

For immediate release
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NAISDA TO HOLD FREE INDIGENOUS DANCE WORKSHOPS FOR THE STUDENTS OF SYDNEY

As another exciting part of its 40th anniversary celebrations in 2016, the iconic NAISDA Dance College has joined with City of Sydney to offer a series of Indigenous cultural dance workshops for schools in the Sydney local government area from 6-17 June.

Sponsored by City of Sydney and provided free to schools, the workshop program *Footprints from the Dust* presents an outstanding opportunity for primary and secondary students to learn new skills in a fun and collaborative environment.

The workshops in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander dance, will be run by professional Indigenous dance practitioners through NAISDA Dance College.

Artistic Coordinator at NAISDA Dance College, Jasmine Gulash, is excited about what the program can offer school students.

"*Footprints from the Dust* is a unique opportunity for both primary and secondary school students to learn and experience Indigenous dance techniques and movements and explore many facets of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture," she said.

"The workshops are also an opportunity for NAISDA to say thank you to the City of Sydney and its people for supporting NAISDA over the past four decades, from our humble origins back in 1976 when we were based in the Inner City through to today.

"Although we have now moved homes to Kariong on the Central Coast, Sydney still plays an important part in our history and our future and we look forward to presenting our special 40th Anniversary program *Circle of Cultures* at Carriageworks Sydney in November this year.

Speaking of the initiative, Lord Mayor Clover Moore said, "It's so important for Aboriginal and Torres Strait languages and dance to live on in a way that future generations can take up, so I'm really proud we're able to support this project from NAISDA.

"I strongly encourage teachers and principals to take up this great offer to expose students to the living culture of our First Peoples," she added.

NAISDA is now accepting Expressions of Interest from inner city schools to host a workshop. Schools can host up to two ninety minute workshops for their students during weeks seven and eight of term two (from 6 June to 17 June).

School teachers or principals interested in having their school students participate in a workshop are encouraged to contact Jasmine Gulash on 02 4340 3114 or j.gulash@naisda.com.au to find out more about the initiative.

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This year, the College will celebrate its 40th Anniversary with a series of special events planned throughout the year. For more information on NAISDA and its activities, visit www.naisda.com.au.

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For more information and interviews:

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