A Darwin multicultural organisation has used an NT Government grant to bring traditional Indonesian dancers to the Territory as part of Indonesian Culture Week 2005 and the Darwin Festival.

Persatuan Indonesia Darwin Inc has received $12,000 from the Territory Government’s Multicultural Affairs Sponsorship Program (MASP).

In Territory Parliament today, Minister for Multicultural Affairs Kon Vatskalis said that over $300,000 has been granted to multicultural groups in Round One of the program.

“This Government is committed to enabling the Territory’s multicultural groups to share their rich and colourful cultures with the rest of the community.

“All Territorians are proud of our cultural diversity, as it plays an important part in our great lifestyle. Congratulations to all the groups who have received funding,” said Mr Vatskalis.

Persatuan Indonesia Darwin Inc will host ‘Pesona Indonesia 2005’, an Indonesian culture night at the Gardens Amphitheatre this Saturday. The event will also mark the 60th anniversary of Indonesian independence.

Groups that will perform at the event include:

- **Meta Bubaya Group** from Solo in Central Java – music and Javanese traditional dancers
- **Riki Marta** - a dance group from East Sumba including seven dancers, one traditional Sumbanese music player, one traditional weaver, three drum players and two officials
- **Trio Marengko** – a group of singers from Ambon
- **Jolanda George** – a Territory based Indonesian dancer
- **Pencak Silat Group** – A group of seven artists from Melbourne who will showcase traditional Indonesian martial arts.

For more information about ‘Pesona Indonesia 2005’ call Yulius Gah on 0424 574 078.

**Media opportunity:** Minister Kon Vatskalis will make a speech at ‘Pesona Indonesia 2005’, August 20 at 5:30pm at the George Brown Botanic Gardens Amphitheatre.

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