



Media Alert

25th September, 2006

Primary school students from six schools throughout the Western Suburbs have spent their holidays working hard to present their musical talents to a wide audience.

A culmination of their hard work will be showcased at Footscray Arts Centre on Thursday 28th September in a lively performance entitled 'Bunjil and the Birds'.

The students will be using musical instruments along with singing, dancing and acting skills to portray the story of Bunjil the Eagle, the spiritual ancestor of the Wurrunjeri people.

The performance is stage three of a joint project between Western Chances and another not-for-profit organisation, The Song Room. Western Chances and The Song Room have targeted primary schools to be involved in the program and so far delivered in school workshops and performances for hundreds of students in the west.

The Song Room has provided their teaching artists to the schools to provide tailored, interactive workshop programs to enhance the students' engagement and learning outcomes, and worked together with Western Chances to provide opportunities for talented students.

Western Chances Chair, Mrs Terry Bracks, said the intensive school holiday program was a wonderful opportunity for the students and has allowed them to pursue their individual talents.

"The students had the unique opportunity to work with professional actors and Song Room teaching artists, who have given them an invaluable experience," she said.

The performance on Thursday is Stage Three of the Song Room program with around 30 students participating from six schools.

Students who have showed outstanding talent and enthusiasm throughout the program will be offered Western Chances scholarships, presented by Mrs Bracks, to help them continue with their musical endeavours.

What: Performance of 'Bunjil and the Birds'

Where: Footscray Community Arts Centre, 45 Moreland St Footscray

When: Thursday 28th September, 2pm

Who: 30 students

Terry Bracks, Chair, Western Chances

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