



## Welcome

This is our 6th edition of Can-Do Musical Notes, our third for 2014!!!

In this jam packed issue of Can-Do Musical Notes, we start a spotlight series of getting to know our Can-Do Musos Board Members. We start it off with Australian drummer Andrew Hewitt.

The featured artist in this issue is a very talented musician from New Jersey, USA, Andrew Bambridge. Andrew is an award winning multi-talented little person who is working hard while on his journey into the entertainment world.

The issue also features stories from Bernie Sawford about the Autism Rocks Roadshow, an article from visually impaired singer/artist Emily Buresh, an article about Tulio Fuzato, a double amputee drummer from Brazil, and a story from Michael Candy from South Australia about a global music competition he has entered.

There are a couple of enhancements we have recently made to our website. Firstly, a "Friends of Can-Do Musos" page which we will list links of websites where people want to help us promote Can-Do Musos. If you would like to be a friend of Can-Do Musos, [email us](#).

Secondly, we have a few exciting projects in the pipeline and are asking for support from you, the community. We have placed a Donate to Can-Do Musos button on the front page of the website. Please support us, any donation is appreciated.

As of the 19th July 2014, our website has 108 musos featured from Australia, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Ireland, Netherlands, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States, and Venezuela.



Australia's most inspirational drummer—Andrew Hewitt—performing with Dom Famularo and Mike Mignogna at Australia's Ultimate Drummers Weekend at Melbourne, Australia in July 2009. Andrew's story is the first of our Spotlight on Can-Do Musos board members series.



**Having a  
"Can-Do" attitude  
is the first step  
toward success!!**

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## Can-Do News



### ROBOTIC ARM DRUMMER JASON BARNES APPEARS ON THE DOCTORS

Georgia's [Jason Barnes](#) recently appeared on US TV show The Doctors. You can watch the episode here. [www.thedoctorstv.com](http://www.thedoctorstv.com)



### JASON BECKER—NOT DEAD YET 3 CONCERT

[Jason Becker](#) Not Dead Yet 3—featuring Richie Kotzen, Michael Lee Firkins, Ben Woods plus more special guests. Saturday August 30 2014 at the Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell Street, San Francisco, CA. For tickets and more information, please visit [www.slimspresents.com/events/2014-08-30/jason-beckernot-dead-yet-3-feat-richie-kotzen-michael-lee-firkins-ben-woods-plus-special-guests/](http://www.slimspresents.com/events/2014-08-30/jason-beckernot-dead-yet-3-feat-richie-kotzen-michael-lee-firkins-ben-woods-plus-special-guests/)



### THE TRAP SUMMER CONCERT & AUCTION

We are honored to present Mike Finnigan & Friends with special guest Tata Vega August 22 from 4 pm until 7 pm. at: Hill-Carrillo Adobe, 15 E. Carrillo Street, Santa Barbara, CA. Limited tickets, call [Eddie Tuduri](#) at (805) 962- 1442 to purchase by credit card. All tickets \$65.00 refreshments, wine and soft drinks included. Please support [The Rhythmic Arts Project](#).



### THE AUTISTIX AND I LOVE THUNDER ROCK DISABILITY ROCKS AT ESSEX

In the UK, Can-Do Musos [The Autistix](#) and [I love Thunder](#) performed recently at Disability Rocks 2014 Festival in Essex. According to the Disability Rocks website, despite the rain, they put on a storm. Read more about it here <http://disabilityrocks.org/essex-festival-a-great-success-despite-the-rain>



### BEARBRASS ASYLUM ORCHESTRA WELCOME'S THE OTHER FILM FESTIVAL

A big congratulations to [Bearbrass Asylum Orchestra](#) from Melbourne Australia, for their video clip for the song Welcome being selected for play during [The Other Film Festival](#). To see the clip, check it out here <http://youtu.be/ErycGb7yUZI>.



### RUDELY INTERRUPTED TAKING ON THE WORLD

Aussie indie rockers [Rudely Interrupted](#) have been jet setting of late, with some recent shows. Firstly, with the Alberto Pio Orchestra in Italy on the 25th May, back home then off to Los Angeles USA for TwentyWonder on June 28. Full report in the next issue of Can-Do Musical Notes.

## Cover Note: [Andrew Hewitt](#)—Wheelchair drummer... On the run



Andrew Hewitt is known locally and internationally as "Australia's Most Inspirational Drummer", and with good reason. He was born with Cerebral Palsy, and uses a wheelchair for his day to day mobility.

Andrew grew up in the industrial town of Burnie, on the North West Coast of Tasmania. Andrew's obsession with drumming all started in 1980 when his parents got him a drum kit for Christmas thinking it would be a good form of physical exercise. Listening to AC/DC, Kiss, Led Zeppelin and Queen, layed the foundation of Andrew's drumming style. Andrew adds "I never played sports when I was a kid, I used to come home from school and spend an hour on the drums." Drumming then became a major passion for him.

Andrew played in his first band in North-West Tasmania in the late 80s. Moved to Melbourne in 1992, and then Sydney in 2001.

He was determined to never let his disability stop him from achieving a much greater success.

After over 34 years, Andrew is still hard at it.

In March 2004, Andrew was featured in Modern Drummer magazine's On The Move department, and has since appeared in DRUM!, Rhythm (UK), Top Drummer (Poland), had a cover feature in Canada's The Black Page, and has been regularly in Australia's own Drumscape magazine.

Andrew travels regularly performing and hosting drum and percussion workshops all over Australia, and held his first drum clinic in the USA in March 2013.

Andrew's performance highlights include: Australia's Ultimate Drummers' Weekend 2009 (with [Mike Mignogna](#) and [Dom Famularo](#)), Roland V-Drum Festival Sydney 2010, Adelaide Fringe Festival, Club Wild Sydney Opera House shows in 2004 and 2005, and various other disability arts festivals, conferences and expos.



Andrew says "The US clinic was in Santa Barbara, California, was organised through [Eddie Tuduri](#) Founder of TRAPs and held at

## Can-Do Musical Notes

### Cover Note: Andrew Hewitt—Wheelchair drummer... On the run (cont)

*the Westside Community Centre. We had about 40 people there... Consisting of other TRAP trainees, clients and staff of United CP Santa Barbara. Zildjian cymbals sent a box of cymbals for me to use at the gig. During the clinic, I talked about my Cerebral Palsy, Drums and how I do the things I do and played some classic Australian rock songs. Funniest moment was a room of Americans trying to say G'day Mate!"*

When not travelling, or doing gigs around the place, Andrew teaches drums at his teaching studio in Western Sydney, where the key focus is on students of all abilities. Andrew says *"my drum lessons aren't about finding the next John Bonham or Ringo Starr, but more about building the student's confidence and showing them they CAN-DO something really cool by playing drums. I have students with Brain Injuries, Autism and Cerebral Palsy, and they all leave my lessons feeling refreshed with a smile on their faces."*



As well as teaching in his studio, Andrew also does lessons on the internet via Skype.

As mentioned before, Andrew and his wife Jennifer did the trek to the USA in March 2013 for Andrew to attend a training seminar for Eddie Tuduri's TRAP program in Santa Barbara, California. He is now Australia's first official TRAP facilitator, and is running TRAP workshops under the name **TRAP'D (The Rhythmic Arts Project Downunder)**. TRAP'D is an educational program which teaches people with intellectual differences to read, spell, count and use basic life skills using hand drums and percussion.

While in the USA, Andrew also travelled to New York for lessons with Dom Famularo, and to meet at Dom's studio with Dom, David Segal and Mike Mignogna, with a purpose to form Can-Do Musos.



Early 2014, Andrew was nominated for the prestigious "Australian Of The Year" award. Andrew says *"Even though I didn't make it to the finals, it was still a huge honor just to be nominated."* In June, Andrew recorded an interview with Dan Shinder of **Drum Talk TV** which discusses Andrew's life, love, drums, and various projects including can-do musos.

Andrew has recently been granted funding from **The Awesome Foundation** for buying drums for the TRAP'D program.

He has also been doing workshop gigs with fellow Can-Do Musos **The Sylvanbeats** in Sutherland, a southern suburb of Sydney. On top of other projects, Andrew is currently playing drums for Sydney cover band, **That Other Band**. Andrew says, *"The band was formed by some close mates who wanted to have some fun. We had done some gigs previously with various line-ups and had a blast; so we decided to make it an official thing and see how it goes."*



In September, Andrew is presenting the TRAP'D program at the **Diversional Therapy National Conference** in Adelaide, South Australia, and in October, his various projects including Can-Do Musos at the **Arts Activated Conference** in Sydney.

Andrew is an Australian endorsed artist for **Pearl drums, Zildjian cymbals, Vic Firth drumsticks, Remo drum heads and percussion**.

For more information, please visit Andrew's website <http://www.drummerstix.com.au>

## The Autism Rocks Roadshow by Bernie Sawford

The Autism Rocks Roadshow is looking for support from bands worldwide.

The Autism Rocks Roadshow is raising awareness of Autism through the media of free live music around the world. The founder Bernie Sawford has gained the support of the legendary band UB40 for the Roadshow worldwide.

In the UK The Autism Rocks Roadshow is hosted by The 142's Band and they are looking for UK based bands that want to join the Roadshow. Any bands that join are issued with an official logo to use to promote any event they are holding to show it is endorsed by UB40, it does not have to have an autism related cause as they are undertaking as the logo itself to promote autism awareness.

The next UK Roadshow is in Basingstoke 23 August 2014, any bands want to join us there? Contact : [www.facebook.com/pages/The-142s-Band-Autism-Rocks-Roadshow](http://www.facebook.com/pages/The-142s-Band-Autism-Rocks-Roadshow) for more information.

Worldwide The Roadshow has had interest from Canada, USA, Australia, Cyprus, Turkey, Philippines and many other counties and is looking for people to head up the Roadshow in these counties.

The Autism Rocks Roadshow has a world registration site (currently under construction) that will be the world hub site. and expects to have that up and running in August ready to start gigging 2015.

UB40 support video <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WYVerMVneHI>

**THE 142'S BAND**  
AUTISM ROCKS ROADSHOW

**UB40**



# Can-Do Musical Notes

## **Tulio Fuzato**—Rockin Rio

From Brazil, Tulio Fuzato is a double amputee drummer who came from a very musical family. His father played guitar and his mother sang. He grew up listening to The Beatles and Jimi Hendrix, but his passions were the classic hard rock bands of Deep Purple, Led Zeppelin, and Black Sabbath.

Tulio started playing drums at the age of 10, and eventually progressed to playing in pubs and clubs around Rio.

Tulio says *"I became a double leg amputee in July, 2003. Like a lot of people, I had lost my job, ended a relationship, and went into depression. I had rent to pay, and lots of difficulties, including health problems; but I didn't seek help. I had very low self-esteem and at this time I was battling an addiction to barbiturates: (anti-depressants and tranquilizers). I ended up in a terrible accident with a train and as a result, had to fight for life against death, good against evil, and an attempt at daily self-will. Fortunately, this kind of amputation allowed me to still play the drums relatively easy with the use of prosthetics."* With the use of prosthetics Tulio can still take control of his bass drum pedal. Tulio says *"I discharge the right knee weight on the bass drum pedal and allow a very tight spring tension to give me immediate return and rebound."* Tulio uses a toe-stop in order to keep his foot centered on the pedal. The hi-hat, however, Tulio has little control over due to his left leg and knee have a contracture. It can't bend completely. Tulio uses the hi-hat in two positions, either open or closed completely.



Tulio's message is pretty simple, he wants to show that no matter how tough the obstacles are in life, there are always ways to overcome them. You can read more about Tulio at his website [www.tuliofuzato.com.br](http://www.tuliofuzato.com.br)

## **Fighting the odds** by **Emily Buresh**

Being visually impaired can be truly challenging. There are things I would love to do, like drive, that I know probably won't be happening anytime soon. Reading can be frustrating especially after working on a computer for hours. Even a trip to the movies with friends can be an issue when I have to sit up close. Having a disability is definitely not for the weak.

I was born visually impaired due to optic nerve gliomas causing optic nerve atrophy. I have holes in my field of vision that I rarely notice and my eyesight is around 20/600. As of right now, my condition is stable, yet there is no way of correcting it. However, who knows what the future will bring.

So why did I choose to be a visual and performing artist? Of all the careers out there, the arts are not the first thing that pops into people's minds. I get more questions when I tell people of my limited vision and my passion for art. I do try to answer them as best I can, though sometimes I feel like hitting my hand to my forehead.



Why the arts though? Because it's what drives me to live. Ever since I was a baby, I was dancing and singing. Soon after I learned to draw at three years old, I was creating full scenes of art. As I grew, I took classes in what I could and taught myself the rest.

I have stories of how I would get ridiculed by other students, parents, and even teachers when I was dancing. They felt my presence as a "disabled girl" would disrupt the dance number when in point of fact I was one of the better dancers on the stage. I would occasionally give my teachers a fright when I would spin across the stage. I never once fell off of the stage, but they would sometimes catch me just to make sure.

I had a dance teacher who was as tough as nails on all of us. When she said jump, you did without question. There was this one time after dance class that she came to me and told me never to give up. I was a bit overweight and vision impaired, but she said that when I danced, I looked like I was flying. That type of passion is rare; don't let it slip away, even though others might be hard on you for it.

As for singing, if I'm learning a song, I hold the sheet music up to my nose to read it. If people had a problem with how I read the music, that's their problem. I love to sing! Over the years, I've learned ways of memorizing the music more quickly and have strengthened my confidence to sing out.

My dedication in learning a song has been commented upon many times. People see how I struggle to read, but yet, I keep on doing it. People who know me see that if I am not reading the music, I know it by heart. My face beams with such joy when I sing which brings others to smile.

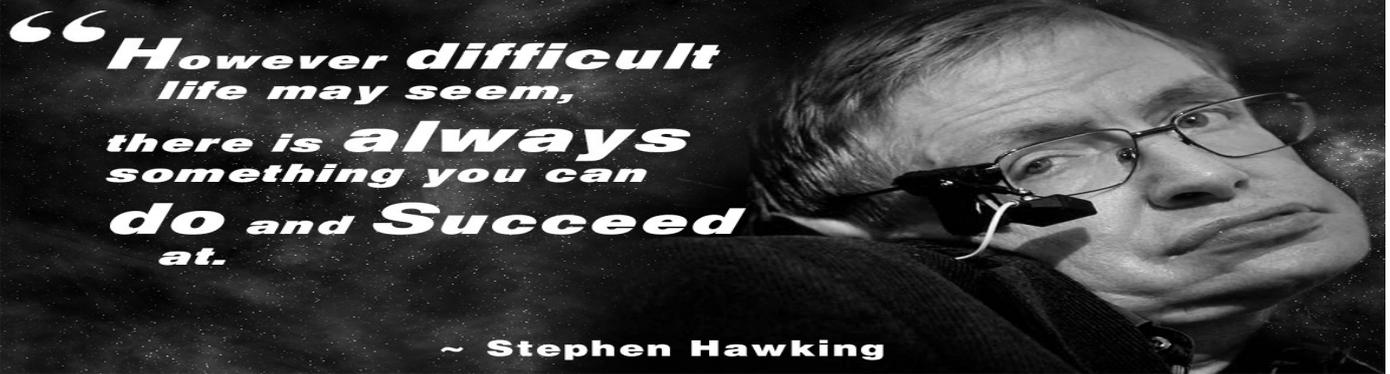
Each day is challenging and there have been situations I'd rather not be in as a visually impaired person. You really do have to put up with a lot of ignorance and haters are going to hate. It's up to me to let the negative go and be thankful for the gifts I do have and that I can share them with others. I believe attitude is everything in this world. How I act can influence so many people around me so I choose to smile and send out positive energy.

I will have to say, the most unnerving thing I've done to date as a visual and performing artist is learn how to hula hoop with fire at a training camp for the fire arts. This was something I wanted to try and help overcome my fear of fire. It was scary, but I did it! (There is always someone there spotting me with a fire proof blanket just in case) I try not to let my lack of vision stop me from enjoying life. There are definitely days I stay in bed and eat ice cream because things get to me, but afterwards, I dust myself off and go on another adventure.

I will continue my passion as an artist till there is no breath left in my body because I was born to do this. I hope that you don't let your limitations keep you from your passion for the arts. Find a way to make your artistic dream a reality!

Read more about Emily at her website [www.emilyburesh.com](http://www.emilyburesh.com)

## Can-Do Musical Notes



### Can-Do Featured Muso— Andrew Bambridge

Andrew Bambridge, a 17 year old achondroplastic dwarf, is a multi-talented musician from New Jersey.

He first began with piano lessons at the age of 6. At the age of 7, he participated in a school musical, where he found his talents of singing and acting. He continued with his studies of piano and voice, and later on found his love of percussion.

After 3 years of studying percussion privately with *Greg Giannascoli*, Andrew auditioned for the *Juilliard*

*School's Pre-College Division*, where he got accepted and studies with *Jonathan Hass*, *Pablo Rieppi*, and *Greg Giannascoli*.

Along with studying percussion at Juilliard, Andrew also is a part of the *JPC Orchestra* and *Percussion Ensemble*. He performs with both ensembles at Juilliard's renowned stages, and also conducts and composes for the Percussion Ensemble regularly.



For more information, you can check out Andrew's website [www.andrewbambridge.com](http://www.andrewbambridge.com)

Also "like" Andrew's page on [Facebook](#)

### Andrew's Fast Five

#### 1. What started you playing music?

The reason I started music is from my brother's piano lessons. I was around the age of 5 when I begged my mom to have piano lessons as well. Eventually I convinced her when I was 6 years old to have a piano lesson and that is when my music journey started. After a couple of years, I started other instruments as well, first voice when I was 7, drum set when I was 8, and then the rest of percussion when I was 10 years old.

