



yirra yaakin
THEATRE COMPANY

2019

EDUCATION PROGRAM

**YIRRA YAAKIN
MEANS
STAND TALL**

**IN THE NOONGAR LANGUAGE OF
THE ABORIGINAL PEOPLE OF
SOUTH WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

EDUCATION PROGRAM OVERVIEW

In 2019 Yirra Yaakin Theatre Company will deliver a diverse and high quality education program of performances and activities that promote respect, pride and cultural strength, for Indigenous and non-Indigenous community members alike.

We believe cultural empowerment is the basis of a healthy, sustainable community and provides the building blocks on which other key messages can be delivered.

Including incursion/excursion performances and specialised workshops, our 2019 education program has been designed to make students and educators think, question their perceptions and expand their knowledge of theatre as well as contemporary and traditional Aboriginal culture.

With a focus on the Australian curriculum, our program links directly to current curriculum framework and cross curriculum priorities to meet the needs of schools, families and the wider community.

With a range of offerings suitable for students of all ages, our 2019 education program is culturally significant, inspiring, motivating and dynamic.

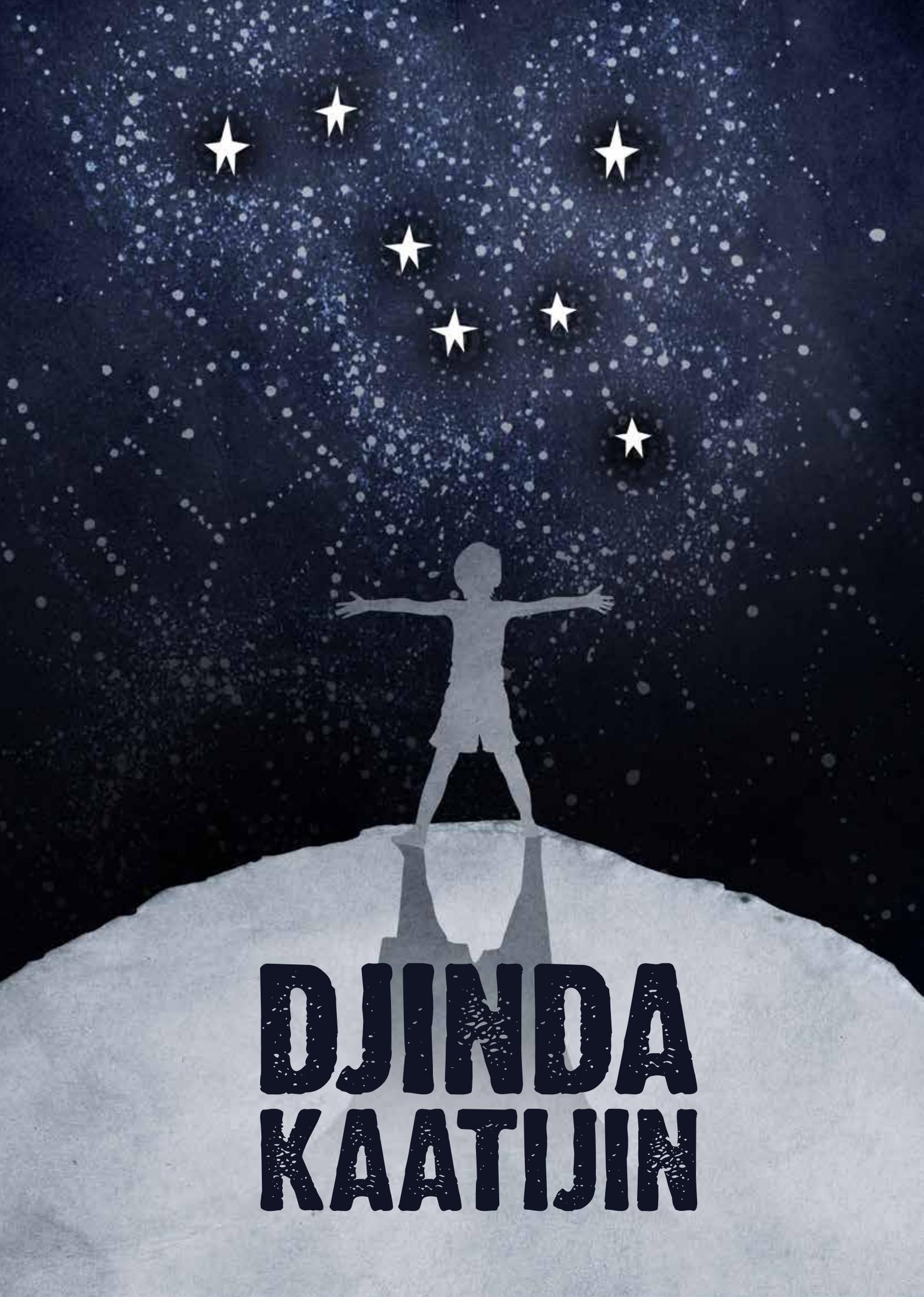
PARTNERS



Page 02	Yirra Yaakin Definition
Page 03	Education Program Overview
Page 04	Contents
	2019 At a Glance
Page 06	Education Performance – Djinda Kaatijin
Page 08	Education Performance – Sista Girl
Page 10	Education Ensemble – Junior Sonneteers Program
Page 12	Cultural and Creative Workshops
Page 14	Healthway Key Messages
Page 15	How to Book
Page 16	Watercorp Ad
Back Cover	Partners

2019 EDUCATION PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

TERM	ACTIVITY	AGE SUITABILITY
ONE		
1 April – 18 April	Junior Sonneteers Auditions and Week Intensive	15+
TWO		
4 June – 5 July	Djinda Kaatijin	K – Y6
4 May – 6 July (Every Saturday)	Junior Sonneteers Ensemble Program	15+
8 July – 19 July	Performance Opportunities (Naidoc)	15+
THREE		
22 July – 9 August	Djinda Kaatijin	K - Y6
30 July – 2 August	Sista Girl	Y7 - Y12
19 August – 6 September	Djinda Kaatijin REGIONAL TOUR	K - Y6
TBA	Creative Cultural Workshops	Y7 - Y12
FOUR		
TBA	Creative Cultural Workshops	Y1 - Y12



**DJINDA
KAATIJIN**

DJINDA KAATIJIN

By Andrea Fernandez

SNAPSHOT

Age Group:	Years K – 6
Dates:	TERM 2, 4 June – 5 July TERM 3, 22 July – 9 August
Venue:	Metro Schools Incursion
Duration:	Approx 45min + 10min Post Show Q&A
Students:	Minimum 50- Maximum 150

Price:	Advantaged Schools \$11 + GST (per student) Disadvantaged & Waterwise Schools \$9.90 + GST (per student) Schools booking in excess of 500 students \$8.25 + GST (per student) Regional Schools – price on application
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Curriculum Links:	Arts, English, HASS, Science, Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures
Resources:	Complimentary Education Notes Included
Bookings:	education@yirrayaakin.com.au (08) 9380 3049

Djinda Kaatijin (which in Noongar means ‘to understand stars’) is the next exciting installment in Yirra Yaakin’s series of productions for young people.

Through a mix of traditional Noongar dreaming stories and contemporary Indigenous storytelling, *Djinda Kaatijin* explores the importance of the stars and how they are culturally important to us all.

Join Weitj (Emu), Dwert (Dingo) and Wardong (Crow) as they take us on a journey through the milky way to learn about the Seven Sisters (Pleiades) while interweaving star stories from around Australia and the world, including stories from India, Spain and England as well as Noongar Boodjar. After all, it’s all our stars. It’s all our dreaming.

“It was a splendid performance. Absolutely thrilled kids and adults alike. The performers are very skilled and highly personable. They are each quite remarkable. The stories are powerfully poignant and so beautifully contemporised. Thanks once again for sharing such joy and learning. We look forward to next year!”
Denise Stone, Spearwood Alternative School

