



NEWS RELEASE

29 AUGUST 2007

**PATIENTS AT THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL TO ENJOY
A SPECIAL SYMPHONY EXPERIENCE**

THE young patients at The Children's Hospital at Westmead will enjoy the therapeutic power of music and song in a special concert in the Sydney Symphony and MBF music4health series at the hospital next Tuesday (4 September 2007).

Popular singer and performer Trisha Crowe will join the musicians to present their concert to a special audience in the hospital's Starlight Room where the children can hear, sing and play music designed especially for them.

Following the performance, the musicians will join the hospital's music therapist, Bonnie Nielsen, in bedside visits to patients unable to attend the performance.

The Westmead concert is the latest in the Sydney Symphony and MBF music4health program visiting hospitals in NSW. Recent visits to Westmead have been considered highly successful, having a positive impact on the hospital experience for many patients and their families.

"A hospital might seem an unusual setting for a concert by some of Australia's finest musicians," said MBF national public affairs manager David Jones.

"But we could think of no better or deserving audience than the youngsters at The Children's Hospital at Westmead.

"In addition to the health benefits of experiencing the therapeutic power of music, the concerts are great fun and a welcome break for children from the routine of hospital life."

Sydney Symphony Managing Director, Libby Christie, said that music4health has already demonstrated that music has the ability to give patients a truly uplifting experience.

Numerous international studies point to the positive effect of music on a wide spectrum of health issues. The Faculty of Medicine at The University of Sydney has a unit dedicated to medicine and music and the University of Melbourne has an extensive musical therapy course.

Media are welcome to attend and photograph the performance in the Starlight Room from 11 – 11.30am



DETAILS AND CONTACTS



A Sydney Symphony and MBF music4health concert in action

Date: Tuesday 4 September 2007

Time: 11am

Venue: Starlight Room
The Children's Hospital at Westmead
Cnr Hawkesbury Rd & Hainsworth Street
Westmead NSW 2145

Musicians: Singer Trisha Crowe
Violin Alex Mitchell
Violin Sophie Cole

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