

INSCAPE TASMANIA
OPENING OF TEN-YEAR CELEBRATION AND FUNDRAISING EVENT
REMARKS BY
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
HENRY JONES ART HOTEL, THURSDAY 24 JULY 2025

Good evening to all staff, friends and supporters of Inscape Tasmania on this special occasion to celebrate ten years of Inscape Tasmania and its decade of bringing the arts into healthcare in our State.

May I begin by acknowledging the Muwinina people upon whose land we gather. I acknowledge today's Tasmanian Aboriginal Community as ongoing custodians of country. I recognise their enduring culture and deep connection to land, sea, sky, and waters.

We gather to celebrate what began with one artist, in one ward, and a belief in the healing power of the arts. What began in 2015 as a six-month pilot program on the Acute Older Persons Unit at the Royal Hobart Hospital has grown into what Inscape is today, thanks to the vision of those involved and the generosity of Anne Dawborn's bequest.

Inscape Tasmania is an example of what can be achieved when creativity and care come together. Now, a team of eleven artists and musicians brings comfort to thousands of patients each year at the Royal Hobart Hospital through outpatient rehabilitation programs, as well as at the Roy Fagan Centre and the New Norfolk District Hospital, with bedside art-making, storytelling, public music performances, and artist residencies.

Inscape's commitment to professional development for artists, contributions to scholarly research, and partnerships with healthcare staff have positioned it as a leader in arts-in-health practice. An award-winning 2018 publication in the International Journal of Older Persons Nursing records its impact not only in Tasmania but also nationally and internationally.

Shortly, please enjoy the music and meet the artists. You will hear a number of pop-up performances through the evening, including one by local folk trio, Hansome Molly. Funds raised tonight will support Inscape's programs.

May I acknowledge Inscape, its founders, staff, artists, musicians, healthcare partners, patients, and supporters, and thank you all.

I now have the great pleasure to officially open the Ten-Year Celebration and Fundraising Event for Inscape Tasmania.

Thank you.