

The Alannah and Madeline Foundation's gala event *Starry Starry Night* raises \$620,000 in its twelfth year

The Alannah & Madeline Foundation has celebrated its twelfth *Starry Starry Night* at Crown. The star-studded event, featuring over 100 celebrities hosting tables, raised \$620,000 to support the Foundation's work, keeping children safe from violence.

The starry event included celebrity performances by personalities not normally associated with music. Stand-outs included Kids WB's Heidi Valkenburg who performed Dolly Parton's '9 to 5', Nova's afternoon team Ryan, Monty and Wippa who did a Farnsey medley, Dermott Brereton doing 'I'm Too Sexy' by Right Said Fred and Brian Mannix who closed the show with a rock medley all proved to be crowd favourites.

International celebrity chef Curtis Stone who attended the event for the first time said, "What a fabulous night filled with fun people joining together for an amazingly worthy cause".

Getaway's Catriona Rowntree said "I am in awe of all the performers who belted out the tunes. The mood is festive to celebrate the most wonderful foundation."

AFL star Nathan Buckley who attended the first event in 1998 said, "If there is one night in the year when you can see normal, decent people turn into complete divas and rock stars on stage...Starry Starry Night it is. Hilarious!"

The Alannah and Madeline Foundation's CEO Dr Judith Slocombe could not believe the level of support that the event received. Dr Slocombe said, "For a charity event to be running strong after twelve years is testament to the commitment that many people have to The Alannah and Madeline Foundation. We have now raised nearly \$6 million at *Starry Starry Night* thanks to all of our supporters. The money is invested in the futures of Australian children through our Buddy Bags Program, Intensive Support Program, Better Buddies Framework, Children365 and our Cybersafety and Wellbeing Initiative."

Starry event founder and Geelong Football Club assistant coach Brenton Sanderson said, "It's a privilege to still be involved with The Alannah and Madeline Foundation. Who would have thought a little gig thought up in the small town of Geelong would become one of Australia's best gala nights?"

For further information, interviews with Dr Judith Slocombe and other *Starry* celebrities contact the below details:

