

ANNUAL REPORT 2018



WAKAKIRRI

Australia's Largest Performing Arts Event for Schools

MISSION STATEMENT

At Wakakirri we believe great stories can open hearts and minds and inspire change. Our goal is to create a festival where schools can aim to do just that and help them share their stories with as many people as possible.

GREAT STORIES CAN OPEN HEARTS & MINDS AND INSPIRE CHANGE

WAKAKIRRI ASSOCIATION INC.

The Wakakirri Story-Dance Association Incorporated is a not-for-profit organisation (since 2004) that uses storytelling, the oldest form of learning, as it's focus for providing innovative educational programs to schools in a manner that resonates with contemporary youth culture.

WHY STORIES?

Storytelling is the oldest form of learning.

'When stories are exchanged, tellers and interpreters share their differing understandings of events and experiences. This sharing can result in rich and deep alignments. Stories provide a road to empathy, understanding and acceptance because when we share stories we become characters in our own stories as well as those of others. Simultaneously, we come to deeper knowledge of content, of others and of ourselves' (Lowe, 2002, p. 75).

AIMS

- To teach children about themselves and others through the creating and sharing of stories and by this process develop students' educational outcomes, lifestyle choices and community awareness
- To creatively develop the competence of Australian children, and through them the broader community, to think and act in an environmentally responsible manner
- To promote participation in Wakakirri programs by Indigenous Australian students

OUTCOMES

- An exchange of cultural expression and understanding between schools and communities across Australia
- Increased student awareness of community issues including bullying, mental and physical health, homelessness, and the environment.
- Development of students' self esteem, educational outcomes and healthy lifestyle choices in a manner that resonates with contemporary youth culture
- Providing Australian communities with an understanding and respect for Indigenous cultures through the process of sharing of stories
- A hands on learning approach to sustainability

WAKAKIRRI ASSOCIATION INC

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

PRESIDENT

DARREN TASKER
Management Consultant

**VICE
PRESIDENT**

MATTHEW SAMUEL
Co-Founder of Wakakirri

TREASURER

GERRY GILCHRIST
Accountant

**TEACHER
REP**

VALERIE HARROLD
Primary Teacher

FESTIVAL PATRON



DR TOM CALMA

WAKAKIRRI EVENTS

PRIMARY CHALLENGE

The original Wakakirri event established in 1992. It's all about creating and sharing the story!

SECONDARY CHALLENGE

Creating Dance Theatre, Industry Professionals mentor Schools so Wakakirri steps it up a level- it gets serious!

DANCE CHALLENGE

Created for dance schools and community groups who love the Story Dance format, Wakakirri DSC is the ultimate event for those who take their Story Dancing seriously.

SCREEN CHALLENGE

Can't make a live show? Send your Story Dance in by film.

EVENT DESCRIPTION

DOES YOUR SCHOOL HAVE A STORY TO TELL? A great story can change the way people think about the world around them. Wakakirri is a performing arts festival where schools aim to do just that.

WHAT IS A STORY-DANCE? A Wakakirri Story Dance is a 3-7 minute performance by a group of students that theatrically tells a story using a combination of dancing, acting and creative movement to pre-recorded music. Schools can tell any story and use any combination of dance, creative movement, acting, music, props, costumes, sets, and in some cases; film, projections and singing. The possibilities are endless! Schools are also able to incorporate the annual signature item into their story for an extra challenge and every school's story is filmed for Wakakirri TV as part of the search for 'Story of the Year'.



SIGNATURE ITEM

Each year Wakakirri has a different Signature Item. Schools are encouraged to incorporate this item into their Wakakirri entry in a creative way.

EVENT STATISTICS

PARTICIPATION RATES

2018

STATE	PRIMARY	SECONDARY	SCREEN	TOTAL
QLD	36	4	0	40
NSW	60	13	0	73
ACT	16	0	0	16
VIC	40	16	2	62
SA	37	1	0	38
WA	12	1	0	13
TAS	0	0	1	1
TOTAL	201	35	3	243

2017

STATE	PRIMARY	SECONDARY	SCREEN	TOTAL
QLD	38	2	1	41
NSW	61	15	2	78
ACT	14	1	0	15
VIC	35	15	2	52
SA	31	1	2	34
WA	15	2	2	19
TAS	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	194	36	9	239

PUBLIC VS PRIVATE

PRIMARY

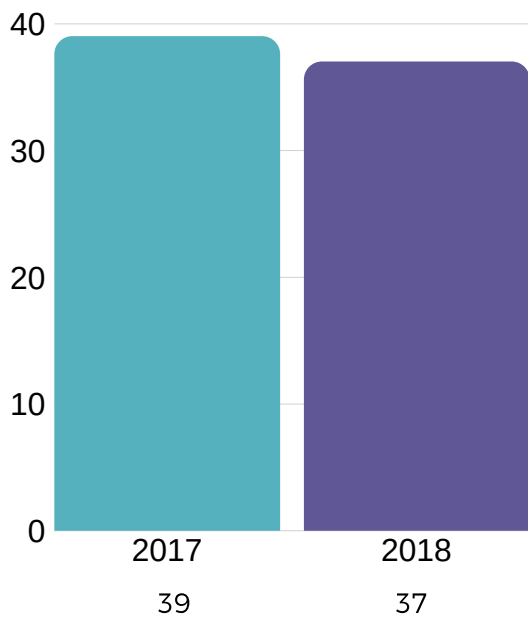
STATE	PUBLIC	PRIVATE
QLD	23	13
NSW	38	22
ACT	12	4
VIC	34	6
SA	8	29
WA	4	8
TAS	0	0
TOTAL	119	82

SECONDARY

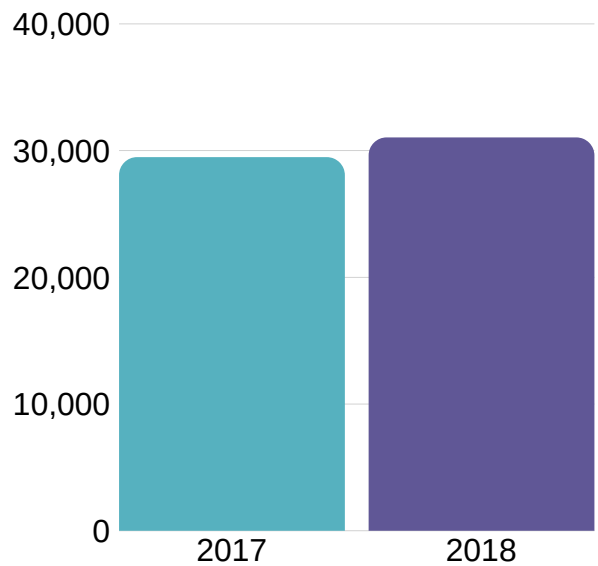
STATE	PUBLIC	PRIVATE
QLD	2	2
NSW	10	3
ACT	0	0
VIC	11	5
SA	1	0
WA	1	0
TAS	0	0
TOTAL	25	10

VENUES & DATES

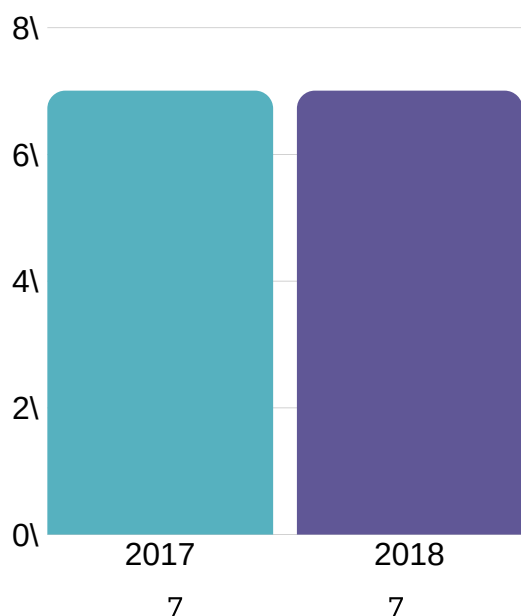
PRIMARY SHOWS



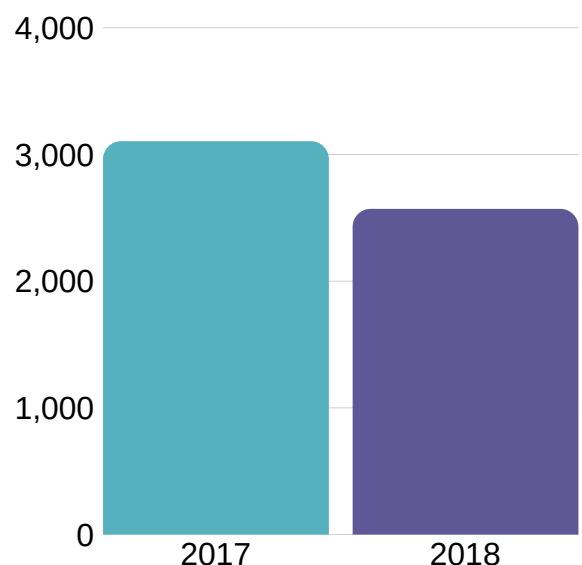
AUDIENCE



SECONDARY SHOWS



AUDIENCE



SPONSORS & PARTNERS

MAJOR PARTNERS



SUPPORTING PARTNERS



DANCE PARTNERS

- Footsteps Dance Company
- Jason Coleman's Ministry of Dance

MEDIA PARTNER

- Dancetrain Magazine

PRIZE PARTNERS

- Biome Eco Stores Australia
- Enhance TV
- Twentieth Century Fox
- Sennheiser
- Costumes Without Drama
- Spotify
- Dance Store
- Studio 7 Dancewear

NATIONAL PANEL

LEAD PANEL



ALEX PAPPS

Alex was trained as an actor, graduating from WAAPA in 1995, and as a director from the Victorian College of the Arts in 2007. As an actor his television credits include Time of Our Lives, Australia On Trial, City Homicide, MDA, Blue Heelers, Stingers, Home & Away, The Henderson Kids II, Neighbours, The Flying Doctors, Prisoner, State Coroner and The Saddle Club. He was also the co-host of the music/variety program,



MICHALA BANAS

Michala Banas is a multi award winning film, television and theatre actor. Born in New Zealand and raised in Australia, Michala splits her time working between Melbourne and Los Angeles. She quickly became the go-to girl for drama in Australia and more recently has been in high demand for comedy after the huge international success of Upper Middle Bogan (Bess of Both Worlds), in which she played the much loved and feisty Amber Wheeler. Michala is also a writer, a founding member and co-artistic director of Green room nominated theatre company, The KIN Collective, and is also story producer on the ground breaking documentary, The Show Must Go On.



