

## Wakakirri celebrating 25 years of sharing stories

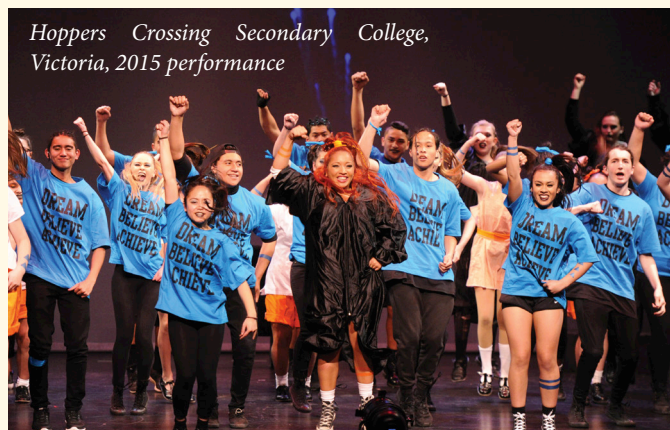
**W**hat started out as an event staged with a handful of primary schools at Sutherland Entertainment Centre in Sydney in 1992 has grown into a national event with more than 250 primary and secondary schools participating last year. Wakakirri is now Australia's largest performing arts event for schools.

The Aboriginal word Wakakirri means 'to dance a story' according to the Wangaaypuwan people from Cobar NSW. It was chosen to give the event an Australian feel. The Story Dance Challenge invites students to tell a story of their choice using a combination of creative movement and acting to pre-recorded music

Wakakirri has been designed to be accessible for every Australian school and every Australian school child. This goal will be fully realized in 2017 when the Secondary Challenge expands nationally for the first time.

Wakakirri is an experience that students cherish for the rest of their lives and one that promotes a lasting appreciation of the performing arts. Parents often comment, "I wish I could have done something like this when I was a kid!"

Registrations to participate in this year's competition are



Hoppers Crossing Secondary College, Victoria, 2015 performance

open now with the Primary and Secondary Challenges in Vic and Qld closing on 31 March and on 7 April in ACT, NSW, SA, NT and WA.

[www.wakakirri.com](http://www.wakakirri.com), email [wakakirri@wakakirri.com](mailto:wakakirri@wakakirri.com)  
tel 1800 650 979

## Plant a kitchen garden program in Term 1

**T**he Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation is reminding schools that Term 1 is the ideal time to dig in and start planting. It's easy to get started – with just a few planting (and cooking) pots students can enjoy the benefits of a hands-on approach to food.

A kitchen garden program engages all types of students through fun and practical learning in kitchen and garden classes. Educators can also make meaningful links between the program and all areas of the Australian Curriculum.

A kitchen garden program changes the way children approach food. The program fosters a deep understanding of how to grow and cook fresh, seasonal, *delicious* dishes – to give them positive food habits that last a lifetime, and which flow through to the wider community.

Both primary and secondary schools will benefit from a kitchen garden program and have the flexibility to design a program that is best suited to their students, staff and wider community. The Foundation emphasis that schools don't need a huge grant or expensive kitchen and garden equipment... start small and grow will keep the program manageable in the early stages.

The Foundation offers a range of products and services to help schools: Curriculum-linked resources, recipes and garden activity sheets, professional development, and ongoing email and phone support.

By joining the Kitchen Garden Classroom, schools are connected to a vibrant online community of over 1000 schools that are currently delivering pleasurable food education.

[www.kitchengardenfoundation.org.au](http://www.kitchengardenfoundation.org.au)



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