



ausdance
wa

Country Week Dance 2012 ***2 July to 5 July***

Dance Program ***Information Booklet***



Country Week Dance 2011 – Margaret River Senior High School



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WELCOME!

WELCOME to your guide for Country Week Dance 2012!

This booklet is designed to provide you as the teacher or dance team leader, with the information you need to best prepare for Country Week Dance 2012.

This booklet contains new information and highlights changes and improvements to Country Week Dance. **I encourage and highly recommend that you read this booklet thoroughly to familiarise yourself with these changes.** This will ensure that your students have a fulfilling and awesome dance experience as participants in Country Week Dance 2012.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself, Kathleen Hoffman, as the Acting Projects Manager while Li-anne Carroll is on parental leave during 2012.

If you have questions, please phone or email me at Ausdance WA.

Thank you for your cooperation and the Ausdance WA team looks forward to seeing you at Country Week Dance 2012!

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AUSDANCE WA CONTACT DETAILS

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AUSDANCE WA: OVERVIEW

The Australian Dance Council – Ausdance WA is a membership organization that supports the Western Australian dance community, both professional and non-professional. Current Ausdance WA membership exceeds 300 people, including dance teachers (studio & school), community based dance artists and groups, young people, professional dancers and other related organisations.

Ausdance WA is part of a national network of state offices, with a national office based in Canberra. Governed by a Management Committee of eight members, Ausdance WA currently has six core staff members and its office is based at the King Street Art Centre in the Perth CBD.

Ausdance WA's core operations are funded through the Department of Culture and the Arts. Ausdance WA receives sponsorship from Healthway as well as small grants from government and non-government groups for projects to promote dance. Ausdance WA also earns some income through membership fees, studio hire and workshops.

Ausdance WA's purpose is to lead the development of the Western Australian dance sector, through advocacy, partnerships, information sharing and service provision.

- Advocacy and Leadership – projects such as West Australian Dance Awards, Australian Dance Awards, Future Moves Contemporary Dance Strategic initiative, Oral History Project, Teacher Professional Development
- National Initiatives – ensuring the Western Australian dance community is engaged with national initiatives such as Treading the Pathways and SCOPE
- Membership – initiatives to support our members include *dancewest* magazine, fortnightly email bulletin, comprehensive data base and access to resource library
- Events program – Dance Week, Indigenous and Regional dance projects, Country Week Dance and Dance Dialects, a multicultural dance project.
- Studio Management at King Street Arts Centre

COUNTRY WEEK DANCE 2012

Ausdance WA in association with School Sports WA presents Country Week Dance 2012 from Monday 2nd July to Thursday 5th July 2012. Sponsored by Be Active, Ausdance WA coordinates, manages and runs Country Week Dance.

Aim

The key aims of Country Week Dance is to provide regional young people with

- The opportunity to engage in dance development and physical activity with highly experienced dance artists;
- a safe learning environment that promotes team work and collaborative skill development;
- a healthy competitive environment where each team is challenged to achieve their personal best;
- the opportunity to expand their experience through working in professional dance venues (eg King Street Art Centre, West Australian Academy of Performing Arts);
- the opportunity to develop greater awareness about the professional dance sector including training opportunities, dance companies and support organizations.

Additionally, Country Week Dance 2012 offers regional dance teachers the opportunity to participate in the workshops for their professional development.

Dance Content & Structure

Country Week Dance program will include contemporary and choreography technique as well as cultural dance forms. For 2012, these cultural dance forms will be revealed only on the first day of Country Week Dance.

Following the workshops, the students will undertake a collaborative team process to create a new dance work. At the end of the week, this dance work is presented to an adjudication panel and audience of peers.

Healthy Competitive Environment

Ausdance WA acknowledges that Country Week Dance is a competitive event, and we have structured the week to promote a *healthy* competitive environment. Ausdance WA invites and encourages all teams to take on practices that characterise healthy competition. These practices include:

- doing one's best
- having fun
- learning new skills creating opportunity for growth
- working as a team
- positive participation
- putting in a strong and concerted effort
- striving to improve oneself
- ensuring that learning and developing are the central goals rather than winning.

