

WEDNESDAY 20 JANUARY 2010

AUSTRALIA'S FUTURE STARS MENTORED AT ANU

Nineteen of the country's brightest emerging talents will benefit from a week of intensive one-on-one sessions with some of Australia's top professional artists at The Australian National University this week, as part of the 2010 Australian Talented Youth (ATY) Project.

The ATY Project provides a multi-arts mentoring program for young artists to further develop their skills across a range of areas including music, dance, visual art, creative writing, film production and drama. Students will be paired with well-known artists including international pianist, Dr Geoffrey Lancaster, soprano, Louise Page, acclaimed jazz musician, John Mackey and filmmaker, Che Baker, who's projects include Dawson's Creek and Australia's Funniest Home Videos.

The ten-day program has a particular focus on developing the skills and talent of young people from remote and rural areas of Australia who would not normally have access to established artistic networks and training opportunities.

Graduates from past programs have been accepted to perform with the Bangara Dance Theatre and more recently with international performance ensemble, Cirque du Soleil. Students have also been accepted to study at the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAPPA), the ANU School of Music and the ANU School of Art.

Dr Jolanta Gallagher from the ANU School of Music is the ATY Project Executive Director and Founder. She said that for many students, this is a once in a lifetime chance to work with professional artists.

"This unique program not only remediates the effects of social dislocation and geographical isolation of young emerging Australian artists, but also provides young people with invaluable guidance and advice related to their creative endeavours," Dr Gallagher said.

The culmination of the student's efforts from across the week will be integrated into a public performance at The Street Theatre on Monday 25 January.

Students and mentors will be available this week and after the performance for interviews. To arrange an interview: Dr Jolanta Gallagher - 02 6125 4397 / 0430 513 073 For media assistance: Penny Cox, ANU Media – 02 6125 3549 / 0424 016 978

WHAT: Australian Talented Youth Project

WHEN: 4pm, Monday 25 January 2010

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MEDIA ALERT



WHERE: The Street Theatre, Childers Street, Acton

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