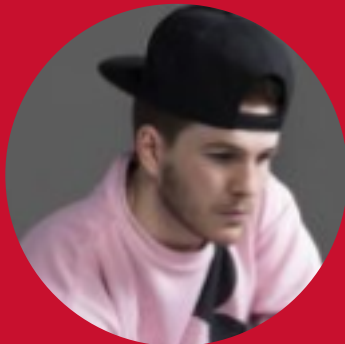
JOSHUA HORNER

Australian born Joshua Horner is a star of stage and TV. Starting out as a professional dancer he spent 5 years with the Australian Ballet then crossed over to a career in Musical Theatre which lead him to star in 'A Chorus Line', 'Billy Elliot The Musical' on Broadway and played 'Tony' in 'Movin' Out' on London's West End. Other shows include Dirty Dancing, Guys and Dolls and Tivoli. In 2009 he became a choreographic consultant for the Walt Disney Resort. He's been a 'Judge' on 'Dancing with the Stars' in Australia, created the hit website 'Dance Upon a Dream' which is a worldwide database for competitive dancers and is currently the STAR of FREEFORM'S fabulous new comedic digital series 'Oh My JOSH!'

PANEL MEMBERS



**RACHAEL
BECK**



**JAMES
ELMER**



**JASON
COLEMAN**



**MARK
WILSON**



**ANDREW
MCFARLANE**



**CASEY
BURGESS**



**JAMES
LEE**



**PETRA
GLIESON**



**WAYNE
SCOTT
KERMOND**

STORY OF THE YEAR AWARDS

PRIMARY CHALLENGE

**MANGO HILL STATE SCHOOL,
QLD**

SECONDARY CHALLENGE

**TUGGERAH LAKES
SECONDARY COLLEGE, NSW**



AWARDS
Story of the Year
Environmental
Category Award

“Visually and creatively sensational”
- James Lee

WHAT ABOUT THE CHILDREN?

A boy goes to school and learns about a hurricane in Haiti. He feels empathy for the people and can't get the homeless children out of his mind. He wants to make a difference and discovers a way. Through dance, he and his friends become helping heroes, raising funds for the children in need.



AWARDS
Story of the Year
Reconciliation
Story Award
History Category
Award

“A fantastic performance. Strong and relevant.
Wonderful work”
- Wayne Scott Kermond

THE RABBITS

Based on John Marsden's picture book, The Rabbits is an abstract interpretation of Australian colonisation and its social impact. This land was invaded by foreigners with unfamiliar ways and this changed the lives of Australians forever. What will it take to heal those unresolved wounds?

STORY OF THE YEAR AWARDS

DANCE CHALLENGE

CHILDREN'S TALENT SCHOOL, VIC

SCREEN CHALLENGE

ROWELLYN PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL, VIC



AWARDS
Story of the Year
Environmental
Category Award

Overall performance was engaging and connected with from beginning to end"
-Kristen Agnoli

THE MYSTERY OF HOPKIN'S COLLEGE
There was something strange about Mr. Hopkins's college. Someone is constantly watching the students of the college. Not a single step of the students passes unnoticed for this invisible eye: love, friendship, meetings and disputes, everything is under observation. Could this be a ghost?



AWARDS
Story of the Year
Health & Wellbeing
Story Award

"Great work on a meaningful and uplifting story"
- Petra Glieson

ARE YOU OK?
True self or hiding behind a mask
Experiencing poverty, a disability or divorce can be detrimental to someone's health. Good friends or a trustworthy adult who can encourage, resource and help give a sense of belonging are important. As friends, are we really noticing and asking, ARE YOU OK?

WAKAKIRRI DONATION PROGRAM

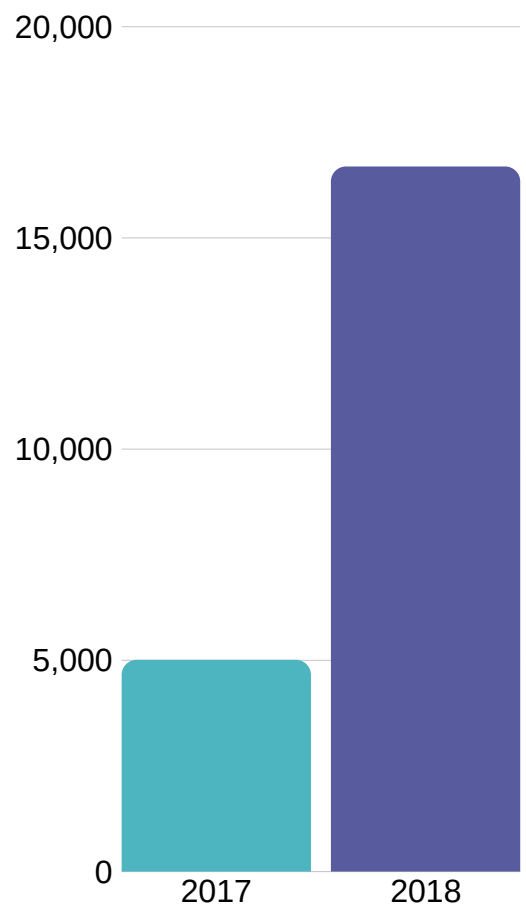
The Wakakirri Donation Program raises funds to help schools in disadvantaged communities to participate in Wakakirri. Any school can apply for funds, they simply need a letter from their Principal outlining their request.

