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Enlighten brings record-breaking crowds to Old Parliament House

The Museum of Australian Democracy at Old Parliament House recorded their highest ever attendance during this year's Enlighten festival, with more than 22,000 people visiting the museum over four days.

Visitation to the museum during the Enlighten festival has continued to grow, from a 60% increase in numbers from 2013 to 2014 to a 108% increase from 2014 to 2015.

“We continue to develop fun and creative programs for kids and families as part of our Enlighten offering and this approach is working really well for us. Enlighten has been a great opportunity to dispel the notion that museums are hands off and to turn the traditional idea of what goes on in museums completely on its head,” said Ms Daryl Karp, Director of the Museum of Australian Democracy at Old Parliament House.

The museum's program for Enlighten 2015 was based around sharing people's voices and shining a light on the power of words and self-expression. From the light installations on the outside of the building to kids having their say on the greatest cubby ever built in King's Hall—people of all ages joined some very colourful conversations.

“We were overwhelmed with the success of the cubby, which was so full after the first weekend, that we had to move some of the cut-outs to the roof to make space for more creativity,” said Ms Karp.

The Great Kaleidoscope Cubby - now complete with messages and images from our visitors - will be on display at Old Parliament House until Tuesday 17 March. It then goes into hiding, but will reappear in Play Up, the children's exhibition from July this year.

“We are very grateful for the support from the community and we would like to thank all Canberrans who made this year's Enlighten at Old Parliament House such a success,” said Ms Karp.

The museum is inviting people to see the cubby in real life by offering FREE entry over the 14-15 March weekend.

A national icon, a place of great beauty, magnificent design and historical significance, Old Parliament House is home to the Museum of Australian Democracy. Be inspired by the spirit of Australian Democracy and the power of your voice within it.

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For further information, images or interview opportunities please contact: Jose Walsh, Josephine.walsh@moadoph.gov.au, 02 6270 8230, 0450 464 954