



MEDIA RELEASE

Friday, 21 November 2008

Central West Contemporary Aboriginal Dance Performance in Wellington

Young people from the communities of Wellington, Cowra, Bathurst, Kelso and Condobolin will come together to perform with the Yarrigan Dancers at the Wellington High School Auditorium, Whitely Street, on Saturday the 6th December at 5.30pm.

The performance is the culmination of the Central West Contemporary Aboriginal Dance Development Project 2008, which saw over 75 young dancers participate in a series of contemporary dance workshops across the region with the Yarrigan Dancers.

Lead by Jo Clancy, the Yarrigan dancers are all National Aboriginal Islander Skills Development Association (NAISDA) graduates and talented emerging artists. On the night they will perform a new Contemporary Indigenous dance work being developed by Jo Clancy in collaboration with 3 other dancers.

The Yarrigan performance is an opportunity for regional Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal dancers and the public to be exposed to a professional performance of this kind.

Performances by the Wagambirra Dancers (*Wiradjuri for play and dance about*) from Cowra will also be on show, joining the young people in showcasing the new works they have devised in the workshops. These groups will perform exciting new contemporary Aboriginal dance pieces that explore the fusion of traditional and contemporary movement.

The Central-West Aboriginal performance development program currently focuses on four communities. These are Cowra, Condobolin, Wellington and Kelso/Bathurst. Organised by Arts OutWest, the program has been supported by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Board of the Australia Council for the Arts.

Each community has access to the expertise of Ms Clancy for at least four intense two-day working sessions. These workshops covered choreographic, performance and presentation development.

The general public are encouraged to attend the performance and any groups from other schools or communities wishing to attend must book with Wellington High School.

For further information on the program, contact Wellington High School on (02) 6845-2344 or Arts OutWest on (02) 6338-4657.

