Having a Say Conference 2026

27th - 29th January 2026

Deakin Uni Waterfront Geelong



HaS:2026 Sponsor Prospectus











VALID www.valid.org.au



Having A Say Conference

For 25 years the HaS conference has been the largest conference for people with disability in Australasia. People with disabilities participate in all aspects of the conference, from the planning, to volunteering.

In 2025 there were over 110 presenters with disability sharing their achievements, and stories.

The 2026 theme is 25 years: Strengthening our voices for a better future!

The majority of the Program is dedicated to providing opportunities for people with disabilities to present, tell their stories, celebrate their achievements, perform, volunteer and gain information on their choices, rights and responsibilities.

Having a Say is not an event, it is building self-advocates that will speak up for the future they need and want!

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 the issues that impact their lives
- Participate in an annual conference in a rural location of Victoria
- Celebrate the abilities and achievements of people with disability
- Be heard by politicians, government and service providers
- Build skills by being part of the planning and running of the conference
- Network and be inspired with peers from around Victoria, Australia and overseas
- Gain information on what support is available in both the community and disability services











Facts about the Having a Say conference.....

- ✓ HaS (Having a Say) is an annual national conference with attendance from across Australia
- ✓ This will be the 25th (in-person) HaS conference
- ✓ HaS:2026 will also have an online component
- ✓ From 2008 2020 over 1,000 people participated each year
- ✓ We hope to have 900+ people registered for the 'live' conference at Deakin Uni along with more joining online
- ✓ Includes the Our Choice Expo and Sponsors Expo
- The majority of presenters and performers are people with a disability
- ✓ It is run by VALID in conjunction with people with disabilities, local agencies and community members
- ✓ Both a video and report are produced each year





Sponsorship Levels

The HaS conference budget is run on a 'break even' basis. We intentionally keep registration fees low so that participants can afford to attend. To keep this low rate, VALID relies on the support of volunteers, local organisations, and our great sponsors.

There are five levels of conference sponsorship available; all sponsors are acknowledged in the conference Program, Report and DVD. While the details of each level are negotiable the core benefits are outlined below. **Note**: fees exclude GST.

Platinum	• \$20,000 + GST • Including Disco Spo	nsor and Expo Sponsor
Gold	• \$12,500 + GST • Support people to a	attend or specific activities
Silver	• \$5,750 + GST • Sponsor the DVD, R	Report, Talent Show etc.
Bronze	• \$3,500 + GST • Sponsor Come & Tr	y's, attendant carers etc.
Partnership	In kind support For example, run a	C&T or sponsor an Award



Platinum

Platinum Sponsorship

Having a Say 2026 is offering three special Platinum Sponsor opportunities. One (\$20,000 +GST) will be used to assist with conference activities, the second to sponsor the Expo. The third is an enhanced Platinum sponsorship (\$25,000 +GST) to support the Conference Disco.

Platinum Level

- Full A4 page advertisement in the main Conference Program
- Banner (80cm W x 2m H) on main stage throughout the conference
- 1.8m Exhibitor Stand in main Costa Hall Foyer in a prominent location
- Acknowledgement via logo on HaS page on VALID website
- Full A4 page advertisement in the Conference Report
- Logo on front page of the conference Preliminary Program
- Logo at top of sponsorship page and larger than all other sponsorship categories (e.g. Gold etc) in main Conference Program
- Logo at top of sponsorship page and larger than all other sponsorship categories (e.g. Gold etc) in Conference Report
- Booklet or pamphlet (up to A4 size) in Registration Bags
- Eight complimentary whole conference registrations (value \$6,440)
- Eight full online (daytime program) registrations (value \$2,040)

Disco Sponsorship of \$25K in addition to all the benefits above includes:

- Logo (2.5cm x 2.5cm) on Disco information page in Program
- Banner (80cm W x 2m H) in main entry foyer throughout the disco
- Logo (2.5cm x 2.5cm) on Disco highlights page in Conference Report
- Upgraded exhibitor stand area 3m x 2.5m in main foyer

Expo Sponsor includes an additional expo table in the Gallery Expo



Gold Sponsorship

Having a Say 2026 is offering Gold Sponsor (\$12,500 +GST) opportunities. Funds will be used to sponsor people with disabilities and their families to attend the conference or to support a specific conference activity such as conducting the online program or supporting the catering (from disability service).

