



Students experience the beat of life

CANBERRA school students have experienced the rhythm of life at an Australian National University concert series to mark the 10th anniversary of percussion troupe DRUMatiX.

The ANU School of Music DRUMatiX group performed Kiddicussion concerts last week for students ranging from Kindergarten to year-12.

The concerts have a special meaning for DRUMatiX conductor Gary France.

"This is a very special year for me as it marks my 10th year at ANU heading up the percussion program and leading DRUMatiX, and my 20th year in Australia overall," he said.

The USA-born musician said the concerts were tailored to both young and older audiences.

"We truly enjoy doing these concerts for school, as we've found that young people really connect with percussion.

"After all, percussion is all about rhythm, which is music at its most instinctive and accessible.

"Anyone who can clap or stamp their feet can be a percussionist."



Farrar Primary School students Hughie Mitchell, 7, and Joshua Vines, 7 get into Kiddicussion at the Australian National University.