



APRIL UPDATE

In this issue, we're excited to celebrate Auslan Day with you!

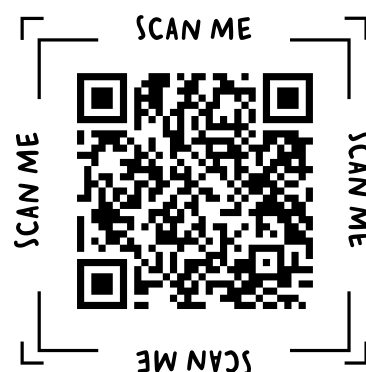
Discover how you can support Auslan90, and meet one of our Auslan teachers in Sydney.

We're also sharing a fantastic new Auslan-accessible exhibition in Melbourne, along with updates on awards in Brisbane and helpful information on how to book interpreters.

Let's celebrate the happenings of our vibrant community!

Scan the QR code here to view our stories and read past versions of the Deaf Herald.

www.deafconnect.org.au





SHOW US YOUR AUSLAN DAY

Auslan Day was a powerful celebration of Auslan and Deaf culture across Australia.

On 13 April, communities came together nationwide to recognise Australian Sign Language; the language at the heart of Deaf identity and connection. The day was filled with pride, community spirit, and meaningful moments shared in Auslan.

We were proud to see so many people celebrating in ways that reflected their personal connection to Auslan and the Deaf community, from community events and classrooms to family moments and personal stories.

The response highlighted just how important Auslan is to so many people, and the strength of the community that continues to grow around it.

Please remember to tag us in celebrations using

#AuslanDay2026

Or tag our Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn.



We love seeing the stories and moments shared from all over the country.

Check out our website for more information

www.deafconnect.org.au



SAVE AUSLAN90

Without ongoing Federal Government funding, Auslan90 will end on 30 June 2026.

But you can help save it!

We're asking people to send us videos on why Auslan90 matters to you, to show the Government why this news is so critical to the Deaf community.

Your video doesn't need to be long – just 10–30 seconds filmed landscape on your phone.



“Auslan90 fills a longstanding gap in Australia’s media landscape by providing Deaf Australians with direct access to timely, independent, public-interest journalism in Auslan.”



The Federal Government already funds news in over 60 spoken languages – the same principle should apply to Auslan users.”



Check out our website for more information.

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AUSLAN TRAINER SPOTLIGHT



Deaf Connect trains thousands of people each year in Auslan and Deaf culture, including parents, students, health professionals, and future interpreters.

Our Deaf trainers help learners build communication skills and deepen understanding of Deaf culture, supporting more inclusive communities.

SHARLENE'S STORY

“Teaching Auslan is about more than language, it’s about sharing Deaf culture, history, and lived experience. It challenges people to think differently about communication.

I encourage students to use facial expression, movement, and space to truly communicate, and it’s rewarding to see their confidence grow.”

[Read Sharlene Payn’s story on our website.](#)



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PLAY SCHOOL: COME AND PLAY! EXHIBITION IN MELBOURNE



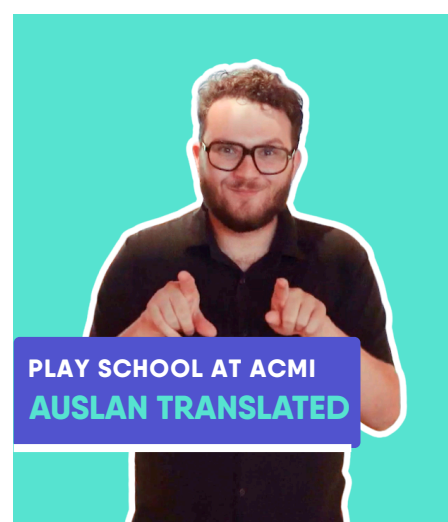
Play School is turning 60, and families are invited to celebrate at an exhibition called 'Come and Play!' at ACMI in Melbourne.

Designed for children aged 2–5, the exhibition features interactive activities where little ones can explore, play, and discover one of Australia's most loved TV programs. From songs and stories to hands-on experiences, there's plenty for families to enjoy together.

INCLUSIVE AUSLAN ACCESS FOR THE EXHIBITION

Deaf Connect worked with ABC to create Auslan translations for each clip in the exhibition. Auslan tours are also available, so you enjoy the experience with others in the community.

Running until 12 July, there's plenty of time to plan your visit!



Check out our website for more information.

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AWARDS FINALIST

Creative Brisbane



CREATIVE BRISBANE AWARDS: WE'RE FINALISTS

Recently, Deaf Connect was named a finalist in the Creative Brisbane Awards – in not just one, but two categories!

The Creative Brisbane Awards celebrate outstanding innovative partnerships within Brisbane's creative industries, focusing on collaborations that deliver positive community impacts.

Deaf Connect is a finalist in two categories:

1. Best Youth Collaboration for Auslan90: Catch, and
2. Best Office Artwork for the historical artwork at our MOBO office.

For Catch, we collaborated with Kaitlyn Harris, who did an amazing job presenting and producing the youth segment of Auslan90.

For the Best Office Artwork category, the nomination recognises the incredible artwork at our MOBO office, which celebrates generations of Deaf culture and history.



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