#### 2. What are you working on at the moment?

I am working on a lot of things at the moment. The most important repertoire that I am working on is my audition material for colleges next year. This includes a variety of percussion pieces from snare drum etudes to four-mallet marimba solos. Also, this summer I am composing a couple percussion ensemble pieces for Juilliard Pre-College Percussion Ensemble next year to perform during the school year.

#### 3. Had any bad gigs? Any funny gig stories?

I have had bad gigs, and then I have had "different" gigs. There was once when I was playing marimba at an awards ceremony, and I played, in my mind, not good. However, the audience was astonished by my performance and was talking about it all after the awards ceremony. I took the applause and was amazed, but then I realized the audience's knowledge of the marimba when I was talking to a few members, and not one person knew that it was a marimba (they all thought it was a xylophone or vibraphone). I do also have a funny gig story. I was playing piano outside a restaurant in my local town and it was around 8:45 p.m.. I was about to begin packing but then a college kid appeared over the short rock wall beside me and just stared at me playing. He did not say anything, so I began to shred on the piano and he slowly said "Woooooaaaaahhhhhhh!" At that moment I knew he was on something because he then walked clumsily around the wall and sat at a table in front of me. I played for a little bit more, but then told him I had to pack up. He told me that I was awesome and then strolled away.

#### 4. Who inspires you? Who are your heroes?

My biggest inspiration to me is [Dame Evelyn Glennie](#). She is not my biggest inspiration because she is an outstanding percussionist (although I do enjoy playing and studying percussion). The reason is she created a profession that never really existed, the profession of being a solo percussionist. That is what I would like to do, create something or accomplish something that no one has ever done in the past. I want to be an innovator, not a follower.

# Can-Do Musical Notes

## Andrew's Fast Five (continued)

### 5. What is your biggest challenge as a musician, in what way have you had to adapt your playing to work around your challenges?

As a musician with a dwarfism, I have many challenges of reaching and playing instruments that are made for average sized individuals, especially for the piano and vibraphone to reach the pedals and the timpani to reach the tuning gauges. I get over these obstacles through pedal extenders that simply raise the pedal (timpani is a bit hard, still working on making tuning gauge extenders). However, my biggest challenge is trying to be seen as a musician without a challenge, because to me, the most important aspect is how well I play, not how I play the instrument that I am playing. For example, many people ask me after a performance on the marimba, "How do you do that?" I hate it when people ask me that, because it covers up what I really wanted to share which was my music that I was making with the marimba.

## Global Rockstar Competition by Michael Candy

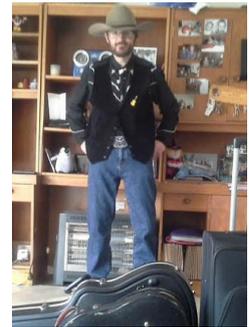
As a new member of can-do musos, I, **Michael Candy** have decided to enter the Worldwide music contest called Global Rockstar.

Michael is a Guitarist and Guitar Teacher from Murray Bridge in South Australia. He lives with a condition called Ankylosing Spondylitis, a degenerative back disease which progresses slowly over time.

This is a competition that is open to anyone all over the world. They encourage anyone who believes in music to enter. You can perform any genre and there are great prizes to win. I hope some of you that produce or write music will showcase your awesome talent and enter not just to win, but to show that people with disabilities can do performances just as good as people without.

Once again if you do sign up I wish you all the luck and hope you win a prize or, who knows, even the grand prize.

To find out more go to this link and register. <http://beta.globalrockstar.com/>



## What's cool on Can-Do YouTube



JoAnna Johnson—Deep Soul



Australia's Matt McLaren—Say Something—live at the Grand Canyon USA



Kyle Coleman from Cornwall in the UK, Just Listen

## The Final Note

At a recent board meeting, we decided we would take a more personal approach to Can-Do Musos. Each musician featured on our website have become part of the Can-Do Musos family. We really need your help to spread our message! Our message is about you...! Let's try to connect all the musicians with challenges globally! It is a small world and we are all one family! Let's unite...communicate...and share music to all!

Please feel free to share this newsletter with your friends and colleagues, and don't forget to like and share [Can-Do Musos on Facebook](#) and [Follow us on Twitter](#).

Till next time!

*The Can-Do Musos Team*

If Can-Do Musos members have any musical news, gigs, or stories they would like to share in the next issue of *Can-Do Musical Notes*, please email us at [candomusos@gmail.com](mailto:candomusos@gmail.com)

Please visit our website at <http://www.candomusos.com>