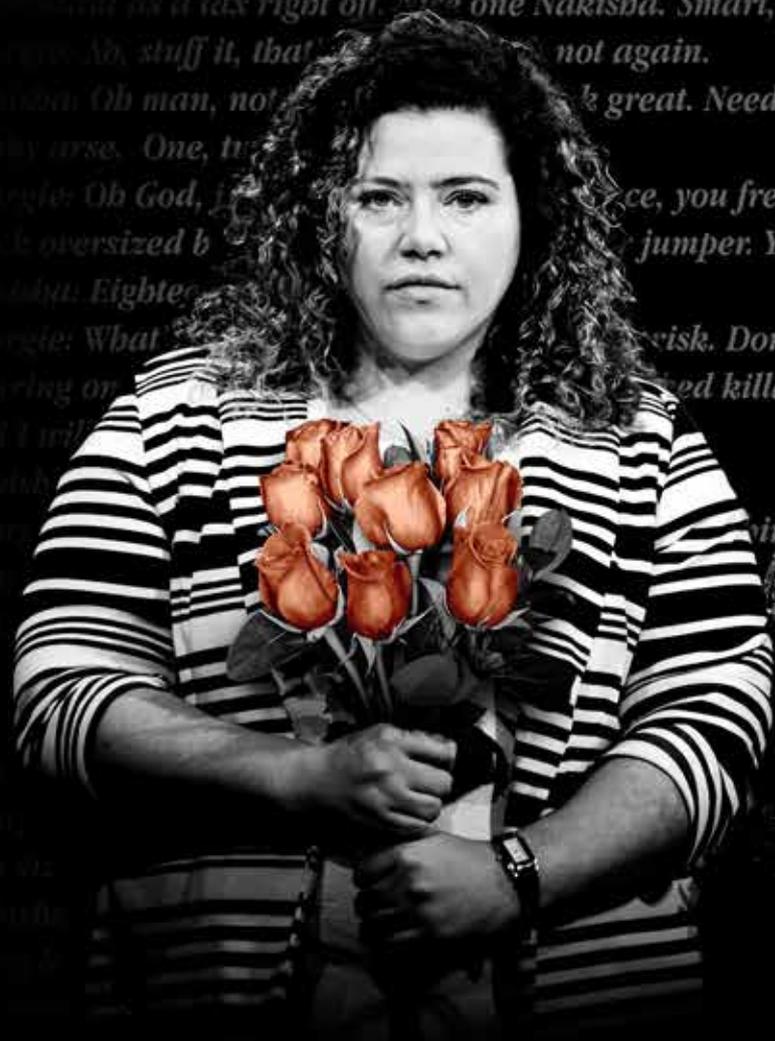
“Wow!!! What an absolutely amazing performance yesterday. The children and staff were enthralled and engaged the whole way through. It was a very professional performance with people who obviously have a passion for their work. We are already discussing booking your company for next year.”
Alison McAvoy, Boyare Primary School



EDUCATION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PARTNER

PROJECT PARTNER

Sista Girl



SISTA GIRL

By Elena Carapetis & Alexis West

SNAPSHOT

Age Group: Years 7 - 12
Dates: TERM 3, 30 July – 2 August 7:00pm
Matinee Performances 1 August 11am & 2 August 11am
Venue: Subiaco Arts Centre
Duration: Approx 70min + Post Show Q&A

Price: Student tickets \$25 each or \$15 for schools booking in excess of 50 students
1 Complimentary teacher ticket per 20 students
All other teacher tickets at student prices

Learning Opportunities:

- Reconciliation & Recognition
- The disconnect between Aboriginal & non-Aboriginal Australians
- The need for belonging, connecting and creating family bonds.
- Identity and how our heritage and ancestry is not always the key ingredient in shaping your self-image.
- The ideas behind “success” in the constant struggle to balance culture, heritage, gender and family.
- Grief, Loss, Shame, Guilt and Death/Dispossession
- Question Why our history hidden from us?

Resources: Complimentary Education Notes Included
Bookings: education@yirrayaakin.com.au | (08) 9380 3049

A raucous and powerful look at our search for identity.

Two young women meet face to face for the first time across the bed of a dying man. Strangers to each other but bonded by blood and grief. Sisters. They break the cold silence of the hospital room to start a difficult conversation. About the past and secrets. About the women who were their mothers. And about why this man, their father, abandoned one family to make another. When the past is dying and can't say sorry, how do you move on?

Sista Girl is an exploration of the relationship between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Australians, via the story of two women who share a white father. Co-written by Elena Carapetis (*Gorgon*) and Alexis West (*Echoes.... of Knowing Home*), the play speaks directly to audiences about questions of identity, grief and the complex nature of family.

After successful seasons in Adelaide and Perth in 2017, Yirra Yaakin Theatre Company is remounting this powerful story about loss, family and identity for a brief season at the Subiaco Arts Centre, followed by a regional WA and Victoria tour in 2019 (TBC).

“I hope that the audience will be left with hope to begin a path of empathy and understanding as we learn to listen and grow together” - Elena Carapetis & Alexis West (Writers)

**STATE
THEATRE
COMPANY**
SOUTH AUSTRALIA

CO-PRODUCTION PARTNER

(Please note this production and remounted tour is yet to be confirmed)



JUNIOR SONNETEERS PROGRAM

JUNIOR SONNETEERS PROGRAM

SNAPSHOT

Age Group: Years 10 - 12
Dates: TERM 1, 1 April – 18 April (Auditions & Week Intensive)
TERM 2, 4 May – 6 July (Every Saturday)
& 8 July – 19 July (Performance Opportunities)
Venue: *Please note this program is held outside of school hours
Subiaco Arts Centre

Price: Free

Learning Opportunities:

- Theatre making
- Performance techniques (various forms and styles)
- Performance preparation
- Vocal techniques
- Movement techniques
- Noongar language (comprehension and articulation)
- Noongar theatre process

Bookings: For audition information contact education@yirrayaakin.com.au | (08) 9380 3049

Through our work in adapting Shakespeare into Noongar language, as part of our Noongar Shakespeare Project, and driven by our commitment to 'keeping language alive', students are being invited to take part in this unique and very exciting project!

