 **Make Music is a free celebration of music around the world on June 21st.**

<http://www.makemusicday.org/>

<http://makemusicaustralia.org.au/>

Launched in 1982 in France as the Fête de la Musique, it is now held on the same day in more than 750 cities in 120 countries. The original intention of the festival was to spread and promote music, especially among street & community musicians and to organize free concerts making all genres of music accessible to the public. In 2017, Make Music Day in the U.S has grown to include 53 cities, 3,283 groups playing 4,138 free outdoor concerts at 1,179 location. s An overview of the US program in operation can be [viewed here](https://youtu.be/ilj4sN2rQrE)

Completely different from a typical music festival, Make Music is open to anyone who wants to take part. Every kind of musician — young and old, amateur and professional, of every musical persuasion — pours onto streets, parks, plazas, and porches to share their music with friends, neighbours, and strangers. All of it is free and open to the public.

The popularity of the musical celebration originated in France has brought about a global endeavour to mark the day. Our association will add Australian cities and places to this global event, and help coordinate their participation.

We seek the involvement of local councils, schools and community music organisations, music stores and industry, and importantly, the general community.

There is no ‘celebratory’ music making event for the whole community in Australia. By participating in a developing global event, the positive impact on our arts and culture in the future could be significant.

Our vision is to see;

* Local and state governments encouraging music performance in public places, communicating to their networks, building awareness and being an enabler to the community to perform in public, through the provision of spaces and venues
* Community Music organisations conducting events in their locale
* Music organisations encouraging their constituents to be involved
* Schools showcasing their music programs and providing performance opportunities, culminating in future national events. Schools partnering with businesses to create public performance opportunities.
* Greater awareness in the community about the benefits of music participation
* A community enriched by more music making and a significant addition to our cultural life.

**A key to Make Music Day is community leadership and ownership.**

The AMA has committed seed funds to engage a coordinating resource, establish an online footprint (www.makemusicaustralia.org.au). We feel this is the greatest need to pull the participants together. Enabled by it sponsors, The NAMM Foundation, the AMA will support the event in this developmental stage. To assist local government and businesses, schools, organisations and musicians we can provide useful resources which will be online.

**About our Association**

We are a small, but active, not-for-profit, which represents the purveyors of musical instruments – suppliers and retailers.

The AMA has been advocating for music making and education for 40 years now. We also create events that promote music making. Part of what our association does is to create and drive music awareness activities and programs in the community with the view to engage as many people as we can in making music. The AMA was a founding partner to The Music Count Us In initiative that involves 600,000 students singing the same song at the same time, focusing media attention on the benefits of music education. We also partner with the Soundhouse Music Alliance, a music industry charity, which seeks to support access to music making opportunities so that our communities are enriched by engaging music participation.

More information can be had at our website: [www.australianmusic.asn.au](http://www.australianmusic.asn.au)

Founding partners in helping Australia Join the Worldwide Celebration of music are the NAMM Foundation and the Make Music Alliance.