

Torres News

Thursday, 14 August 2025

Stories and events of the Kaurareg homeland of Kaiwalagal, the Torres Strait homeland and Cape York homelands of the Anggamuthi, Atambaya, Wuthathi, Yadhaykenu and Gudang Peoples.

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Youth dancers play to a full house of pride



And we're on, let's go! Young dancers participating in Bangarra Dance Theatre's *Rekindling Youth Program 2025*, held on Waiben last Friday night, take to the stage. Pic by Floria Warria.

BY FLORA WARRIA

Bangarra Dance Theatre held a community dance showcase in collaboration with Tagai College's Secondary Campus on

Waiben last Friday night.

The *Rekindling Youth Program* was first launched in 2012/2013 to inspire and develop a new generation of First Nations youth into storytelling and

dance to reconnect and express themselves with their culture through contemporary dances and performances.

This year, Thursday Island Waybeni Koey Ngurpay Mudh

students were honoured to be a part of the program.

The Bangarra Dance Theatre took the initiative by consulting with the Elders of Waiben, who made themselves available to

be part of it. Organising and preparation behind the scenes was done by the students themselves.

Story continues with more pics on **PAGES 14 & 15**

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Rekindling Youth dancers play to packed house



Rekindling Youth Program Dancers. Pic by Flora Warria.

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It was a first for them, and it took courage for them to perform in front of a large crowd, which included their schoolmates and families.

The *Rekindling Youth Program* was created by former Bangarra Artistic Director Stephen Page and Co-CEO Frances Rings.

Youth Program Director Sidney Saltner said Bangarra had made the decision to take the program out to schools and the community in 2012.

He said they had wanted to have kids involved to make a lasting impression on their lives and inspire them.

“[When we] go ahead with the program [we] embed ourselves with the community [and] build trust as we leave something behind that is tangible,” he said.

He said the performance was the culmination of three years of work, which included that widespread consultation and partnership.

“Overall, we have come back to the community four times,” he said. “The result of it is we are going to showcase to you what these brilliant youth have learned, gained and experienced, with warm-up sessions, choreography moves and dance moves.”

“They have put together their contemporary dance pieces for all to see.

“The program has given the Elders the opportunity to engage with the young people, passing on their knowledge through songs, storytelling and dance, which has given the young people inspiration and put their creative minds to work and create their own contemporary dance moves.”

Audience members,

including Fraser Nai, said they were proud of what they had seen.

“When I saw the young ones perform, I was so proud of the kids,” Fraser said.

“They did an amazing job, to see the confidence in them to perform in front of a very large crowd, and I feel so proud to witness and be a part of this showcase,” he said.

Michelle Martin said it was fantastic.

“I thought it was just fantastic, so good to see these children show their confidence,” she said.

“A lot of time our kids feel shame and don’t want to be seen in front of a big audience, but it was so good, too deadly to see them show off their talents and skills tonight.

“It is good to see the community coming tonight and to be part of the show that the children performed, to see them and support them.

“The show has just given the young people a taste of something that they will want more of, I believe something like that helps to develop confidence and I know that will take them to places and boost their confidence within the community, and I love it.”

Sidney said the Bangarra Dance Theatre was grateful to the community for their support.

“I would like to thank all the Elders who have been a part of it and who have supported the program every step of the way,” he said.

“Without our elders, their knowledge, support and guidance to community members and school staff, we would not have been able to do this program, and we would not have been able to help these beautiful, talented young people to achieve their passion and goals.”

More pics PAGE 15



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THURSDAY ISLAND/HORN ISLAND FERRY TIMETABLE (30/03/2025)

FROM	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
TI	06:15	06:15	06:15	06:15	06:15	06:15	-
HIW	06:25	06:25	06:25	06:25	06:25	06:25	-
TI	07:00	07:00	07:00	07:00	07:00	-	-
HIW	07:15	07:15	07:15	07:15	07:15	-	-
TI	08:00	08:00	08:00	08:00	08:00	08:00	08:00
HIW	08:15	08:15	08:15	08:15	08:15	08:15	08:15
TI	09:00 QF	09:00 QF	09:00 QF	09:00 QF	09:00 QF	09:00 QF	09:00 QF
HIW	09:15	09:15	09:15	09:15	09:15	09:15	09:15
TI	10:30	10:30	10:30	10:30	10:30	10:30	10:30
HIW	10:45 QF	10:45 QF	10:45 QF	10:45 QF	10:45 QF	10:45 QF	10:45 QF
TI	11:45	11:45	11:45	11:45	11:45	-	-
HIW	12:00	12:00	12:00	12:00	12:00	-	-
TI	13:45 QF	13:45 QF	13:45 QF	13:45 QF	13:45 QF	13:45 QF	13:45* QF
HIW	14:00	14:00	14:00	14:00	14:00	14:00	14:00*
TI	15:15 QF	15:15	15:15	15:15 QF	15:15 QF	15:15	15:15* QF
HIW	15:30 QF	15:30 QF	15:30 QF	15:30 QF	15:30 QF	15:30 QF	15:30*
TI	16:15	16:15	16:15	16:15	16:15	16:15	-
HIW	16:30	16:30	16:30	16:30	16:30	16:30	-
TI	17:15	17:15	17:15	17:15	17:15	-	17:00
HIW	17:30 QF	17:30	17:30	17:30 QF	17:30 QF	-	17:15 QF
TI	18:00	18:00	18:00	18:00	18:00	-	-
HIW	18:10	18:10	18:10	18:10	18:10	-	-

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6.40am (Depart Rebel Wharf) ***Bookings essential	7.05am (Arrive Engineers Wharf) SCHOOL FERRY	
7.25am (Depart Engineers Wharf)	7.45am (Arrive Engineers Wharf) SCHOOL FERRY	
3.20pm (Depart Engineers Wharf) SCHOOL FERRY	3.35pm (Arrive Engineers Wharf)	
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Bangarra Executive Director and Co-CEO Louise Ingram with Torres Shire Council Mayor Elsie Seriat. Pic by Diat Alferink.



Getting excited for the showcase. Pic Flora Warria.



Just too deadly. Pic by Flora Warria.



Sidney Saltner & BAI Communications CEO Peter Lambourne. Pic by Diat Alferink.



TSIMA's Luke Mosby. Pic by Diat Alferink.



Tagai Secondary Head of Campus Suberia Bowie and Montessori Teacher Michelle Martin. Pic by Diat Alferink.

ABOVE RIGHT: Deadly dancer Timena-June Bani proudly showed off her Certificate of Participation in Rekindling Youth Program 2025. Pic by Diat Alferink.

RIGHT: The spear dance.

BELOW: The basket dance.

BOTTOM: The young ones are waiting patiently.

Pics by Flora Warria.



Former Bangarra dancer, choreographer and actress Elma Kris presenting Paimale Bani Dorante with her certificate. Pic by Diat Alferink.



Bangarra's Sani Townson with TSIMA CEO Diat Alferink. Pic by Diat Alferink.

