



MEDIA RELEASE

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Windmill Selected for National Education 2020 Initiative

Windmill has been successful in winning a grant from the Australia Council and Arts SA to pilot an Artist in Residence Initiative in schools.

The Artist in Residence Project evolved from a creative plan that came out of the 2020 National Summit, and funding was opened up to arts organisations across the country.

Windmill's project will see approximately 65 students from two selected schools become a 'Student Advisory Group' working with the creative team in the development of the world premiere production ***Nyuntu Nglali (You We Two)*** – a co-production with Big hART. The students' participation will occur throughout the rehearsal period, during the performance season and then in post performance discussions and critique.

The aim of the project is to develop a rich arts learning environment by engaging arts educators and students with a theatre company and professional theatre artists throughout the course of a full creative process.

Windmill's Artistic Director, Rose Myers commented on the funding saying, "This provides an invaluable opportunity to expose students to the artists' thinking and process at a very refined level. It will encourage fantastic performance literacy and a deeper engagement with the arts amongst the participants. The mutual benefit will see the artists having their creative imaginations inspired by the dynamism and creative capacities of the students and this will feedback into Windmill for the future."

Arts Project Officer, Julie Orchard (who is seconded from DECS) is now receiving expressions of interest from schools and the project is set to start towards the end of August.

Arts SA representative Alex Reid said, "Windmill was an excellent choice for this pilot project as they are already very engaged with arts educators and school students, through Education links to their theatre seasons and previous project work such as the *Children's Voices Research*. Windmill's initiative offers a genuine 'hands-on' opportunity for students to be involved in a unique and exciting creative process with highly talented theatre professionals."

The project has the potential to be rolled out as a national model for Arts Education following on from this pilot program.

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Government of South Australia
Arts SA



This project has been assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body.