In 2018, twelve young and budding artists from diverse backgrounds and cultures were invited (via an audition process) to become Yirra Yaakin's Junior Sonneteers Youth Ensemble. After a two-month period of workshops and rehearsals led by Artistic Director Kyle J Morrison, senior artist Ian Michael and Education Officer Jess Gatt, along with various other senior artists and theatre practitioners, the Junior Sonneteers took to the stage to present a new idea of contemporary Australian culture.

In 2019 Yirra Yaakin will again be opening up auditions for a limited number of students to join our Junior Sonneteers Ensemble. Successful students will partake in a series of intensive workshops and rehearsals leading to a number of curated public performance opportunities.

As a Junior Sonneteer, students will receive intensive individual development in theatre making, performance and language skills at a professional level including, performance preparation, vocal and movement techniques/ physicality, Noongar language (comprehension and articulation), acting techniques (various forms and styles), monologues, dialogues and ensemble work, embodiment of text and Noongar theatre process.

Through the Junior Sonneteers students will gain an awareness and appreciation of Noongar language and culture, develop pronunciation skills in a language other than English and expand on skills related to performance opportunities and outcomes.

The Junior Sonneteers program is not only about developing capacity and embedding youth into the future of Yirra Yaakin Theatre Company but is also about actively promoting the sustainability of one of the oldest languages in the world whilst promoting cultural awareness and reconciliation, along with a greater sense of connection and understanding of the local Aboriginal community.



DEVELOPMENT PARTNER



EDUCATION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PARTNER



DIGITAL EDUCATION PARTNER

**CREATIVE
AND
CULTURAL
WORKSHOPS**



CREATIVE & CULTURAL WORKSHOPS | RESPECT YOURSELF RESPECT YOUR CULTURE

SNAPSHOT

Age Group: Years 7 - 12
Dates: TERM 3, Dates TBC
TERM 4, Dates TBC
Venue: Metro Schools Incursion
Price: TBC
Bookings: education@yirrayaakin.com.au | (08) 9380 3049

Belonging and identity are universally recognised as a fundamental human need and a key component in promoting respect, trust and positive relationships; central to reconciliation.

In a collaborative framework, students will be invited to share their own cultural identities and heritage in a culturally safe space, exploring how our young people can build resilience and strength through cultural empowerment.

Using theatre, music and dance as the tools for communication we will facilitate a safe place for growth and understanding of the importance of sharing and respecting different cultures within our communities

These workshops will be developed in the first half of the year and will available for secondary schools in Terms Three and Four.



EDUCATION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PARTNER



DIGITAL EDUCATION PARTNER



Supporting Yirra Yaakin to promote the culture and language of Indigenous Australia, which promotes the health and wellbeing of our community as a whole.

**LISTEN TO YOUR
ELDERS** EAT GOOD
TUCKER
BE PROUD STAY STRONG
LEAVE SMOKING OF CULTURE

BOOKING & ENQUIRIES

Request a booking form by emailing
education@yirrayaakin.com.au
or calling (08) 9380 3049

To find out more visit www.yirrayaakin.com.au

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[instagram.com/Yirra_yaakin](https://www.instagram.com/Yirra_yaakin)

Yirra Yaakin would like to thank our generous koordahs (friends) and donors for their continued support.

By becoming a Yirra Yaakin Koordah or Donor you automatically become a special part of our company's legacy and a contributor to the fabric of Aboriginal theatre in this country.

If you would like to donate to our program, please visit
yirrayaakin.com.au/support-us/giving/

Disclaimer: Some of our productions contain coarse language, drug references and adult themes. Please check with Yirra Yaakin's Education Officer for recommended patron age.



yirra yaakin
THEATRE COMPANY

Yirra Yaakin Theatre Company
180 Hamersley Road, Subiaco, WA 6008
Phone: (08) 9380 3040
Email yyf@yirrayaakin.com.au
Website: www.yirrayaakin.com.au



Proud to be a project partner

Partnering with Yirra Yaakin allows us educate and engage future generations on water sustainability.





Yirra Yaakin would like to thank all of our Partners and Donors for their support in helping us to share Aboriginal stories through the art of theatre.

GOVERNMENT PARTNERS



Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries



Yirra Yaakin Theatre Company is assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council and its Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts Board.

DEVELOPMENT PARTNER



NOONGAR SHAKESPEARE PROJECT PARTNER



Wesfarmers Arts

EDUCATION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

COMMUNITY CULTURAL



CREATIVE AGENCY

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PROJECT PARTNER

DIGITAL EDUCATION



LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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VENUE

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SUBIACO ARTS CENTRE



DIGITAL DOPTAL

