

DARWIN
FESTIVAL
5-22 AUGUST 2021

**SCHOOLS
PROGRAM**

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New Owner, 2019 Darwin Festival, by Elise Derwin

HI THERE,

We're delighted to present another diverse and exciting program of performance for the students of Darwin.

Darwin Festival recognises the important role we play in bringing high-quality performance to the Northern Territory, and believe all young people should have the opportunity to participate in the arts.

We work closely with teachers and schools to make the most of these few weeks, and are always looking to further ways to engage with schools and reduce barriers to participation.

We hope that you and your students will enjoy at least one of this year's amazing performances. Stick around afterwards to meet the artists – it's often the best part!

Best wishes,

FELIX PREVAL

Darwin Festival Artistic Director



Tiffany Singh

Fly Me Up To Where You Are

SPECIAL EVENTS // RECOMMENDED FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL AND MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS (AGES 8+)

A large-scale installation of coloured flags decorated by Darwin school students and celebrating their hopes and dreams

Fly Me Up To Where You Are is a celebration of young people in the Northern Territory. This hands-on conceptual art project from New Zealand artist Tiffany Singh seeks to inspire and empower young people. Primary, middle and high school-aged children from all over Darwin were invited to create one of 5,000 unique dream flags as part of the 2020 Festival. Inspired by Tibetan prayer flags, each dream flag contains an image or message expressing the students' thoughts, hopes and dreams for the future. For Darwin Festival 2021 the flags will be hung together and displayed in a stunning large-scale community art installation at Darwin Waterfront.

The creation of the flags was an opportunity to assist young people in identifying and articulating their hopes and dreams. *The Fly Me Up To Where You Are* installation offers a chance to really value our younger generations and to show them their voices are heard. Giving students the encouragement to fulfill their wildest imaginations is critical for us to grow and develop as a nation.

WHEN: Thu 5 – Sun 22 10am-7pm Daily
WHERE: Darwin Waterfront

THIS IS A FREE EVENT



Links to the Curriculum Standards

An exciting opportunity for the students who participated in the Fly Me Up to Where You Are Project in 2020 to see their work in a public installation. An opportunity for all students to see the installation and reflect on the power of collective voices in a public space.

Content descriptor: Present artworks and describe how they have used visual conventions to represent their ideas

General capabilities: Intercultural Understanding

- Self awareness
 - Recognise personal qualities and achievements
 - Develop reflective practice
- Social awareness
 - Appreciate diverse perspectives
 - Empathise with the emotions, needs and situations of others

Themes:

- Self expression – providing the opportunity for young people to use their voices to express their own hopes and dreams for the future

ILBIJERRI Theatre Company

Heart is a Wasteland

THEATRE // RECOMMENDED FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS (YEARS 9+)

First Nation's storytelling and live music feature in a drama set in the Northern Territory that cuts to the heart of our country

From one of Australia's leading theatre companies creating innovative works by First Nations artists comes *Heart is a Wasteland*, an epic love story that unfolds on a road trip across the country.

Raye, a struggling country music star in the making, plays pubs along Australia's vast desert highways, flogging demo CDs in the hope of returning home to her son Elvis. When she meets Dan, another broken wanderer, a love affair unfurls over their four-day drive home from Darwin to Alice Springs.

Heart is a Wasteland combines First Nation's storytelling with live music, in a whisky-fuelled battle of egos. It cuts to the country's heart, recognising everyone's individual right to love.

ILBIJERRI Theatre Company's re-staging of *Heart Is a Wasteland* is a brand-new production – in both vision and scale – featuring freshly conceived sets, musical arrangements by Gary Watling and adventurous audiovisual design, all reimagined to match the energy of its new young leads.

WHEN:	Thu 12 Aug 11am
WHERE:	Brown's Mart Theatre
DURATION:	1hr 15mins

All student tickets \$15. For every 10 students booked, one teacher or guardian is entitled to a complimentary ticket.

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Links to the Curriculum Standards

Heart is a Wasteland is a unique opportunity to see a First Nations theatre work set in the Northern Territory, created and performed by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists.

Content descriptor: Analyse how the elements of drama have been combined in devised and scripted drama to convey different forms, performance styles and dramatic meaning.

Cross curriculum priority: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Culture

General capabilities: Critical and Creative Thinking

- Identifying and analysing how the elements of performance are combined to focus and drive the dramatic action for an audience
- Discussing how the elements of drama have been used in a performance they have seen
- Critically analysing and evaluating their own and others' dramatic outcomes for their artistic and cultural merit

General capabilities: Intercultural understanding

- Exploring and analysing the theatre and/or film of Aboriginal artists for its perspectives on and contributions to Australian and global drama.

