



**CREATIVE KIDS
BRIGHTER KIDS**

For Immediate Release

20 June, 2018.

Anthony Mackay AM appointed as Chair of The Song Room

The Song Room is excited to announce the appointment of Anthony Mackay AM as the new Chair of the Board of Directors. Tony brings a strong international reputation in education leadership. He is CEO of the **Centre for Strategic Education**, Chair of the **Australian Council for Educational Research**, Deputy Chancellor **Swinburne University (Melbourne)**, Principal Advisor, **National Centre on Education and the Economy (Washington DC)**, and Deputy Chair of **New Zealand's Education Council**.

With Tony as Chair, and with the **new CEO, Simon Gipson**, the former Head of one of Melbourne's leading independent schools St Michael's Grammar School, The Song Room believes it is well positioned to lead a renewed approach to closing the **increasing education equity gap in Australia**. There is a growing global awareness of the **value of creativity in education**, and the **efficacy of The Song Room's impact** on education outcomes for Australia's most disadvantaged young people is well documented in research conducted by **Brian Caldwell and Tanya Vaughan at Educational Transformations**.

Tony brings to the Board a wealth of international and Australian education experience. He is an expert consultant to **OECD and UNESCO**, Consultant Advisor to **Asia Society's Global Cities Education Network**, Co-Chair **Global Education Leaders Partnership**, Board Director of the **Innovation Unit UK**, International Advisor to **Learning Forward (USA)**, Advisory Board Member **New York Academy of Sciences**, Fellow of **The Royal Society of Arts (UK)**, and Senior Fellow, **Melbourne Graduate School of Education, The University of Melbourne**. Anthony is a Board Director of **High Resolves** and has just completed his term as Board Director of the **Foundation for Young Australians** & Board Director of **Teach For Australia**.

Tony is moderator of the annual **International Summit on the Teaching Profession**, the **Global Education Industry Summit** and debates at the **World Innovation Summit for Education**. He was Inaugural Chair of the **Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership** and the Inaugural Deputy Chair of the **Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority**.

The Song Room is positioning itself as a prominent education organisation in this country through the appointment of significant education leadership in Anthony Mackay and Simon Gipson. It is an organisation that looks to the future with renewed strength, delivering programs that target the cycle of disadvantage in communities across Australia by lifting students' academic performance, school attendance, social-emotional wellbeing and community involvement.

For further information contact:

Alice Gerlach, Director of Market Development.

M: 0408 992 942

E: alice@songroom.org.au

W: www.songroom.org.au



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Postal Address The Song Room, PO Box 243, Prahran, Vic, 3181

Street Address Level 5, Building K, 32-50 St John Street, Prahran, Vic, 3181

P 03 9521 3990 F 03 9521 3993 E enquiries@songroom.org.au W songroom.org.au ABN 68 790 325 760 ACN 159 071 584