

Homestay Families Needed for 2011

"I believe strongly that NAISDA is a vital part of Indigenous Australia's cultural infrastructure.

Headed by Kim Walker as Executive Director, NAISDA, as Australia's national Indigenous dance training institution has been instrumental in training Indigenous performers who have gone on to have highly successful careers in the performing arts including dance, music, theatre and film.

After three decades in temporary homes around Sydney, in 2006 NAISDA moved to permanent premises at Mt Penang Parklands on the NSW Central Coast."

Warren Mundine, Chair NAISDA Dance College

NAISDA Dance College is seeking Homestay Families for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island students from communities across Australia while they are studying for a Careers in Dance at NAISDA.



If this sounds like something you may be interested in and would like more information, please return the response slip below, or alternatively you can contact the Developing Artist Support Officer, Celeste Yarnold on 02 4340 3100 or c.yarnold@naisda.com.au by **Friday 12 November 2010**.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE RETURN RESPONSE SLIP TO:
CELESTE YARNOLD
DEVELOPING ARTIST SUPPORT OFFICER
NAISDA DANCE COLLEGE
PO BOX 7103
KARIONG NSW 2250**

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RESPONSE SLIP

Our family is interested in finding out more information on the NAISDA Dance College Homestay program for 2011.

Name/s (please print): _____

Ph No. _____ Mobile: _____

Address: _____

_____ Email: _____



Background information on NAISDA

The organisation now known as NAISDA Ltd sprang from a six-week dance workshop in Redfern in 1975, modestly funded by the NSW Arts Council of the day.

Today NAISDA Ltd is Australia's national tertiary Indigenous dance training organisation.

NAISDA students are drawn from all over Australia through talent identification programs and an annual week-long audition program, and most students are eligible for Abstudy.

NAISDA Ltd offers uniquely exciting possibilities springing from a fusion of traditional and contemporary Indigenous dance.

In the transformed world of the 21st century, NAISDA Dance College is more relevant than ever as young Indigenous people look to redefine their roles in this very different Australia. However, some aspects of NAISDA never change.

NAISDA is a unique, world class cultural organisation that fuses Indigenous cultural philosophies with a contemporary world-standard approach to performing arts training.

Here at NAISDA we actively encourage our Developing Artists to explore and identify with their traditional cultures. Our fieldwork with Developing Artists in remote communities, and our programs bringing cultural tutors from those communities in residence at the College, set NAISDA apart from other arts training organisations.

NAISDA is committed to the provision of a learning space that culturally affirms and supports Developing Artists while advancing their intellectual and performance skills and development.





Why a Home Stay Program?

Young people come from Indigenous communities from all parts of Australia and the Torres Strait Islands. Very often they come from small communities very different from the cosmopolitan lifestyle of the Central Coast.

And at 16, 17 or 18, the challenges of independent living can be very real. While the issues are addressed in their Life Skills studies which are part of the NAISDA curriculum, we want to be able to offer them an extra degree of support.

In 2011, NAISDA Dance College will have a substantial intake of new Developing Artists, as we call our students. Thirteen of them will be under 18 when they commence their studies and we would like to be able to offer them the extra support that can come from living with a family. We all want these young people to succeed and become the next leaders of Indigenous Australia, and living in a loving and supportive family environment will give them the best opportunity.

Families who participate in the Home Stay Program will be paid and will be offered a Cultural Learning Program to help them understand any differences between their lives and that of their guest. Families who participate will also build a special relationship with NAISDA.

There will be a Home Stay Co-ordinator to help families and DAs with any issues that might arise.

