



An ear to the ground

PETER ROLFE

MELBOURNE dancer Ross Onley-Zerker (left) feels the vibration every time he steps on to the dance floor.

He has to.

Because, like one in every six deaf Victorians who rely on "feeling" sound, the St Kilda local moves to the beat when the bass pumps through the floorboards.

He has mastered hip-hop dancing despite his impairment and started dance company Deaf Can Dance.

Mr Onley-Zerker said his passion for music and melody sometimes got him into trouble when he played bass-heavy music too loud in his car.

He has won a Vodafone-sponsored competition to run workshops for aspiring deaf dancers throughout Victoria for a year.

Picture: NORM ORLOFF