

# WAKAKIRRI

Australia's Largest Performing Arts Event for Schools

MEDIA RELEASE

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## WAKAKIRRI ANNOUNCES BRISBANE STORY DANCE CHALLENGE WINNERS



Photos: Kingston State Primary School & Grand Avenue State School. Credit: Winkipop Media

Wakakirri is proud to announce Brisbane's winners for the 2018 Wakakirri Story Dance Challenge. Mango Hill State School, Enoggera State School, St Laurence's College, Kingston State School and Grand Avenue State School are the region's Wakakirri winners.

Twelve schools were invited to the Logan Entertainment Centre over two nights earlier in September to perform their award-winning Wakakirri Story Dance productions.

All five of Brisbane's winners are now nominated for the coveted national Story of the Year Award, to be announced October 17th on Waka TV. Wakakirri's National Panel representatives commended the schools for their strong storytelling, dance ability and dramatic action. The winning schools celebrated multiculturalism, environmental protection, social responsibility and individuality.

Enoggera State School's performance *'Fly On'* (Best Community Story Award) is dedicated to the school's Defence Force families, following the story of a young girl's struggle to say goodbye to her father as he leaves to serve overseas.

Mango Hill State School's performance *'What About the Children?'* (Best Global Awareness Story Award) follows the story of a young boy who helps to raise funds for children in need after a hurricane in Haiti.

Kingston State Primary's Story Dance *'Faniu O Avanoa'* (Best Multicultural Story Award) draws on students' own experiences of moving to Australia from Samoa, and celebrates the school's large Pacific Island community.

St Laurence's College performance encourages us to *'Rewrite The Books'* (Best Motivational Story Award) with a message that "it shouldn't matter about our interests or even our looks. It's time we learn to rewrite the books."

Grand Avenue State School's Story Dance *'Don't Feed the Ducks'* (Best Environmental Story Award) is a current story exploring the environmental preservation of the polluted Forest Lake. Days after the school first performed it, *7 News* reported hundreds of fish dying due to the pollution.

*Wakakirri's Story of the Year Award will be announced on Waka TV on October 17, schools will be watching the announcement live via YouTube. Voting for 'People's Choice' opens September 24.*

*The Wakakirri Story Dance Challenge will return in 2019. Registrations open October 2018, see website for dates and registration info (subscribe to Wakakirri for up-to-date info): [www.wakakirri.com](http://www.wakakirri.com)*

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## EDITOR'S NOTES

**Wakakirri** is Australia's largest performing arts event for primary and secondary schools. 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, acting and creative movement to pre-recorded music.

Read more: [wakakirri.com/what-is-wakakirri/](http://wakakirri.com/what-is-wakakirri/)

**Wakakirri's National Panel** of entertainment industry professionals will decide the Story of the Year. This year's panel includes Michala Banas, Joshua Horner and Alex Papps. Read more:

[wakakirri.com/national-judging-panel/](http://wakakirri.com/national-judging-panel/)

**Wakakirri in Brisbane:** The Awards Nights took place over September 4 & 5 at Logan Entertainment Centre. The Performance Nights/heats took place over July 31-August 3.

**Host:** Clint Bolster, [about](#)

**Panel:** James Lee, [about](#) & Heather Barraclough

SCHOOL	ITEM TITLE	ITEM DESCRIPTION	AWARD
Enoggera State School	Fly On	A young girl struggles to say goodbye to her father as he leaves to serve overseas. Can she find comfort in her peers and the birds she loves? Dedicated to our Enoggera Defence families.	Story of the Year Nominee / Best Community Story Award
Mango Hill State School	What About the Children?	A boy goes to school and learns about a hurricane in Haiti. He feels empathy for the people and can't get the homeless children out of his mind. He wants to make a difference and discovers a way. Through dance, he and his friends become helping heroes, raising funds for the children in need.	Story of the Year Nominee / Best Global Awareness Story Award
Kingston State Primary School	Fanua O Avanoa	Our students have incredible stories of immigration. Our story is a collaboration of stories told about students own experiences of moving from Samoa to Australia. Our schools large Pacific Island community really enjoyed sharing their culture and stories with their peers throughout this process.	Story of the Year Nominee / Best Multicultural Story Award
St Laurence's College	Rewrite The Books	In a world of uncertainty, where things can go wrong. A journey of one with the challenge to stand strong. It shouldn't matter about our interests or even our looks. It's time we learn to rewrite the books.	Story of the Year Nominee / Best Motivational Story Award
Grand Avenue State School	Don't Feed the Ducks	Our story is about the environmental preservation of our lake. After the lake is constructed, the community pollutes the lake through overuse. The pollution makes the eels large and fouls the waters. The local children clean and care for the lake and educate others about not feeding the ducks.	Story of the Year Nominee / Best Environmental Story Award