



## Southern Stars 2024 – Information for Schools

**Southern Stars** is a large-scale event, providing high-quality opportunities in the performing arts for students and teachers from NSW public schools across NSW.

Southern Stars will be held at **WIN Entertainment Centre**, Wollongong on **Friday 30 and Saturday 31 August 2024** with rehearsals on Wednesday 29 and Thursday 29 August 2024.

Schools can participate in the following categories:

- Yanggaa Garaba Aboriginal Dance Ensemble
- Mass Choir
- Mass Dance
- Mass Drama
- Shining Stars Disability Dance Ensemble

Online applications are open. Follow the link below to apply now. Applications close **5 April 2024 (Week 10)**.

[Southern Stars 2024 School Applications](#)

Southern Stars ensures your students have access to the performing arts and the well-being benefits associated with this magical and long running event. The success of the show relies on many, including all schools who participate.

Students who participate in Southern Stars gain the following outcomes in Creative Arts:  
The students will

- Achieve challenging learning goals
- Improve self esteem
- Learn to establish and maintain respectful collaborative relationships with teachers and peers
- Further develop their sense of wellbeing, belonging & connectedness
- Have a greater understanding of culture, identity and background if students participate in the Aboriginal dance ensemble
- Learn that through participation in music and dance programs ensures they have the opportunity to achieve their full potential in areas of the arts curriculum and also enhance success in other curriculum areas

### Participation Guidelines

- Schools do not have to audition. **All** who apply are accepted.
- There is no minimum or maximum number of participants, provided the Department of Education's Excursion Policy supervision ratios are met and approved by your Principal.
- Final numbers – confirmation for final numbers will be sent Week 1, Term 2. Schools who do not reply will be charged for the TOTAL numbers indicated on the original form. There will be NO changes to numbers after Week 1, Term 2.

### Commitment

Once you have nominated to be a part of Southern Stars 2024, you must be able to commit to all calendar dates as outlined. A comprehensive rehearsal and production schedule will be available after your acceptance.

### Costume and Merchandise

Costumes will be available to purchase through various Southern Stars suppliers. All costume information will be available at the Teachers Meeting on 14 May 2024.

## Southern Stars financial process and information for schools - 2023

### General information regarding finance

- Students are to be approved for participation through their own schools
- Schools collect money from students for associated costs and an internal journal will be issued for participation fee of \$60.00 which includes a t shirt and rehearsal venue costs
- A journal for merchandise costs will be sent to your School Admin Manager
- Any finance questions should be directed to [southern.stars@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:southern.stars@det.nsw.edu.au)

### Teacher Relief

- Teacher relief for attendance at rehearsals and performances is the responsibility of the school.
- If a teacher is accepted into a role within the Southern Stars team, then relief will be provided when they are required to attend Southern Stars related activities during school hours.

### Participation Fee (Includes t shirt and rehearsal venue costs)

All students participating in a combined school item (dance, drama or choir) are required to pay a participation fee of \$60 No GST

### Southern Stars Performing Company (auditioned) students

All students participating as a member of the SSPC (vocalist, dancer, drama or orchestra) are required to pay a company fee. These fees are paid directly, by the student, to the SSPC

### Southern Stars T Shirts & Merchandise

- Southern Stars Event T Shirt included in the participation fee  
*Please note – t shirts are a requirement for all students participating in Southern Stars as these will be used to form part of a costume in the 2024 show*
- Southern Stars hoodies are optional
- All merchandise can be ordered online. Further information will be supplied in the teacher's package.
- Schools collect merchandise fees from students and teachers and an interschool journal will be issued
- Orders for merchandise cannot be cancelled or refunded after they are placed due to change of mind, event cancellations, or sizing related issues.

### Costumes

- If schools are purchasing costumes through one of Southern Stars costume supplier's you will be advised the final date to order in the teacher's package.
- Payments to suppliers are to be handled and processed by each school directly
- Once orders have been submitted payment will be expected. There are no refunds or cancellations
- Orders for costumes cannot be cancelled or refunded after they are placed due to change of mind, event cancellations, or sizing related issues

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact Sharon Buikstra, Operations Manager, email: [southern.stars@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:southern.stars@det.nsw.edu.au)