Schools can apply for funding up to \$1,000 each year which can be spent on;

1. Subsidising a Wakakirri Best Start Program
2. Subsidising Wakakirri student registration fees

2018 BENEFITING SCHOOLS

- Clovelly Park Primary School, SA x \$500
- Hallam Primary School, VIC x \$500
- Elizabeth South Primary School, SA x \$500
- Churchill Primary School, VIC x \$500
- Albanvale Primary School, VIC x \$500
- Tarro Public School, NSW x \$750
- Blyth Primary School, SA x \$750
- Murray Bridge South Primary School, SA x \$1000
- Grovelands Primary School, WA x \$1000
- Mt Alexander 7-12 College, VIC x Student Fee
- Braybrook College, VIC x Discounted AIR to \$80
- Mt Erin College, VIC x Student Fee
- Kingswood High School, NSW x Student Fee
- Wanganui Park Secondary College, VIC x \$1000



CAREERS DAY

VICTORIA

All participants in the Secondary School Challenge in Victoria are invited to attend this significant FREE Wakakirri Career Day event. This event is the Season Launch and is hosted by some of our talented, prominent Industry Professionals who also make up our team of National Panel Reps (Joshua Horner, Michala Banas, Alex Papps). You can bring along a team of your students and teachers to a prestigious venue where you will be inspired, encouraged and informed as you begin your Wakakirri Story.

Industry professionals will reflect on their career, talking about career pathways that they have taken and discussing in depth how the students can use Wakakirri to enhance their own career prospects.

“It is a brilliant day to enable students to get an understanding of careers in the Arts, as well as enabling them to get a better understanding on how Wakakirri works and how to tell a great story.

- Teacher (Secondary School Attendee in 2018)

EVENT DETAILS

- Australian Centre for Contemporary Art
- 28th May 2018
- 100 Students



CERT II IN DANCE

VICTORIA

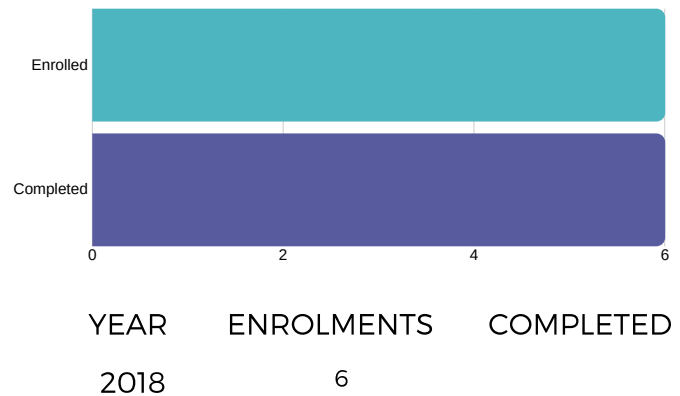
Secondary Students participating in Wakakirri can now earn a Certificate 2 in Dance. Planning, designing, choreographing and rehearsing a Wakakirri Story is a lot of hard work! Students can now double their reward for this work and earn a tertiary qualification at the same time. Secondary Students can now earn units of competency for each year of participation in Wakakirri and work towards earning a certificate 2 in Dance or similar qualification.

For every each year that a student participates in Wakakirri they will receive a Statement of Attainment for each unit completed that can grant them credits in their further studies. Units of work completed can be used towards a variety of certificates and become part of a student's permanent educational record. After 3 years of participation in Wakakirri students can earn a certificate 2 in Dance.

Cost & Registration

Students must register in order to take part in this program.

Registration for the first year is free for the 6 members of your schools creative team. The cost is \$130 for each student per year after that. The Certificate 2 is part of the CUA Creative arts and culture package.



