Minister for Education, Peter Chandler, said today Darwin High School is gaining a reputation for its outstanding performances that canvass issues confronting young people.

“This year the production Brave, which examined bullying, received tremendous feedback from audiences in Darwin and Time, which focused on drink driving, attracted more than 4000 students to performances.”

“The productions are responses to the issues students believe are important to Territory teenagers and are an enriching experience for both the performers and the audience.

“Performers are delivering messages, and in doing so they can change people’s lives,” Mr Chandler said.

“Darwin High students from Year 10 to Year 12 who take part in these powerful performances are challenging their audiences to think about contemporary issues.”

Mr Chandler was at Darwin High School to watch performing arts rehearsals in the lead-up to the school’s 50th birthday celebrations on 8 August. The school has developed new dance works under its anniversary dance production, Connections.

Twenty-five Year 12 students have recently returned from Western Australia where they undertook a five-day residency program at the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts in Perth.

The excursion provided an opportunity for dance students from Darwin High School to present performance-based work, attend performances, participate in intensive workshops and forums, and meet dance artists.

One of the school’s new dance productions is Secrets which investigates teenage drug use and the decisions teenagers make.

Performances of Connections will run at Browns Mart Theatre from 17 to 19 September to celebrate the school’s anniversary.

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