PRESS RELEASE: HEAR ME Youth Arts Project February 2021

**HEAR ME – Teenagers Take Up Space youth arts project**

HERE ME performance art youth project, proudly supported by Yarra Ranges Council, is about teenagers exploring misconceptions held about young people, giving them a voice to share their unique perspectives, taking up space in their community in a positive and creative way.

The project runs in the first week of the Easter school holidays, with workshops facilitated by local performance maker and teaching artist Dani-Ela Kayler on Wed 7th/Thurs 8th/Fri 9th from 11am-3:30pm. The workshops are for young people aged 12-18 years and will conclude in a flashmob style event in the streets of Belgrave and Upwey on Saturday 10th April (time TBC). The performance outcome will support young people to build leadership qualities, activate public space and empowering people to have a voice addressing dominant societal perceptions about youth.

Workshops will include drama-based activities, learning static-acro skills with Ruccis Circus School, and group discussions exploring experiences being a teenager - what they care about, hope for, are concerned about.

Here’s what some of the young people said after the project last year:

*“Once in a life time experience.”*

 *“HERE ME was awesome. I want to do it a million times.”*

*“It was something different and I like pushing myself to try new things”*

No drama, dance or performance experience is necessary, only a willingness to participate… it is an opportunity to meet new people, learn new skills, have a voice, share opinions and ideas, express yourself, move and take up space in the Easter school holidays!

Commitment to the 4-days is required. Spaces are LIMITED so registration is essential!
Bookings are now being accepted for the workshops. Follow the link on FB.

**Dates:** Wed 7th - Sat 10th April 2021

**Age range:** 12-18yrs

**Cost:** Free

**Location:** Workshops will be held at Two Floors (downstairs of the Emporium),

1662 Burwood Highway enter via Blacksmiths Way, Belgrave.

**Facebook**: https://www.facebook.com/HEREMEBelgrave

**Video of 2019 project outcome:** <https://www.facebook.com/HEREMEBelgrave/videos/2289716401269642/>

**For more information, please contact:**

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