It has been demonstrated that students who embrace these practices will have a positive and rewarding experience, and if they happen to win, it's icing on the cake! **Focus on having fun and enjoy the creative and learning process. Less focus on winning!**

COUNTRY WEEK 2012 GUIDELINES

Divisions

- Due to a small number of schools nominating for Country Week Dance 2012, there will only be one division this year

For County Week Dance 2012, Ausdance WA:

- can cater up to a maximum of 100 students

Teams

- Each team can have a minimum of 6 members and a maximum of 10.
- If a school's team numbers are low, Ausdance WA will consider combining two school teams. In the event that the combined team is the overall winner of the dance program the points will be distributed equally to each school.
- Teams are permitted to bring only one additional dance team member to act as an 'outside eye' in the studio. Unlike the coach, this student can assist in artistic problem solving and offer an alternative perspective. The maximum number of performers remains at 10 members, however schools may bring 11 students for the week.

Dance Composition & Rehearsals

- Ausdance WA will schedule rehearsal times for all the teams, during which it will be the teams' opportunity to develop choreographic concepts and create their performance.
- Rehearsals will be scheduled at the King Street Arts Centre and His Majesty's Theatre. It is expected that students will need to discuss ideas for their choreographic work outside of scheduled rehearsal times.

Music

- Ausdance WA will select and provide the music for the rehearsals and performance.
- The music will be provided to each team on the first day of Country Week Dance 2012.

Video documentation and Photography

- Teams are permitted to video the final run of each routine only in the workshop.
- Videoing of the workshops is not permitted.
- Ausdance WA will video the performances and a copy will be provided to each team.
- Ausdance WA will also take photos of the workshops and performances

Duty of Care

- Duty of care of the students remains with the teachers.
- Ausdance WA will not take responsibility for students or teachers/supervisors valuables, and for students during breaks.

Performances

- All participating teams, teachers and schools are encouraged and permitted to watch other schools performances at Country Week Dance 2012.

Adjudication

- Ausdance WA selects a panel of three adjudicators who represent the professional dance community.
- For information on the adjudication criteria, refer to section 'Judging Criteria'.
- Only the first and second place winners, as well as the recipients of the Encouragement Award will be announced at the adjudication sessions. School Sports WA will post the final rankings to schools following Country Week.
- The adjudication will include assessment of "general dance etiquette" which will be assessed by the Artistic Team Leader during rehearsals throughout the week. This includes basic dance studio etiquette such as; no chewing gum in rehearsals, no food in the studios, hair off the face during rehearsals, no chunky jewellery in rehearsal etc.
- The adjudication panel's decision is final.

Certificate of Participation

- All students taking part in Country Week Dance 2012 will receive a participation certificate.

COUNTRY WEEK 2012 REQUIREMENTS

School Representative

- Each school must provide a school representative who will attend each workshop and rehearsal.

List of Students & Teachers Names

- Each school must provide Ausdance WA with a complete list of all participating students and teachers/supervisors for Country Week Dance 2012 along with teachers/supervisors' contact numbers.

Release Forms

- Ausdance WA will take photographs during the workshops and will video the performances. It is essential that every student submit a signed release form from his/her parent/guardian that is submitted to Ausdance WA prior to the commencement of Country Week Dance 2012.
- The Release Form is enclosed in this booklet. See the Appendix.

Dance Workshops

- Students will participate in four dance workshops. Contemporary technique, choreographic practice and two cultural dance styles will be offered.
- Each group will present a dance performance of approximately 3 minutes to an adjudication panel.
- Students must apply elements of the dance styles learnt in their choreography to create the dance performance.
- Students only (not teachers) are to develop the choreography that will be presented to the adjudication panel. Teams can have an 11th student member to assist with the development of the choreography.
- Teams are reminded that the Artistic Team Leader provided by Ausdance WA will be available to assist in students with artistic matters. This person will be monitoring all teams' rehearsals in order to maintain a fair and consistent event.

Evaluation & Feedback

- Ausdance WA will post an evaluation form on Survey Monkey (www.surveymonkey.com) to obtain feedback from the participating schools two weeks following the event.

GUIDELINES FOR DANCE TEACHERS/SUPERVISORS AT COUNTRY WEEK DANCE

Ausdance WA has developed specific guidelines for the Dance Teachers/Supervisors involved in Country Week Dance to allow for the varying levels of dance experience of staff and to ensure that each team is working under the same conditions for the week.

In 2012, teams that do not adhere to these guidelines will be penalised.

Role of Dance Teachers/Supervisor

The role of the Dance Teacher/Supervisor during country Week dance is that of a rehearsal director/assistant. The dance team members (students) are responsible for making all artistic decisions. Dance Teachers/Supervisors are present during this process to assist in rehearsal management rather than artistic problem solving.