Secondary Students in Wakakirri can earn Certificate II in Dance

In 2017, Wakakirri is celebrating 25 years and is launching an opportunity for Secondary students to gain accreditation in collaboration with Dance Factory - one of the country's leading providers of Dance Education



ARTIST IN RESIDENCE PROGRAM

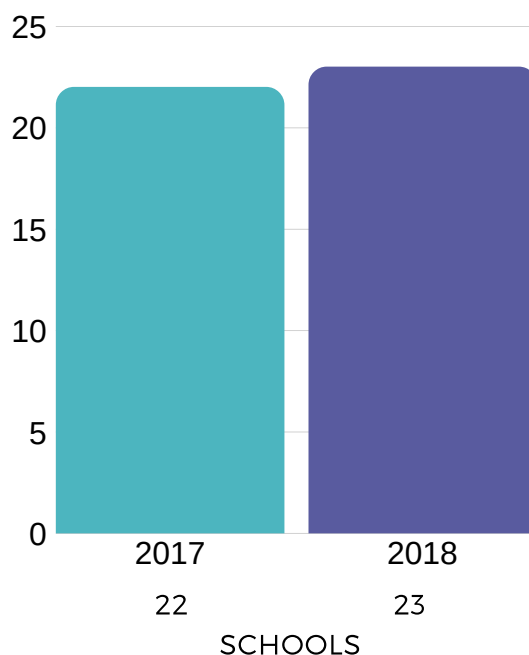
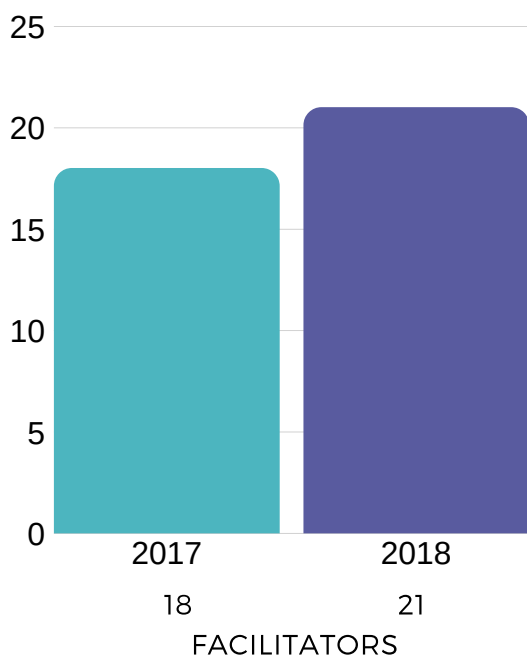
Wakakirri now has accredited Wakakirri Facilitators that can come to your school once a week for 10-12 weeks and do a lot of the heavy lifting required to get your schools Story Dance on stage. Your teachers can still be involved but without the pressure of being in charge creatively!

HOW IT WORKS

- Begins with a phone consultation to choose a suitable story that aligns with your schools values.
- A Facilitator is matched with your school and initial face-to-face meeting is organised prior to rehearsals beginning.
- Includes weekly rehearsals, creating music, and choreography to make your Wakakirri a positive and sustainable experience.
- Program runs across term 2/3 preparing for a term three performance.
- Classes can be run at lunch, during class time, before or after school.
- Our teacher will also escort your school to performance day.
- Rehearsals can be run as in-school activity or as an optional extra curricular activity.

“I was so proud of how the kids performed on the day/evening. Thank you so much for the AIR program, it is definitely worth it!

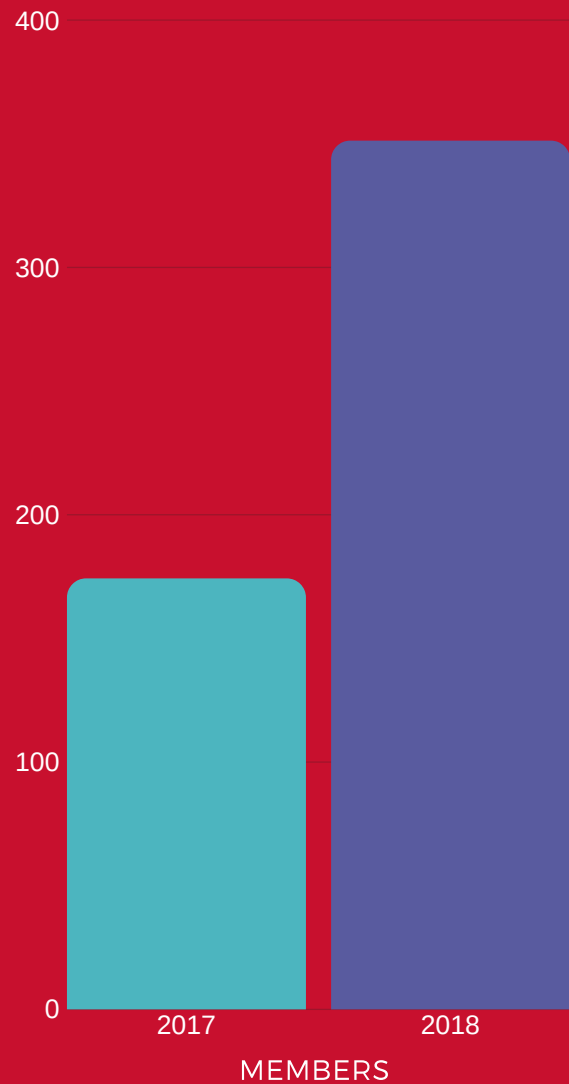
- Berkeley Vale, NSW



TEACHER FACEBOOK GROUP

The Wakakirri Teachers facebook group is designed to provide teachers with fresh ideas, new skills and Wakakirri's insight to what makes a successful Story Dance. Teachers who join the Wakakirri Teachers Facebook Forum are better prepared and have reported a smoother process in Wakakirri.