Gold Level

- Half A4 page Program advertisement
- Banner (80cm W x 2m H) on main stage throughout the conference
- 1.5m x 1.5m Exhibitor Stand in main Costa Hall Foyer in prominent location
- Half A4 page advertisement in the Conference Report
- Logo in middle page of the Preliminary Program
- Logo on second line of sponsorship page acknowledgments and larger than lesser sponsorship categories (e.g. Silver etc) in main Program
- Logo on second line of sponsorship page acknowledgments and larger than lesser sponsorship categories in main Conference Report
- Pamphlet (up to A4 size) in Registration Bags
- Six complimentary whole conference registrations (value \$4,830)
- Six full online (daytime program) registrations (value \$1,530)

If sponsoring a specific activity, in addition:

- Logo (2.5cm x 2.5cm) on relevant information page in the main Program
- Logo (2.5cm x 2.5cm) on relevant information page in Conference Report



Silver

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Silver Sponsorship

Having a Say 2026 is also offering Silver Sponsor (\$5,750 +GST) opportunities. Sponsors can choose to support people with disabilities and their families to attend the conference or sponsor a specific activity such as the conference DVD, HaS Talent Show (formerly Red Faces), Come & Try activities (C&T) or volunteer coordination and support.

Silver Level

- Third of an A4 page (18cm W x 8cm H) Program advertisement
- 1.5m x 1.5m Exhibitor Stand in main Costa Hall Foyer in prominent location
- Third of page (18cm W x 8cm H) advertisement in the Conference Report
- Logo on middle page of the Preliminary Program
- Logo on third tier of sponsorship page acknowledgments and larger than lesser sponsorship categories (e.g. Bronze) in main Program
- Logo on third tier of sponsorship page acknowledgments and larger than lesser sponsorship categories in main Conference Report
- Pamphlet (up to A5 size) in Registration Bags
- Four complimentary whole conference registrations (value \$3,220)
- Six full online (daytime program) registrations (value \$1,530)

If sponsoring a specific activity, in addition:

- Logo (2.5cm x 2.5cm) on relevant information page in the main Program
- Logo (2.5cm x 2.5cm) on relevant information page in Conference Report



Bronze

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Bronze Sponsorship

Having a Say 2026 is offering eight Bronze Sponsor (\$3,500 + GST) opportunities. There are several activities sponsors can select to support at this level, including the Art Competition, Awards and Come & Try Activities.

Bronze Level

- Logo in middle page of the Preliminary Program
- Logo on fourth tier of sponsorship page acknowledgments and larger than lesser sponsorship categories (Partners) in main Program
- Logo on fourth tier of sponsorship page acknowledgments and larger than lesser sponsorship categories in main Conference Report
- Pamphlet (DL size) in Registration Bags
- Six complimentary one day conference registrations (value \$1,500)
- Two complimentary Dinner/Disco registrations (value \$250)
- Opportunity to purchase a discounted Exhibitor Stand in main Foyer
- Six full online access to all online program sessions and performances (value \$1,530)

If sponsoring a specific activity, in addition:

- Logo (2.5cm x 2.5cm) on relevant information page in the main Program
- Logo (2.5cm x 2.5cm) on relevant information page in Conference Report



Partners

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Partnership Support

There is a range of ways organisations can partner with Having a Say, including being a minor sponsor (e.g. sponsorship of the Robert Martin Award) or providing in-kind support such as:

- conducting Come & Try Activities at the conference
- providing a large group of volunteers to volunteer at the conference

Partners Level

- Logo in middle page of the Preliminary Program
- Logo on bottom tier of sponsorship acknowledgments in the main Program
- Logo on the bottom tier of sponsorship acknowledgments in main Conference Report
- Two complimentary full one day conference registrations (value \$500)
- Four full online program registrations (value \$1,020)

Depending on the level of in-kind support, other opportunities can be negotiated:

- Logo on relevant 'activity' page in the main Program
- Logo on relevant information page in Conference Report
- Pamphlet (DL size) in Registration Bags
- Opportunity to purchase a discounted Exhibitor Stand in Foyer
- Opportunity for additional free conference and/or disco registrations



More Information

If you'd like to discuss Sponsorship Opportunities, please contact:

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2023 Art Competition entries









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