Themes:

- First Nations storytelling
- Road trips
- Creative theatrical staging (the production uses live music and projection)

Note: Contains adult themes. **Education pack available on request**

Gravity and Other Myths

The Pulse

CIRCUS // RECOMMENDED FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL, MIDDLE SCHOOL
AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

An exhilarating live theatre experience that combines jaw-dropping acrobatics and spine-tingling vocals

Gravity & Other Myths, the home-grown circus company that conquered the world, brings together all three of its core ensembles plus a choir of 22 voices for ***The Pulse***. This pulsing, monolithic work unites audience, acrobat and choir into a single organism for a moment in time.

Watch as a mountain of bodies crumbles into an ocean of voices and towering human structures move with precision through an ever-changing web of ropes and elastic. Geoff Cobham's sentient lighting design, combined with Darcy Grant's inspired crowd management and Ekrem Eli Phoenix's driving score, create an intricate, organic synchronicity of human movement and sound – all to the beat of your own pounding pulse!

The Pulse is packed to the brim with visceral, poetic and heart-stopping feats of strength and agility matched with sublime vocal dexterity. The result is exhilarating.

WHEN	Thu 19 Aug 11am
WHERE:	Playhouse, Darwin Entertainment Centre
DURATION:	1hr 10mins

All student tickets \$15. For every 10 students booked, one teacher or guardian is entitled to a complimentary ticket.



Links to the Curriculum Standards

The Pulse is an exciting and impressive performance that joins a cast of 30 acrobats with a choir to produce a mesmerising large-scale production by one of Australia's leading international circus companies. This is a rare opportunity for students to witness a work of this scale and quality in Darwin.

Content descriptor: Analyse how the elements of drama have been combined in devised and scripted drama to convey different forms, performance styles and dramatic meaning

General capabilities: Critical and Creative Thinking

- Identifying and analysing how the elements of performance are combined to focus and drive the dramatic action for an audience
- Discussing how the elements of drama have been used in a performance they have seen

General capabilities: Personal and Social Capability

- Students learn to negotiate and communicate effectively with others; work in teams, positively contribute to groups and collaboratively make decisions; resolve conflict and reach positive outcomes

Themes:

- Togetherness and collaboration
- Creative stage direction and combination of physical movement with live music
- Creative theatrical staging (the production uses live music and projection)

GUTS Dance

Value for Money

DANCE // RECOMMENDED FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL DANCE STUDENTS

A provocative physical exploration of the value placed on human lives and bodies created and performed by artists from Alice Springs

How do we value human life? Is it the calculable economic value or the intangible emotional and physical value of a person we should be considering? Or is it a fine balance of both?

Join GUTS Dance // Central Australia for the world premiere of a new contemporary dance work, Value For Money, the first full-length work from award-winning dancers and emerging choreographers Sara Black and Jasmin Sheppard.

Through the lens of our collective experience of contemporary Australia and by examining its history, Value For Money interrogates how relationships, proximity and community change our perception of a life's worth. Delving into the polarity of power and vulnerability inherent within us all, it sees an exceptional cast of renowned Australian performers and creatives explore their stories and experiences; reflecting on the way we understand and value our fellow humans. Powerful and provocative, Value For Money pushes us to interrogate the unquestionable traits that bind us as a human race.

WHEN: Wed 18 Aug 11am
WHERE: Brown's Mart Theatre
DURATION: 1hr

All student tickets \$15. For every 10 students booked, one teacher or guardian is entitled to a complimentary ticket.



Links to the Curriculum Standards

Value for Money is an ideal work for dance and drama students to explore how the elements of dance are used to create dramatic meaning. Students have the opportunity to analyse the structures and choices made by the choreographers and get inspiration for future work they create.

Content descriptor: Analyse how choreographers use elements of dance and production elements to communicate intent

Cross curriculum priority: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Culture

General capabilities: Critical and Creative Thinking

- Identifying and interpreting how interrelating elements, choreographic devices such as variation, contrast and transitions, and forms are used to communicate intent
- Considering viewpoints – philosophies and ideologies: What philosophical, ideological or political perspectives does the dance work represent, or how do these perspectives affect the audience’s interpretation?

