Territory Students Tell their Stories on the Silver Screen

Education Minister Marion Scrymgour today encouraged students to tell their stories on the big screen – as she launched the Northern Territory’s first schools film festival.

Ms Scrymgour said the Connecting through Film 2008 Schools Film Festival would involve Territory students making short films that created connections between students and their communities.

“The festival is aimed at giving Territory students the chance to celebrate their achievements with each other and the wider world,” Ms Scrymgour said.

“It encourages students to be creative, learn about film making and improve their communication skills.

“And winning entries will be screened at Darwin’s famous Deckchair Cinema.”

Last year Gochin Jiny-Jirra School in Arnhemland won the Peoples’ Choice award for best short film at a local film festival.

Gochin Jiny-Jirra Principal Chris Nock said the film-making process had been an exciting and educational time for the school community.

“Encouraging students to express themselves through film is a great way to enrich the overall learning experience.”

As well as scripting, acting and filming, students will also review the films.

The Department of Employment, Education and Training will be running a series of film-making workshops in Darwin and Alice Springs for students and teachers. Mentors from the film industry will be linked up with student filmmakers Territory wide.


The film festival is a partnership between the Northern Territory Government with the Deckchair Cinema, Spout Creative, Simon Says Television, Dijital Mojo, Foundation Studios, Airnorth, NT Film Office, Alice Springs Cinema and Sigttech NT. The major category of Best Film is sponsored by CSG.

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