



# 2015 PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARDS ANNOUNCED!

#WeLoveWaka #PCAWaka

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**The inaugural Wakakirri People's Choice Awards celebrate the excellence of the 2015 Primary and Secondary Story Dance Challenges.**

This year we provided an opportunity for the broader community to vote for their favourites in the first ever Wakakirri People's Choice Award. By creating a video highlights package of every single school's Story Dance performance, we also hoped to enable a wider audience to see how participating students perceive the world around them.

We have been overwhelmed by the response to this year's Awards. Tens of thousands of people have liked and shared their favourite clips via our website and through social media. Midway through the voting we learned that the videos had already been shared more than 30,000 times on Facebook alone! As a result of this overwhelming level of support to all of those who took part, we have decided to present 3 schools in every state and territory with People's Choice Awards.

Unfortunately, the end of the voting process was affected when our website was hacked by a few unidentified tech-savvy individuals, and the voting numbers for several schools in different cities were altered. The people behind this activity may have thought that they were helping out the schools concerned but inevitably it has had the opposite effect. We sorted out the problem, but we feel it's important for everyone to understand what happened. The final calculations to determine the winners in each state and territory used a combination of votes cast before the website was compromised, along with likes of Facebook and Twitter. It was a complicated process, and we are putting measures in place to avoid similar issues in the future. So a big thank you to everyone who got involved so enthusiastically and apologies to those schools that feel they may have been disadvantaged by the technology issue. We hope you understand.

So, without any further ado, the winners for 2015 People's Choice Awards are..... Drum roll.....

## **PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARDS - PRIMARY**

### **AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

St Gregory's Primary School  
Wanniassa School (Junior Campus)

Rosary Primary School

**NEW SOUTH WALES**

Northmead Public School

Gladesville Public School

Richard Johnson Anglican School

**QUEENSLAND**

BayView State School

Villanova College

Tieri State School

**SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

Walkerville Primary School

Nazareth Catholic College

Marymount College

**VICTORIA**

Carranballac College

Hazel Glen College

Lilydale West Primary School

**WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

St Joseph's School, Boulder

Singleton Primary School

Leeman Primary School

**PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARDS - SECONDARY**

**NEW SOUTH WALES**

MLC School - Secondary

Northmead Creative and Performing Arts High School

Casula High School

**VICTORIA**

Sacred Heart Girls College, Oakleigh

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College

Rosebud Secondary College

As we wrap up proceedings for another year, the team at Wakakirri HQ would again like to thank everyone involved in this year's competition. The creativity and performance levels have exceeded all expectations, and the bar has well and truly been raised for 2016.

Finally, as we look forward to next year's competition, we would like to remind everyone that registrations are now open for 2016! Act now – places are limited!!

For more information visit <http://www.wakakirri.com/mainsite/how-to-get-involved-2/>



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(Not for publication please)

About Wakakirri:

Established in 1992, Wakakirri is Australia's largest Performing Arts event for schools, involving over 20,000 students across every State and Territory each year. The aim of Wakakirri is to teach students about themselves and others through creating and sharing stories and by this process develop students' educational outcomes, lifestyle choices and community awareness.

A great story can change the way people think about the world around them and Wakakirri gives schools the opportunity to do just that.

Each year hundreds of schools across Australia create Story-Dances for Wakakirri that reflect their students' thoughts, ideas and aspirations. These stories are performed in professional theatres in front of the official 'Wakakirri Panel' who are searching for 'Story of the Year'. Over 1 million people watch Wakakirri performances each year.

Performing in Wakakirri is an experience students never forget. Schools spend show day rehearsing and meeting other schools and that same night walk the red carpet with the Wakakirri Panel and perform on the big stage.

Wakakirri is for every school in Australia and has categories for all levels of experience. Every school can enter.

Wakakirri encourages schools to minimise their footprint when creating props and costumes for their performance and offers special awards for schools that excel in this area.