

## **Paul Kelly visits Artful Dodgers Studio!**

The Artful Dodgers Studios had a legendary visitor recently when Australia's favourite singer/song-writer Paul Kelly dropped in. Paul visited to assist two Artful Dodgers Studios participants, African rappers Fablice and G Storm (The Flybz), who were working on their new song called 'Child Soldier'. The Flybz heart felt tune describes their journey – of being recruited into the Burundi Army and their subsequent time in a Tanzanian refugee camp. The duo has seen recent success within the Australian music scene having recently appeared at the Sydney Opera House and in Adelaide where they won the first Australian/African hip hop awards. They also received support from Multicultural Arts Victoria and the City of Melbourne to record their debut album.

Showing his commitment to helping others, Paul visited the Artful Dodgers Studios, despite being in the middle of a national promotional tour for his new album 'Spring and Fall' and a new documentary film about his career titled 'Stories of Me'. The studio recording session was overseen by Jesse Hooper, Artful Dodgers Studios musician mentor and former member of Australian pop-rock band Killing Heidi.

The Coordinator of the Artful Dodgers Studios Marianna, said "It was exciting for everyone to have Paul Kelly come down to our Collingwood studios. It gives our participants confidence to see Australia's most famous song writer in their midst and wanting to work with them. It's great validation that their lyrics and stories matter, and that they can and do make an important cultural contribution."

The Artful Dodgers Studios provide innovative and creative spaces for young people to work in fully equipped art and music studios with experienced artists and musicians. Young people can choose to come to open access studios to work on individual or collective projects, get involved in one-on-one mentoring, or participate in a range of pre-accredited and accredited training.

The Artful Dodgers Studios are a vibrant part of Jesuit Community College, using the arts to engage young people and provide them with pathways to education, training and employment opportunities. We have a range of short courses planned for 2013 that focus on different artistic skills – visual arts, graffiti, multimedia and video and of course music. As we are part of a vibrant arts and culture precinct much of what we do is celebrated in the public arena, exhibitions, performances, or major community events such as the Gertrude Street Projection Festival or the Emerge Festival. To register your interest, call Paula Andrews on 9415 8700.

If you're interested in open access studios drop by and have a look at **1 Langridge Street Collingwood** between the hours of 11–4 Tuesday through to Friday or make a time for a tour with one of our artists.