Tonight’s “Enchanting Indonesia (Persona Indonesia ) 2004” festival has been supported by the Northern Territory Government through funding from the Office of Ethnic Affairs.

Ethnic Affairs Minister, Kon Vatskalis, said he was pleased the Government was able to assist Persatuan Indonesia Inc with a $12,000 grant under the 2004/05 Ethnic Affairs Sponsorship Program.

“Our multiculturalism forms an important part of the unique lifestyle we all enjoy in the Top End, and it must be supported,” said Mr Vatskalis.

“Congratulations must go to Persatuan Indonesia Inc for organising tonight’s innovative project and sharing their traditions with the wider community.”

Mr Vatskalis said “Enchanting Indonesia 2004” will feature a performance by Gamelan Orchestra – a group created through funding obtained from another vital Ethnic Affairs sponsorship program.

“This orchestra was formed after Persatuan Indonesia Inc received a $15,000 grant under the 2003/04 Cultural and Linguistic Awards, enabling a community member to undertake study in Indonesia of traditional Javanese gamelan music. Those skills where then passed onto the community and the orchestra established,” he said.

“Enchanting Indonesia 2004” takes place at the Darwin Amphitheatre from 5pm – 9pm tonight.