



REGISTRATIONS OPEN NOW FOR BANGARRA'S YOUTH PROGRAM

Bangarra's Youth Programs Team are on the lookout for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander secondary school students

Bangarra Dance Theatre's 2022 Rekindling Youth Program is now open for registrations. This year, the Rekindling team are taking their fun and inspiring dance workshops to Mackay, Broome, and Theodore, and are seeking Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander secondary students who are keen to explore their cultural identity through contemporary dance and stories.

Rekindling's vision is to inspire pride, kinship and a sense of strength in young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders through a series of dance residencies with secondary school-aged students. Participants research and gather stories with guidance from Elders within their communities, developing skills to produce thought provoking performances and community events.

Rekindling is led by Sidney Saltner, a descendant of the Wulli Wulli and Wakka Wakka people of Central Queensland, and one of Bangarra's most acclaimed artists. Saltner became Youth Program Director after 25 years as a performer. He is supported by Youth Program Coordinator and former dancer Sani Townson.

Bangarra Artistic Director, Stephen Page said "the Rekindling program is at the core of Bangarra's mission to develop the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leaders of the Future. "Sidney Saltner and his team are passionate and committed to guiding children to explore their heritage and reconnect to their cultural stories".

The Theodore program is the first of its kind by the Bangarra Youth Program Director Sidney Saltner's home Community.

Saltner said "After recent community meetings, The Elders and Community leaders of Theodore are very excited to be planning our first of its kind cultural holiday program. During the School Holidays the Elders, Youth and Community get to explore, revitalise and showcase their Language Dances and Arts for the very first time since our ancestors were told it was illegal to speak our languages, dance our dances and continue our ancient art forms."

REKINDLING 2022

The Rekindling program consists of a Workshop and three Gatherings over the course of the year, ending with a final performance. Wulli Wulli participants in QLD are encouraged to register via the link below.

MACKAY, QLD

Gathering 1: 27 - 29 April 2022

Gathering 2: 10 - 13 May 2022

Gathering 3: 6 - 10 June 2022

Final performance: 10 June 2022

To register: Contact your local school

BROOME, WA

Gathering 1: 17-19 May 2022

Gathering 2: 31 May – 3 June 2022

Gathering 3: 13 – 17 June 2022

Final performance: 17 June 2022

To register: Contact your local school

THEODORE, QLD (Wulli Wulli participants only)

Week 1 : 18 – 23 September 2022

Week 2 : 25 - 30 September 2022

Performance Date: 30th Sep 2022

(Students travel home on Friday 23 September at 2pm and return to Theodore on Sunday 25th September @ 3pm)

To register: Register using the link [here](#)

More information on Rekindling can be found [here](#).

-ENDS-

For media enquiries, contact:

KABUKU PUBLIC RELATIONS

Belinda Dyer: Belinda@kabukupr.com.au | 0415 686 014

Isabella Feros: Isabella@kabukupr.com.au | 0411 617 614

Bangarra's Rekindling Program is generously supported by Angela Wright Bennett Foundation, Besen Family Foundation, Bowden Marstan Foundation, James N. Kirby Foundation, John Villiers Trust, The Metamorphic Foundation, MJW Foundation, The Todd Family Foundation, plus many generous individual donors. The Theodore Rekindling Youth Program has received financial assistance from the Queensland Government through the Indigenous Languages Initiative.