

## Caleb Rixon

### Speaker, Advocate, MC

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### Professional Summary

A dedicated and accomplished stroke survivor, speaker, consultant and advocate with extensive experience in the field of healthcare and invisible disability awareness. Proven ability to engage and inspire audiences through powerful storytelling. Adept at collaborative work with healthcare professionals, researchers, and organisations to improve the lives of stroke survivors. Strong foundation in performing arts and film production, providing a unique perspective to advocacy work.

### Education

- Master of Film and Television, Victorian College of the Arts (VCA) Film School
- Bachelor of Arts in Performing Arts, Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA)

### Professional Experience

- Chief Vision Officer; [Genyus Network](#)  
2015-present  
Lead various collaborative projects with healthcare organisations, educational institutions, and advocacy groups.
- Chief Vision Officer, Chair, [Genyus Foundation](#)  
2020-present  
Spearhead the strategic mission of Genyus Network, social enterprise providing a platform for trauma survivors.
- Sessional Tutor and Course Advisory Committee Member; [La Trobe University](#)  
2016-present  
Offer insights into lived experiences of stroke survivors, enhancing education for future healthcare professionals.  
Provide expertise and guidance to Occupational Therapy department in curriculum development and implementation.
- Content Developer; [Deakin University "Sexual Lives Respectful Relationships"](#), Department of Health  
2020, 2022  
Advise on content development for programs promoting disability inclusion, healthy relationships & sexual education.
- Consultant; Accessible Inclusive Geelong, NOVELL Redesign, Stroke Foundation - Young Stroke Project  
2020, 2021  
Collaborate with organisations on projects aimed at improving accessibility and support for individuals with disabilities.

### Publications

- Cambridge University Press, Brain Impairment "[Connection: Stories not statistics](#)"
- Disruptive Publishing "[Finding Yourself After Stroke](#)"
- ABC News "[Disability, Dating and Disclosure](#)"
- HuffPost "[What Causes Brain Aneurysms](#)"

### Presentations

- 2023 Keynote: Transport Accident Commission (TAC) International Day of People With Disabilities and Harmony Day
- 2023 Keynote: National Broadband Network (NBN) International Day of People With Disabilities
- 2022 Keynote: UK Stroke Forum "[Humanising Healthcare](#)"
- 2021 Online Event: Australasian Society for the Study of Brain Impairment, "[Fresh Voices in Brain Impairment](#)"
- 2021 Online Event: Australasian Society for the Study of Brain Impairment, "[Help Disrupt The Isolation Industry](#)"
- 2020 Keynote: [Australian Institute Digital Health Summit](#) "[How To Disrupt The Isolation Industry](#)"
- 2020 Panel: Digital Health Week
- 2019 Panel: Occupational Therapy Australia National Conference, Sydney NSW
- 2018 Keynote: Australasian Society for the Study of Brain Impairment, National Conference, Adelaide SA
- 2018 Keynote: STROKE 2018 National Conference, Sydney NSW

### Media Appearances

- "[House of Wellness](#)" 7 Network (Television)
- "[Insight](#)" SBS (Television)
- "[ABC New Breakfast](#)" ABC News (Television)
- "[Art Works](#)" ABC TV (Television)
- "[Play Safe Stay Safe](#)" Department of Health (Online)
- "[JOY FM](#)" (Radio)
- "[ABC Melbourne Homespun](#)" (Radio + Live)
- "[ABC Radio National](#)" (Radio)
- "[Impact Boom](#)" (Podcast)
- "[2 Girls One Podcast](#)" (Podcast)
- "[Two Gay Peas and a Podcast](#)" (Podcast)
- "[Let's Talk](#)" (Podcast)

## **MC / Facilitation**

- 2023 MC, National Disability Awards, National Disability Services (NDS) (Melbourne, VIC)
- 2023 MC, Geelong Disability Awards, genU and City of Greater Geelong (COGG)
- 2023 Facilitator, Health Justice Australia National Conference
- 2023 MC, Occupational Therapy Australia National Conference, "[Ignite](#)" (Cairns, QLD)
- 2023 MC, National Disability Services "Disability at Work" Conference (Canberra, ACT)
- 2022 MC, GenU's Conference for International Day for People With Disabilities, "[Together](#)", (Geelong, VIC)

## **Recognitions and Awards**

- Finalist, Consumer Health Forum Shifting Gears Summit "[Big Ideas Forum 2021](#)"
- 'Creative' Award, Stroke Foundation (2018)
- 'Improving Life After Stroke' Award, Stroke Foundation (2022)
- Selected as 1 of 100 online global health advocates flown to New Jersey, USA, to attend 'HealtheVoices' conference, Johnston & Johnston.

## **Testimonials**

- "Caleb is one of the best MCs that I have had the pleasure of working with during my career, both attending and presenting at numerous conferences." — Carol McKinstry, President of Occupational Therapy Australia
- "Cal stepped into the MC role seamlessly. We couldn't have hoped for a better MC and panel of speakers." — Joanne Forssman, Inclusion Manager at genU (Australia).
- "Just had the pleasure of hearing Caleb Rixon speaking first up in the Humanising healthcare session at UK Stroke Forum 22. Rousing calls to arms for professionals to attend to the rhetoric and remarks we make that disconnect us from patients as humans." — Professor Madeline Cruice, Speech Pathology researcher and Professor at City, University of London (UK).
- "I fully endorse working with Caleb. He presented one of the most moving accounts of head injury that I have ever heard; he provided remarkable insights into his day to day experiences of recovery & his wider perceptions. Caleb is warm, honest & engaging & he managed to make the audience both laugh out loud & then almost moved them to tears. He has a clear message, & doesn't pull back any punches with this. His insights are gold dust for clinicians, researchers & all people working in professional care." — Professor Avril Drummond, Healthcare Research at University of Nottingham (UK).
- "Caleb's powerful personal keynote address set the programme proper off to an exceptional start from the insider's perspective - wisdom and entertainment so skilfully crafted!" — Professor Jacinta Douglas, La Trobe University (Australia).
- "Caleb Rixon talked to us last week about Resilience and Connection. His story and journey were weaved throughout and made his message relatable and meaningful. I know the words resilience and connection will continue to drive what I do and how I interact." — Nicole Lam, Diversity and Inclusion at IDP Australia.