Dance Teachers/Supervisors may assist teams in the following ways:

- Operate music
- Assist to clean or polish choreography:
 - identify discrepancies in movement detail;
 - provide technical feedback on movement (point your feet there, soften landings from jumps);
 - identify count discrepancies;
 - identify messy spacing and
 - assist dancers to find correct spacing for their positions
- Act as mediator in disputes/arguments amongst dancers

Teachers/Supervisors **may not** assist teams in the following ways:

- Offer or suggest any ideas in relation to any aspect of the dance piece
- Making any kind of artistic decision during the development of the dance piece
- Offer unsolicited feedback to the team members during development of their dance. If team members require feedback, they must identify two options for the dance teacher/supervisor, who may offer their personal preference.

Professional Development for Dance Teachers/Supervisors

Ausdance WA recognises that Country Week Dance is a great opportunity for professional development for dance teachers/supervisors. Given this, dance teachers/supervisors will be permitted to participate in the Country Week Dance workshops in all dance styles, including choreography.

Dance teachers/supervisors are reminded that their role during Country Week Dance is only for rehearsal assistance and therefore despite being permitted to participate in the workshops they will not be allowed to assist teams in developing their dance.

Judging Criteria

Adjudication Session

Each team will be adjudicated on their performance at the end of the week. A judging panel of three valued members of the professional dance community will deliberate on six required criteria. The judges will be adjudicating each team on:

- Teamwork
- Use of Space
- Kinetic quality – Rhythmical Movement
- Creativity - Interpretation of Music
- Performance Quality
- Choreographic Elements (e.g. repetition, canon, accumulation etc)

Assessment during Rehearsals

The Artistic Team Leader (employed by Ausdance WA) will assess each team on:

- team work displayed throughout the week in the lead up to the adjudicated performance;
- “general dance etiquette” which will be assessed by the Artistic Team Leader during rehearsals throughout the week;

CODE OF CONDUCT

For Dance Students

- Team Work: Students are encouraged to work as a team at all times.
- Healthy Competition: Treat all team members and opponents fairly and respectfully.
- Follow guidelines and requirements set by Ausdance WA.
- Have fun!

For Teachers/Supervisors

- Be role model for students
- Encourage positive interaction amongst all students.
- Create a positive environment for students
- Allow officials to conduct the event smoothly.
- Follow guidelines and requirements set by Ausdance WA

For Audience & Spectators

- Allow officials to conduct the event smoothly.
- Demonstrate positive behaviour.
- Respect the opposing teams and their supporters.

UNIFORMS

- Students are encouraged to wear dance clothing suitable that allow moving freely and comfortably.
- Students may be required to work in both barefoot and sneakers.
- Simple costume may be used at the discretion of the teachers.

ACCOMMODATION

Each school is responsible for organising accommodation for the week.
Here are some websites to assist you with your planning:

- www.stayz.com.au
- www.accommodationperth.com.au
- www.cheaperthanhotels.com.au/Australia/Perth
- www.wotif.com > Australia > Perth
- www.aswa.com.au

TRANSPORT & PARKING

Transportation and parking at all venues is the responsibility of the school.
Parking information/maps will be provided for parking at venues where required.

VENUES

Workshops	Rehearsals	Adjudication Sessions
King Street Arts Centre & His Majesty's Theatre	King Street Arts Centre	WA Academy of Performing Arts Music Auditorium

King Street Arts Centre
Dance studios 1, 2, & 3
Level 1 & 2, 357 – 365 Murray Street
Perth WA 6000

His Majesty's Theatre
825 Hay Street
Perth WA 6000

West Australian Academy of Performing Arts
2 Bradford Street
Mount Lawley WA 6050

APPENDIX: RELEASE FORM



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AUSDANCE WA

2012 COUNTRY WEEK DANCE, 2nd to 6th JULY

CLEARANCE FOR VIDEOING & PHOTOGRAPHY OF PARTICIPANTS

To be completed for each team member - due 18 JUNE 2012

Dear parent/guardian

The dance component for Country Week 2012 will be videoed and photographed to provide a visual record of the event.

To enable Ausdance WA to proceed with photo and video documentation, it is essential that all parents/guardians give their permission for their child to be filmed/photographed.

Please sign and return this form to your team coordinator well before the due date.

Thank you.

School: _____

I give my consent for _____ to be included in the video and photographic documentation of Country Week 2012.

Parent/Guardian's Signature _____

Please print your name _____

Date _____