STATISTICS



ACTIVE MEMBERS

NSW (88)
VIC (61)
SA (42)

267

ACTIVE MEMBERS IN
THE FB TEACHERS
GROUP IN 2018

5 OUT OF 6

Top contributors to
group are Wakakirri
teachers from NSW
and VIC

PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARDS

Each school had their performance filmed and a 1 minute edited version created for social media. Each film was hosted on the Wakakirri website where students could vote and share their film social media to encourage their friends to vote



PEOPLE'S CHOICE WINNERS

PRIMARY SCHOOL CHALLENGE
Richmond North Public School
24,934 Facebook Shares

SECONDARY SCHOOL CHALLENGE
Mount Erin Secondary College
539 Facebook Shares



WAKA TV THE SEARCH

The Search is a TV series that follows the Wakakirri season from the beginning of rehearsals through to the announcements of national results.

The Search is broadcast from the Wakakirri website via social media and email subscriptions.

STATISTICS

EPISODE	ONE	TWO	THREE	FOUR	FIVE
LENGTH	1.24	0.48	1.27	2.30	8.01
WEBSITE VIEWS	1790	1371	3336	1271	2829
SOCIAL MEDIA VIEWS	8.5K	1.3K	2.4K	873	571 (clicked)



MEDIA

PRINT & DIGITAL

80

MEDIA ARTICLES INCLUDED

- INTRANET
- DANCETRAIN
- DANCE INFORMA
- EDUCATION TODAY EDITORIAL

The Courier Mail

LOGAN

Samoan boy's story inspires Wakakirri story

Danielle Buckley, Albert & Logan News
July 28, 2018 7:00am

In 2009, an 8.3 magnitude earthquake triggered a tsunami that devastated villages in Samoa.

After the natural disaster, one family decided to leave and pursue a life in Queensland.

Their son, Christian, is now an arts captain at Kingston State School and his story, of his struggles and rise to success in Australia, will be shared as part of the school's Wakakirri performance.

About 25 per cent of the school's students come from migrant backgrounds.



The Canberra Times
INDEPENDENT. ALWAYS.

'Let them live with us': Canberra students turn pain into understanding

Year four and five students at Torrens Primary have been learning about asylum seekers and refugees. They've read books and poems, watched documentaries and held a special assembly, with teachers hoping their charges gain empathy and understanding for people fleeing persecution.

Staff have been at pains to keep the topic apolitical. The nine, 10 and the 11-year-olds have drawn their own conclusions about Australia's approach to asylum seekers.



MEDIA

RADIO

8

RADIO INTERVIEWS INCLUDED

- 2ST, NOWRA
- BUMMA BIPPERA / NATIONAL INDIGENOUS RADIO
- ABC RADIO CANBERRA
- GEELONG'S 94.7 THE PULSE
- 94.1FM MELBOURNE (SCHOOL BROADCASTING NETWORK MUSIC MATTERS)



National TalkBlack

11:00am - Midday - Mon to Fri

Main Host : Trevor Tim/Gudju Gudju (Seith) Fourmile

Join either Gudju Gudju (Seith) Fourmile, a Traditional Owner of Cairns or Trevor Tim (Trendy Trev) an Indigenous motivational speaker/mentor, for an hour of Talkblack weekdays from 11am.

This program is presented at a grassroots level and is very popular. National Indigenous Talkblack show focussing on current affairs and issues of importance to Indigenous people right around Australia, mixed in with "murri humour" by bama people of this area. Listeners are encouraged daily to call in the toll free number on a daily basis.

The program is BBM's flagship program and is listened to by a large Indigenous audience in Cairns, Yarrabah and surrounding districts and around the country via the National Indigenous Radio Service & Other radio stations around the country that take up this program is: 4K1G Townsville, Radio Noongar WA, Radio Mama WA, Radio Yarralin NT, Koori Radio NSW, My105.9FM QLD and various stations across this country via the National Indigenous Radio Service.

We are proud of this program as we have callers ringing in on a daily basis from around the country and can speak about any issues. (Very busy show with our trainees in the background producing in by way of collecting material, up to date news/events, panel operators, answering the busy phone lines and setting up interviews).

MEDIA

TELEVISION

4

TELEVISION INCLUDED

- ABC ME
- NBN NEWS CENTRAL COAST
- SOUTHERN CROSS NEWS SA
- 7 NEWS TOOWOOMBA

[Wakakirri on NBN News Central Coast](#)

Posted on [October 26, 2018](#) by [Wakakirri Staff](#)



NBN News Central Coast paid a visit to Wakakirri's 2018 Secondary Story of the Year winner, TLSC Tumbi Umbi Campus.

SOCIAL MEDIA

8412
FOLLOWERS

FACEBOOK

696
FOLLOWERS

TWITTER

2916
FOLLOWERS

INSTAGRAM

Congratulations to our 2018 Story of the Year Winners!
Primary - Mango Hill State School QLD
Secondary - TLSC Tumbl Umbi Campus NSW... See more



12,720
People reached

4,111
Engagements

Boost Post



wakakirriofficial • Following
Australia

Results are announced October 17 on WakaTV on the website!! #welovewaka

View all 19 comments

tyresepeckham04 @ebony.atmore

@sam_christiee we've got this!

sam_christiee @tyresepeckham04

dead set

lackiefoodie Pretty cool

budbaker112



320 likes

SEPTEMBER 12

Add a comment...



