

*Celebrating 30 years of stories*  
**WAKAKIRRI**  
**NATIONAL STORY-DANCE FESTIVAL 2023**



**WELCOME TO WAKAKIRRI 2023!**

Your school has enrolled to participate in Wakakirri 2023. Great stories can open hearts and minds and inspire change. Wakakirri is a national Story Dance festival where schools aim to do just that!

As a participating school, your child will be engaged in the Best Performing Arts Program! They'll meet students from other schools, industry professionals from the Wakakirri Panel, and ultimately perform their story at a professional theatre. Wakakirri is an experience they (and you!) will simply never forget!

**WHAT IS WAKAKIRRI?**

The Wakakirri Story-Dance Festival is a national program that helps schools develop student engagement and wellbeing through participation in the performing arts. Schools participate by creating Story-Dances which they perform in live theatres in capital cities and selected regional areas around Australia. Schools in remote and regional areas can participate via Wakakirri Video.

Wakakirri is open to every school (Primary, Secondary, Dance and Community groups) and students with all levels of experience can participate. An emphasis is placed on creative movement and drama rather than technical dance. Emphasis is also placed on creative storytelling and sustainability, not expensive and extravagant productions.

## **GREAT STORIES INSPIRE CHANGE**

Schools' performances are inspired by the Wakakirri ethos 'great stories inspire change'. Environmental, social, cultural, health, historical & reconciliation stories are all popular themes. Each year hundreds of schools across Australia create and perform Story-Dances for Wakakirri that reflect students' thoughts, ideas and aspirations.

## **THE WAKAKIRRI AMBASSADORS**

Wakakirri enjoys the support of some of Australia's leading industry professionals who give their time as part of our National Panel to encourage the next performing arts generation. Wakakirri Ambassadors partner with Wakakirri in various ways including participating in Performing Arts Careers Day, mentoring workshops and activities at live events.



### **Wakakirri Ambassador Emma Watkins says;**

*"I've been dancing my whole life. I love dance and performance and I am so grateful to do both in my career.*

*Wakakirri gives your students this very opportunity. For many, this will be a first time experience. Maybe, it will be once in a lifetime. Regardless, your students will never forget being a part of Wakakirri and for some, it will even change their lives. Creating stories that your students are passionately invested in, using a variety of dance styles from cultural to contemporary as well as acting, will develop teamwork and by the end of the season your students will demonstrate increased confidence and self worth."*

## **WHAT IS A WAKAKIRRI STORY-DANCE?**

A Wakakirri Story-Dance is a 3-7 minute performance by a group of students that theatrically tells a story using a combination of dancing, creative movement and acting to pre-recorded music.

## **NEED MORE INFORMATION?**

You can find out more about Wakakirri at [www.wakakirri.com](http://www.wakakirri.com) or follow us @wakakirriofficial on Instagram or Facebook.