Term 4 School Music Competition / Community Battle of the Bands / Concert

Proposal

The aim of this event is to create a boost in school attendance across all schools of the APY Lands. It would be held at the end of term 4 in December, giving ample opportunity for students to hit an attendance target decided on and approved by the PYEC. The reward for reaching this targeted attendance would be entry to the concert. Alongside this comes curriculum and learning opportunities for the students to engage and develop musical capacity/culture and building community support at the same time learning to encourage others and to overcome shame and teasing. This may well be the overarching theme of the event to promote healthy relationships and supportive attitudes to other students and community members.

The day would start with each school having one representative (solo, duo, band, choir, etc.) performing one piece. Schools may use this as an opportunity at their own site to have their own selection process tied to curriculum, ('Amata has tallent' – 'Indulkana Idol' etc) there are many opportunities for community engagement here as well as learning opportunities regarding voting and elections. Furthermore, there is a lot of opportunity for community and families to link in with the school, each community in the APY lands has musicians with great talent, and it would even be encouraged that one of these community members could act as a coach and even play in the act with the students to help model and encourage them to overcome shame and feel proud. For example, Tunu Smith could help students in Mimili by teaching them one of his songs, or even write a new song with the students and perform it live with them at the event. This process in itself would be a highly engaging attendance strategy.

There should be an inclusion of a celebration of visual arts at this event as well, with an exhibition of student work from across all the schools being on display, with the possibility of prize's being awarded or other incentives that help to link student's identity to the real world possibility of being an artist.

The school portion of the day is about celebration of learning and being brave with the message of 'kunta wiya' or no shame. Similar to a mini 'bush bands bash'. Therefore, no competitive nature for the premiere event The next part of the celebration will be a community battle of the bands in which five pre-approved bands who have successfully auditioned will have their chance to perform 3-4 songs each. Following this a concert shall be held with a big name act such as Electric Fields or Baker Boy performing. It will be discussed with these artists to also put forward their personalized messages of overcoming shame and adversity to rise to the level of success they have achieved in aim to impart some of their wisdom and experience to the greater community and younger generations.