



Our history

The Alannah and Madeline Foundation is a national charity protecting children from violence and its devastating impact.

The Foundation was set up in memory of Alannah and Madeline Mikac, aged six and three, who were tragically killed with their mother and 32 others at Port Arthur, Tasmania on 28 April 1996.

We care for children who have experienced or witnessed serious violence. We also run programs that prevent violence and advocate for children's safety and wellbeing. Our vision is that every child will live in a safe and supportive environment.

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John Bertrand AM is Chairman of The Alannah and Madeline Foundation.

John Bertrand is a sportsman, businessman and philanthropist.

John is the Australian who skippered the winged keel *Australia 2* to victory over Dennis Connor's *Liberty* to win the 1983 America's Cup, breaking 132 years of American domination and in the process, breaking the longest-running record in the history of modern sport.

A World Champion and Olympic bronze medallist, John represented Australia in five America's Cups and two Olympic Games over a 25-year period. In 1988, the Confederation of Australian Sport voted the *Australia 2* America's Cup victory as the finest team performance in 200 years of Australian sport.

John became Chairman of The Alannah and Madeline Foundation in 2001. He believes that our children are this country's greatest asset, and that every child has the right to a safe and secure upbringing. As Chairman of The Alannah and Madeline Foundation, John works tirelessly in conjunction with Australian business and community leaders to achieve this objective.

John is also Chairman of the Sport Australia Hall of Fame, whose members are the Legends of Australian sport.

In 2008, John was named Melbournian of the Year. In 2011, he received Monash University's Distinguished Alumni Lifetime Achievement Award. Both awards were received for his philanthropic and community leadership.

He holds a Mechanical Engineering degree from Monash University and a Master of Science from MIT in Boston.

John is chairman of selectors of the Australian Olympic sailing team. He is a mentor to many aspiring young Olympians.



“The violence experienced by Alannah and Madeline Mikac continuously drives our team to develop important programs and initiatives that help keep children safe from violence. Having recently become a grandfather for the first time, protecting children from violence is even closer to my heart than even before and I am deeply proud and excited about what is planned for the Foundation in the future.”

John Bertrand AM, Chairman