Bumma Bippa Media @BBM987 • Nov 14

On todays National Talkblack via NIRS - NIRS - NIRS - National Indigenous Radio Service we had:

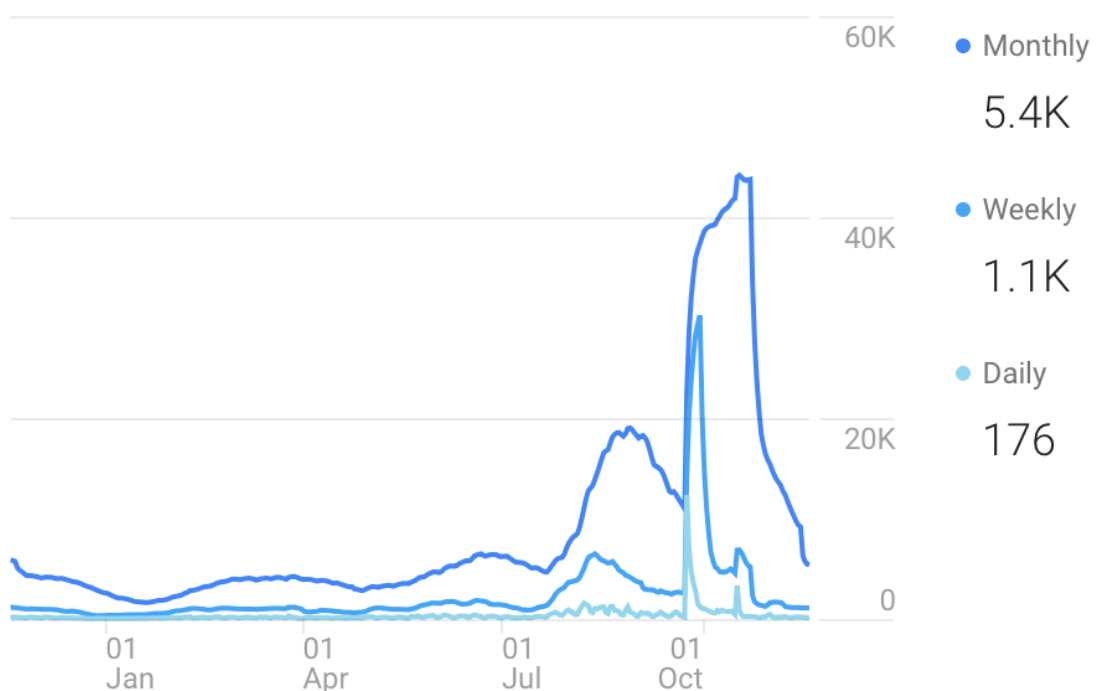
Prof Tom Calma - Wakakirri 'Festival Patron - Wakakirri is Australia's largest performing arts event for primary... facebook.com/19439508723770...

WAKAKIRRI WEBSITE STATISTICS

153k
SESSIONS

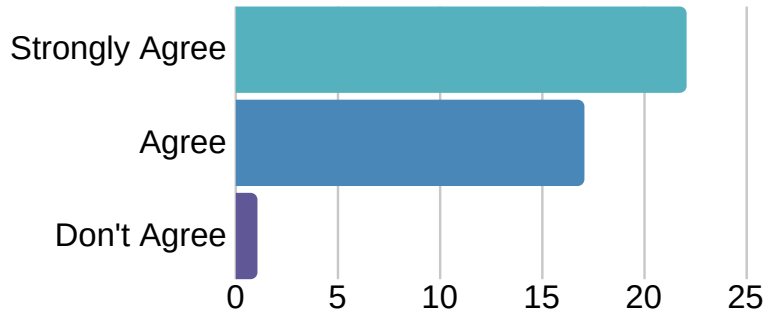
101k
USERS

Active Users

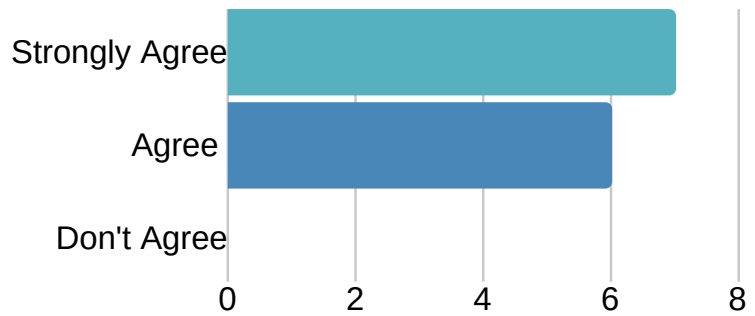


WAKAKIRRI EVALUATION RESULTS

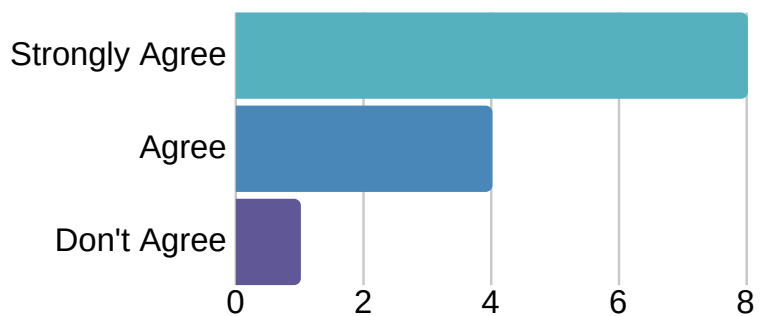
Creating a production for Wakakirri can help spark innovative and creative thinking in students



