

Having a Say Conference 2023



Monday 20th and Tuesday 21st February 2023

Deakin University, Waterfront Campus
1 Gheringhap Street, Geelong VIC 3220

with two online streams during the conference

Call for Expressions of Interest (EOI)

from people with disability and disability groups who wish to present or perform at the Having a Say Conference 2023

Theme: We're Still Here!

Can you believe it's been over two years since we got together 'in person' at HaS:2020? VALID is excited that HaS is now back after a break for 'the COVID years'!

COVID caused problems for everyone, but it was especially tough on people with disability and their families / supporters, with lockdowns and closures.

Yes, it was great to learn to do life online, but it just can't replace being together 'live'. So, let's get on with life and move forward together, in all our different ways.

Well done everyone for making it through – *we're still here!* Let's celebrate it at HaS in 2023 by sharing what got us through and celebrating our achievements.



More Information

For more information about the conference, please contact the VALID Office:



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Email: havingasay@valid.org.au



Website: www.valid.org.au

VALID

About the Having a Say Conference

The Having a Say conference helps people to find their voice, to speak up, to be heard and to be respected.



This is the conference where people listen to each other, not just to the speakers on stage. This is the conference where people respect each other's views and opinions and celebrate their common cause.

The conference gets fantastic support from local disability services, the Local Reference Committee, City of Greater Geelong, Tourism Geelong and the Bellarine and local Geelong businesses.



People enjoy coming to the conference for a range of reasons. Some are keen advocates for people with disability and want to debate about issues, others find the whole environment empowering and some just want to have fun!

Many people come to the conference to have a say, such as on open microphone as a presenter or performer. We often get comments on the Evaluation Forms saying things like *"It was great I felt important because everyone listened to what I said"*.

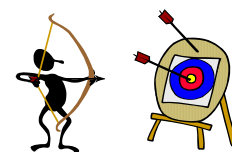


Having a Say has been around for long time, because there is nothing else like it in Australia! It is also a great way for people to get together to share experiences and to celebrate our achievements.

Aims of the Having a Say Conference

The Having a Say Conference aims to empower people with disability through:

- The opportunity to 'have a say' about issues that affect their lives
- Opportunities to celebrate ability and achievement
- Being part of the planning and running of the conference
- Opportunities to be heard by politicians, government and service providers
- The opportunity to meet people from Victoria, Australia and overseas



Priority

Priority (who gets in first) will be given to presentations/performances/displays that:

- Involve people with disabilities in the planning and writing of the presentation
- Are planned and presented/performed by people with disability
- Relate to the conference theme (see above)
- Talk about the achievements and contribution of people with disability



NOTE: we do **not** accept EOIs that are advertisements for service providers

Your Details (Applicant)



First name:

Last name:



Service name: (if you are coming with a service)

Address:



Postcode:

Telephone:

Fax:

Mobile:



Email:

Things We Need to Know About Your Presentation ?

Will it be Virtual (online) circle Yes / No or 'Live at Deakin' circle Yes / No

What type of Presentation are you doing? (please select ONE checkbox)



Performance



Workshop



Presentation



Individual Stories

What is the name (title) of your presentation?



Please tell us what topic your presentation is about and how it works with the conference theme: We're Still Here!

How will people with disability be involved in developing the presentation?





Names of Presenters – if you know *(for the conference program)*

Important: A registration form is required for all presenters. There's no fee if you are only at the conference to make your presentation - but a registration form is still required.

How much time do you need for your presentation? (please select a checkbox)



Please note question time is included within your session
(e.g. 20 minute presentation, allow 5 – 10 minutes for questions)

- Individual Stories 5 – 10 15 minutes
- 30 minutes (for most sessions) 1 hour



Equipment needed? **Extra to what is provided** (see below) e.g. whiteboard



NOTE: All rooms will have a Data Projector, Computer and DVD player. Audio/visual technical assistance will be available if needed. If you are bringing any electrical equipment with you, **it must be tested and tagged.**

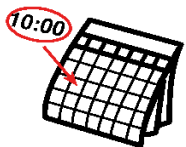


Room set-up (please select a checkbox)

- Workshop (table and chairs) Theatre style (row of chairs)

When do you want to do your presentation?

Do you have a **preferred day (20th or 21st Feb)** and/or **time** of day?



No (Any day or time)

Yes (Day and Time) →



The Program Selection Committee will let you know if your EOI was accepted to be in the Program by **early November 2022**

Complete the form and send back to us – contacts on first page
Please submit by 21 October 2022 (extensions available on request)

