of the conference will be on the "bigger things" – where we need to go in the future. We therefore welcome presentations that focus on the following sub-themes:

Community	Family	Social Inclusion & Human Rights
Wellbeing	Partnerships	Leadership & Representation
Rural / Remote	Policy / Disability Movement	Research & Development Agenda

We also plan to devote the program on Sunday 15th May to a "professional development day", with strands for various interest groups – e.g., Deaf professionals, Auslan teachers, interpreters, educators, service providers.

**Song written by Paul Kelly/ Kevin Carmody **Painting image supplied courtesy of Deaf Society of NSW*

All presentations (except some keynote presentations) will be 45 minutes long. All presentations must include 15 minutes for questions/discussions. Panels or workshops that use all of the allocated time for discussions can also be proposed.

Presenters will have access to the following resources: PowerPoint, PC Laptop with USB port and DVD/CD drive, data projector, internet connection, and lectern with microphone and audio speakers.

You can submit your abstract in either Microsoft Word or in Auslan. Word abstracts should be no more than 500 words, in 11pt Arial font, with 1.5 lines spacing. Auslan abstracts can be presented in AVI, MPEG or Quicktime formats and not exceed 3 minutes of signing.

Presenters will need to cover their own airfares to the conference as well as accommodation. Presenters will be entitled to the early bird member's conference registration price in recognition of their presentation.

Deadline for submission of abstracts is 5.00pm (EST), 30 July 2010

Other important dates:

You will be notified of the outcome of your abstract submission by 30 August 2010.

Acceptance of presentation offer needs to be returned to Deaf Australia by 30 September 2010.

A substantially completed presentation, including any PowerPoint slides and/or DVD/CD materials must be supplied to Deaf Australia by 31 March 2011.

Final versions of the PowerPoint slides and/or DVD/CD materials must be presented to the Conference Organiser by 8.30am on the day of your presentation at the Conference.

Submitting your abstract:

You can submit your abstract by email or post to the contact details below by the due date, 5.00pm (EST), 30 July 2010.

You will also be asked to tick sub-theme/s relating to what your intended presentation is about. This will enable the assessment panel to ensure a range of topics are offered at the conference.