

## Message from the Director General, Department of Culture and the Arts

The Department of Culture and the Arts is pleased to present **Open Arts**, a collection of stories from the Disability and the Arts Inclusion Initiative (DAII), celebrating inclusive arts partnerships in Western Australia.

The Disability and the Arts Inclusion Initiative is an excellent example of the potential of cross-government and cross-sector partnerships. In particular, it has provided a practical model via which individual arts and cultural organisations can create opportunities and environments that are positive and welcoming of people with disabilities.

Projects such as DAII successfully highlight our commitment to ensuring that unique and transforming culture and arts experiences are made available to all Western Australians.

I would like to thank those organisations and individuals who shared their stories for this publication and encourage you all to continue your excellent work in creating inclusive Western Australian communities.

### Allanah Lucas

Director General  
Department of Culture and the Arts



## Message from the Director General, Disability Services Commission

The Disability Services Commission welcomes the wonderful, collaborative partnerships and outcomes that the Disability and the Arts Inclusion Initiative (DAII) has fostered.

**Open Arts** is a collection of stories reflecting on the journey for the artists with disabilities who participated in this opportunity to showcase their talents. Projects of this nature really highlight the value of an inclusive Western Australia by recognising the contribution and participation of all its citizens.

Through the implementation of the DAII model, arts and cultural community organisations have trained their employees to adopt inclusive policies and practices. These in turn enhance their decision-making skills and engagement with artists and audiences with disabilities. This has created the long term benefit of embedding this openness into our culture and everyday practice which is essential for a truly welcoming community.

Thank you to all the individuals and organisations that were involved in this project and for sharing their experiences through this publication.

### Ron Chalmers

Director General  
Disability Services Commission

