Hello artists, teachers, sponsors, friends! 😊

A huge thanks you to all involved in the first four Creative Challenge “Shaping Stories” residencies in the last month! What a flying start to Creative Challenge for 2014! I have heard about lots of successes from all, and here is a little feedback from the artists, participants, and teachers in those communities…

**Leonora**
Proudly sponsored by BHP Billiton

Leonora District High School  
Artists: Dan Giovannoni & Mel Dodge  
Number participants: 105, age 4-17 years  
Number at celebration: 120

“The [young people] learnt stage craft, articulation, character work, emotions, expression, body language and devising skills. Each group fed into the larger narrative of a Living Library, which we presented on celebration day” – artists

“For the student, [Creative Challenge] allows them to build on and develop literacy skills, motor skills, confidence, expression, and generally, provides a physical creative expression (through drama and singing, etc) that they don’t normally get” – artists
“We will use our story again for our NAIDOC assembly, and use the ship as our set” - participant

“‘I liked when Mel and Dan did dancing in the performance’” - participant

Mount Magnet
Presented by Go for 2&5

Mount Magnet District High School
Artists: Brenda Murphy & Roly Skender
Number participants: 31, age 10-16 years
Number at celebration: 70

“The [year 5/6] class enjoyed seeing the trailer and films being created by the high school students and reacted positively to being asked to create stories about these characters” – artists
“The audience stayed milling around and enjoyed the tree and building projections, films, and fruit kebabs for another 20 minutes [after the show]. There was a lovely atmosphere and everyone was very positive about the work created by the students (who were visibly proud) and the success of the event itself” – artists

“It was different from the art we do in class and it gives us a different perspective of what there is to do in art” – participant

“I will remember working together to make an end product to be presented because we were all together for the 2 weeks and having fun” – participant

“I liked how the students steered the course of the activities with their input and imagination. I particularly like how indigenous and non-indigenous kids shared a common story, allowing both to have uninhibited story telling opportunities” – teacher

Collie
Proudly sponsored by BHP Billiton

Fairview Primary School
Artists: Peter Keelan & Cecile Williams
Number participants: 30, age 6-11 years
Number at celebration: 140

“We engaged with the participants by encouraging them to all be involved in any way they felt they would like, either visually, verbally, on film, narrated, through poems or rap, spoken or sung” – artists
“The school Principal was very helpful and supportive, and the school students were open and creative and enthusiastic” – artists

“I loved using the small gopro video cameras” – participant

“My favourite time was just sitting and drawing the backgrounds for the film” – participant
Newman
Proudly sponsored by BHP Billiton

Newman Senior High School
Artists: Kathleen Szalay Hoffmann & Marina Baker
Number participants: 77, age 6-16 years
Number at celebration: 200

“Our celebration was incorporated into the Newman Senior High School NAIDOC celebrations for the close of term. The film that we created began with live dancing and other movement by participants, which continued into shadow movement, which transitioned into creature animation” – artists
“I don’t know why, I just feel proud” – participant

“[Creative Challenge] was fun and encouraging” – participant

“This experience has had a huge impact on my community arts practice, being one of the most immersive experiences I’ve had in community arts to date” – artist

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**Engagement with the Go for 2&5 message**

“My students know about healthy eating from our classwork, so its terrific to see it reaffirmed by outsiders who they look up to and respect” – teacher

“banana, banana, mango…… out new musical rhythm” – participant

“eat healthy food and drink water” – participant

“go for 3 fruit and 5 veg a day for a healthy lifestyle” – participant

“It was amazing to have a set of Go for 2&5 pencils from the sponsors to give the kids. Having a gift for ALL students is definitely a good thing. The kids were so happy to receive the gift” – artists
“We have fruit for the kids to eat at recess – but having it presented to them in a fun and interesting way like you did (on skewers) was great” – teacher

Further Feedback

We would love more feedback from teachers involved in the project. If you are keen to tell about your (and your students’) experience, please pop over and fill out our quick Teacher Evaluation Survey at: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2014creativechallengeteachersurvey. Thanks! Your responses really do help us to improve the Creative Challenge program, and attract funding to keep it running!

Word Cloud

I asked all of our artists to describe their residency experience in 5 words. Here’s how the artists have described the residencies so far (this word cloud will grow as more residencies are completed):
To see more photos from each residency pop over to AWESOME’s facebook page
https://www.facebook.com/pages/Awesome-Arts/60002630489. If you have any further feedback to add, or questions to ask, please get in touch!

Best creative wishes,

Lex Randolph
Community Cultural Development Manager
AWESOME Arts Australia Ltd

Creative Challenge is proudly supported by: