NAIDOC celebrations in Yirrkala tonight

19 September 2014

The Territory Government is proud to be supporting a NAIDOC performing arts event in Yirrkala tonight.

“The Government has provided a $10,000 grant to make this event possible and it’s a fantastic opportunity to celebrate and showcase the best of Indigenous arts and culture in the region,” Chief Minister Adam Giles said.

“This is a great opportunity for the regional community to come together.

“Tonight’s event will include dance performances from the Moonfish Dancers, the Y-Girls, Djakapurra and the Bunggul Dancers, followed by music performances from Yirrmal and East Journey, featuring Yothu Yindi.

“The Moonfish Dancers’ production tells the story of a young man’s life, through the hardship of petrol sniffing to the bright lights of city life.

“He then comes full circle, returning home in North East Arnhem Land, where he re-engages with his culture and family.

“The dance production will also be used in the future to work with disadvantaged youth around suicide prevention, substance abuse and keeping the community safe and healthy.

“It’s great to see NAIDOC events being held in regional areas, giving the people of Yirrkala an opportunity to discuss these important issues.”

Each year NAIDOC celebrations are held across Australia to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.

This year’s NAIDOC theme, Serving Country: Centenary & Beyond, is about honouring all the Indigenous men and women who have fought in defence of our country.

The event runs from 5pm to 9pm at Rika Park in Yirrkala tonight.