



MEDIA RELEASE

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NEW DIGITAL THEATRE SHOW BRIDGES DISTANCE BETWEEN GRANDCHILDREN AND THEIR GRANDPARENTS

'*Best. Party. Ever.*' is an interactive digital theatre production crafted in response to the recognised need for bridging the distance between grandchildren and grandparents who live apart, utilising technology to enhance family connections.

Established in 2019, Threshold is a Kyneton-based company that has been creating unique immersive experiences that invite people to connect more deeply with each other. Recognised for its innovative approach to theatre, Threshold's work has been celebrated globally for its ability to bring families together in meaningful and engaging ways. '*Best. Party. Ever.*' follows Threshold's production '*Mountain Goat Mountain*', which received international acclaim as featured in [The New York Times](#).

'*Best. Party. Ever.*' was created by Threshold co-founders, Tahli Corin and Sarah Lockwood with Andrew Callaghan, Matt Kelly and UB Lee. It is an interactive show hosted on Zoom that has been made especially for grandparents and their little loved ones (biological and chosen) and aged 6 to 12 who live apart.

Stars of '*Best. Party. Ever.*' include world-renowned children's comedian, Matt Kelly (The Listies), and Australian Actress, Genevieve Mooy (Wellmania). '*Best. Party. Ever.*' is a jam-packed hour of frivolity for families to enjoy from the comfort of their own homes. Attendees can expect a crafted symphony of silly songs, parlour games, sock puppets and plenty of shenanigans that can be shared together online, which helps shorten the distance and build connection with loved ones.

Feedback from preview audiences has already delighted participants from as far as Korea to Rockhampton, Canberra, and Adelaide. One grandparent, Harriet, described it as: "A delightful interactive experience and a chance to do something exciting with my far away grandchild."

The premise of the show is for attendees to get ready for a party like no other! Every year, Matt and his Gran celebrate their birthday together, and this year Gran is off exploring the world. So, they'll have to party together online, and you're invited! Will you be able to help Matt pull off the *Best. Party. Ever.*? Will you be able to stop his evil twin brother Trevor from wrecking it all? Can you help decorate the house, make the card, crack the codes, and most importantly, blow out the candles?

Presented as part of the upcoming [Melbourne Fringe Festival](#) in October 2024, this innovative and interactive show is launching with support from City of Melbourne's home of art made specifically designed with, for and by children and families, [ArtPlay](#).

With the support of [Creative Australia](#), Threshold and its creative team have explored the challenges and creative potential in long-distance intergenerational relationships.

Co-founder of Threshold, Tahli Corin, said initial research unearthed that many grandparents are longing for a deeper connection with their grandchildren, especially when they are so reliant on online communication to build rapport with their loved ones. She adds that the idea for the show grew organically in response to her own family circumstances.

"We know that many grandparents use video calls to stay in touch with their families, but engaging 6 to 12 year-olds in a meaningful conversation online is a real challenge! So, given this cohort can't take their grandchildren to the theatre, we have brought the theatre to them where they can make memories and build their relationship in a fun and engaging way," said Tahli Corin.

"I have children who live away from my parents, and I really wanted to put this out for families in our situation. This relationship is precious, and we wanted to find new and special ways to nurture it."

Tahli Corin, and co-founder, Sarah Lockwood, believe that nurturing the intergenerational connection can also increase digital safety for both generations. As highlighted in the [Gonski report titled 'Growing up Digital'](#), it states: 'Grandparents rarely share the digital space with their grandchildren. Being a co-user of digital media and gadgets offers an opportunity to be involved in the world that young people are ubiquitously a part of. Doing this more frequently will provide grandparents a view into what young people are doing online and build their capacity to open up the discussion with them about what they are doing or viewing.'

In response to the Gonski report, '*Best. Party. Ever.*' dishes out a solid serve of silliness, while also introducing participants to simple online tools. This helps grandparents build confidence in using new online skills and ensuring that the fun and connection can continue in future video calls.

Dates: 17-20 October 2024 at 10am, 1pm, 3pm, 5pm and 7.30pm for 60 minutes

Tickets: Available for \$24 through [Melbourne Fringe Festival website](#) and more information at thethreshold.com.au/best-party-ever

Photos: Publicity photos and video available [here](#)



About Threshold

Threshold create immersive experiences that invite people to connect more deeply with each other. From audio theatre experiences to analogue treasure hunts and immersive installations, Threshold's adventures have brought the delight and wonder of theatre to thousands of people across the globe. thethreshold.com.au

Further information

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