Themes:

- Cross cultural perspectives
- Power and the body
- Translating ideas and concepts into contemporary dance choreography
- Establishing a dance career in the Northern Territory

Note: The schools matinee performance will not include nudity

The Listies

Hamlet: Prince of Skidmark

THEATRE // RECOMMENDED FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS (AGES 5+)

A very cheeky, very clever, utterly irreverent riff on Hamlet – made especially for children

The Listies, maestros of children's entertainment, have pulled apart Shakespeare's classic and glued it back together with hilarious costumes, loads of silliness and plenty of interactivity. *Hamlet* is already full of things kids love in a good story: ghosts, castles, sword fights, bodily fluids and spooky stuff. Add to the mix some supersonic gags and expertly timed stage magic and you have a brilliantly disguised Shakespearean tragedy for everyone aged five and over. And that's not all... expect bonus pillow fights, pirates, ninjas, ninja pirates, aliens, ninja pirate aliens, zombies and a bunch of other hilarious stuff as The Listies take kids and their adults on a fun-filled hour of theatre. The only thing we can be sure of is that everyone dies at the end – including the audience!

WHEN: Fri 20 Aug 11am
WHERE: Studio Theatre, Darwin Entertainment Centre
DURATION: 1hr

All student tickets \$15. For every 10 students booked, one teacher or guardian is entitled to a complimentary ticket.



Links to the Curriculum Standards

Hamlet: Prince of Skidmark breaks down for young audiences what seeing a theatre play is whilst making fun the ultimate priority. A young person attending the show will leave feeling less intimidated by Shakespeare and the theatre experience in general.

Content descriptor: Explore role and dramatic action in dramatic play, improvisation and process drama

General capabilities: Critical and Creative Thinking

- Considering viewpoints – forms and elements: For example – How did the drama begin? Develop? Conclude? How did the performers vary their voices, movement and gestures to create and share believable characters? How are elements of drama such as role, situation, time and place part of the action? How is the dramatic tension developed in the drama?
- Identifying and discussing different performance styles and the portrayal of different roles and relationships in the drama

Themes:

- Reinterpreting classic literature (Shakespeare's *Hamlet*)
- Theatre craft: storytelling, costume and stage design

Note: Contains smoke or haze effects. **Education pack available on request**

TICKETING INFORMATION

All student tickets \$15. For every 10 students booked, one teacher or guardian is entitled to a complimentary ticket.

Please download a booking form at **darwinfestival.org.au** or contact our friendly Box Office team for more information.

P: 08 8943 4222 **E:** boxoffice@darwinfestival.org.au

Limited free bus transportation is available thanks to generous support of the Northern Territory's largest bus operator, Buslink. Please indicate your interest in free charter transport when completing the booking form.

RISK ASSESSMENT

As part of its work practices, Darwin Festival has extensive WHS processes and procedures in place to enable us to cater for large numbers of patrons across multiple venues.

To help assist schools with their Risk Assessment Forms, we have supplied information regarding the venues on the following page.

Should you need to get in contact with us or have any further questions on this, please contact us via phone or email as listed above.

Venue:

Darwin Waterfront

Brief:

A public outdoor space located between the Wave Pool and Recreation Lagoon. The area is grassed with limited shade. Care should be taken when moving around the space. Darwin Festival staff will not be in attendance.

Venue:	Brown's Mart Theatre
Brief:	A heritage listed air-conditioned theatre venue with a medium-sized undercover veranda for shade.
Hazards:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Even-surfaced venue with highly reduced risk of slip or trips • Power leads are taped down and do not cross pathways • Sufficient house lighting at the entry/exit at start and end of shows • Illuminated steps in the auditorium • 'No-go' or 'staff only' zones are clearly signed • Exit signs are illuminated • Front of house staff will be in attendance • Courtyard is fenced and can be opened in the event of an emergency
Disabled Access:	Yes
Toilets:	2 x female stalls and 2 x hand basins 1 x male stall and 1 x urinal, and 2 x hand basins 1 x disabled toilet and 1 x hand basin
First Aider:	Yes, however teacher will be the first responder for their own students
First Aid Kit:	Yes
Fire Extinguishers:	Yes

Venue:	Darwin Entertainment Centre – Studio Theatre
Brief:	A modern air-conditioned theatre venue with a large veranda area and large foyer. The seating in the Studio Theatre is built with a steep incline/decline. Care should be taken when moving around the theatre.
Hazards:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Even-surfaced venue with highly reduced risk of slip or trips • Power leads are taped down and do not cross pathways • Sufficient house lighting at the entry/exit at start and end of shows • Clearly marked illuminated steps in the auditorium • 'No-go' or 'staff only' zones are clearly signed • Exit signs are illuminated • Front of house staff will be in attendance
Disabled Access:	Yes
Toilets:	Adequate toilets to service 1,000 people during peak performance times
First Aider:	Yes, however teacher will be the first responder for their own students
First Aid Kit:	Yes
Fire Extinguishers:	Yes

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