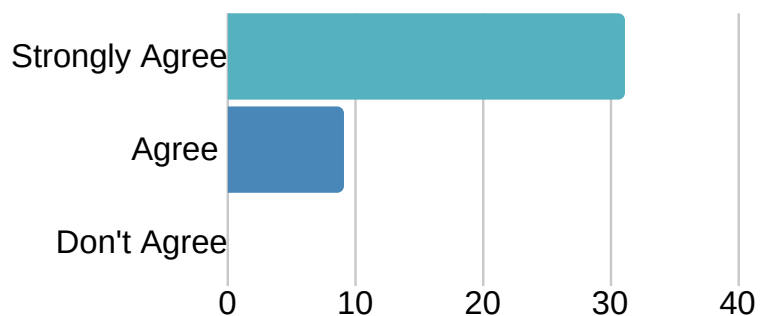
Creating a production for Wakakirri can help develop students career aspirations via an appreciation of the commitment needed to create a successful production



Creating a production for Wakakirri is an opportunity for students to develop future career social and management skills

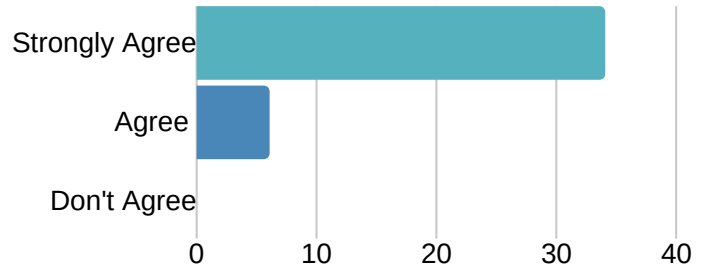


Performing in Wakakirri provides a positive life experience that can help build resilience

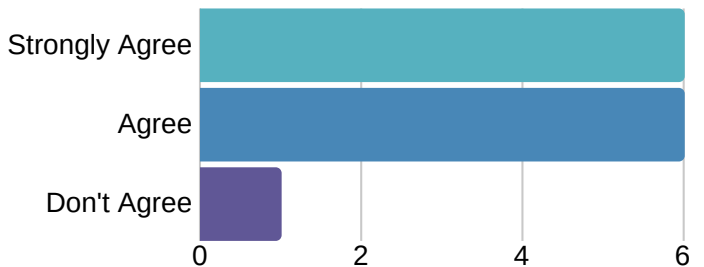


WAKAKIRRI EVALUATION RESULTS

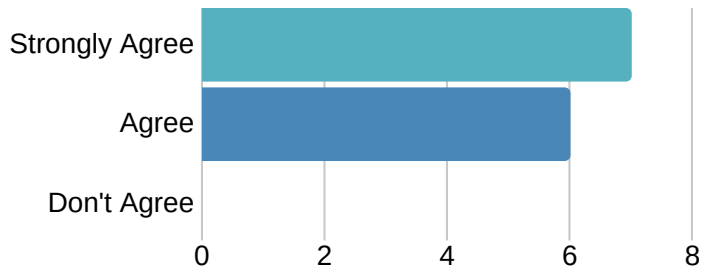
Creating a production for Wakakirri is an innovative way for students to represent their school outside traditional sporting or academic arenas



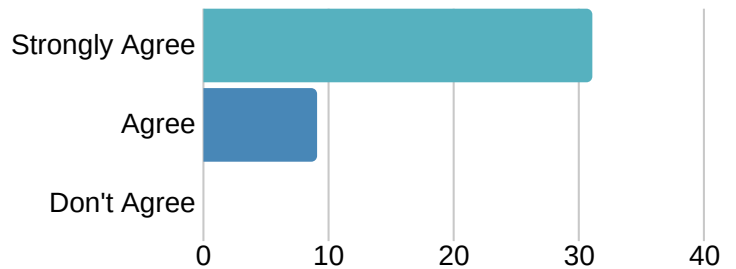
Creating a production for Wakakirri helps students develop an appreciation for a positive healthy lifestyle



Creating a production for Wakakirri creates a variety of vocational experience eg. designing and building sets, makeup, fundraising and budgeting, planning and scheduling, designing and sewing costumes



Creating a production for Wakakirri provides a positive life experience that can help build resilience



The aim of the Wakakirri Secondary Challenge is to develop students career and lifestyle choices via an appreciation of the commitment, teamwork and sense of accomplishment that comes from creating a successful production. Do you agree that this aim is being achieved?

