

Courageous Canberrans tell their Stories from the Street

Media Release

12 September 2016

'Just keep swimming', 'Special Roosters Fan', 'Me and my dog' and 'The Life of Bryan' are the titles of four short inspirational films about dedication, courage and resilience.

The films are told by Bianca, Bryan, Genice and Kylie – four Big Issue vendors whom can often be seen around the streets of Canberra.

They were made as part of a digital storytelling project titled 'Stories from the Street' which aimed to reduce social isolation, as well as increase self-esteem and artistic skills.

The project, funded by ArtsACT, was a collaborative effort between PhotoAccess, Gen S Stories and Woden Community Service (WCS).

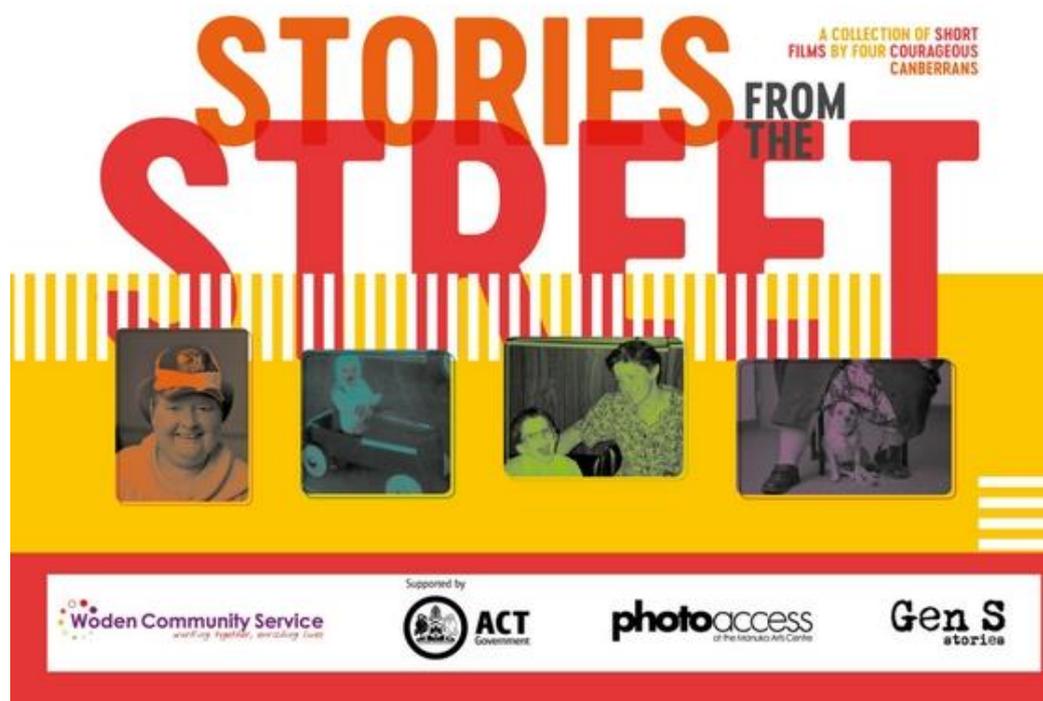
"The art of storytelling is so powerful. It's raw and authentic – people get to tell their stories in their own voices, with their own images," Artistic Director of Gen S Stories, Jenni Savigny said,

The premiere of 'Stories from the Street' will take place on Thursday, 29 September from 6-8pm at the Tuggeranong Arts Centre and is open to the general public.

"I am looking forward to the sharing these stories with the wider community" Beth Wurcker, Director of Social Inclusion at WCS said.

"In the space of a few minutes, we are given access to the core of who they are and it's a privilege," Ms Wurcker added.

For a sneak peek, you can view the trailer here: <https://youtu.be/4-0JaZgd478>



Media contact:

For pictures, bios and interview opportunities contact WCS, Marketing and Communications Manager, Mark Devan at mark.devan@wcs.org.au or call 0476 804 565.

Event contact:

For more information about the Premiere of 'Stories from the Street' or to RSVP, please contact Beth Wurcker on beth.wurcker@wcs.org.au or 6181 2802.

Alternatively, you can register directly through Eventbrite: <http://bit.ly/2cgdRkr>

**About Woden Community Service (WCS)**

WCS is a not for profit community organisation that has been providing community based services for over 45 years. Our vision is to build and nurture a vibrant and connected community, working closely with stakeholders, partners and the community.

WCS provides a wide range of services covering a cross section of the community from children, families, young people and seniors including disability, housing and mental health services.

For more information, visit www.wcs.org.au