



GOVERNMENT HOUSE
SYDNEY

Message from

Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC QC

Governor of New South Wales

In November 2019, Dennis and I were invited by Isaiah Dawe to join a circle of *ID. Know Yourself* young people in 'Yarn Time'. To listen to their stories was a privilege. Their beautiful artwork, 'Belonging', which we viewed on the day when it was almost completed, was another safe haven for storytelling. The handprints in the painting were particularly evocative, locating each of the young people in their stories, making a statement of identity and belonging.

The impact on young lives that Yarn Time has had is uplifting. An increase in school attendance and retention, employment opportunities, a decline in juvenile justice interventions, and re-connections with family are some of the strong, positive outcomes from *ID. Know Yourself* in its first year of operation.

We were hoping to join in another 'Yarn Time', this time at Government House Sydney, reciprocating the hospitality we enjoyed with Isaiah and the young people we met. Unfortunately, COVID-19 interrupted those plans, but we can't wait to join in Yarn Time again.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Margaret Beazley".

Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC QC
Governor of New South Wales