

TEACHER STUDIO SESSIONS: IMMERSIVE LEARNING EXPERIENCES FOR PRIMARY & SECONDARY EDUCATORS

Tuesday 10 June & Wednesday 11 June 2025

The same workshops will be offered on both evenings

	Activity	Description	Presenter/Facilitator(s)		
4:00 pm - 4:30 pm	Participants Arrive / Hospitality on Arrival				
1:30 pm - 4:45 pm	Welcome: Acknowledgement of Country & 7	Ryan Taaffe, CEO			
4:45 pm - 5:00 pm	Vision: Barking Gecko Arts' commitment to shaping meaningful arts experiences now and into the future		Jenny Simpson, Festival Director & Sam Longley, Artistic Director		
5:00 pm - 6:15 pm	Workshop 1: Drama Essentials for the Classroom (Primary)	This practical and engaging workshop provides simple, effective, and fun drama games and techniques that can be easily integrated into everyday classroom activities. Participants will explore foundational drama exercises that build confidence, foster creativity, and support student engagement across various subjects. They will learn how to facilitate drama games that encourage collaboration, storytelling, and expressive communication—all while creating a playful and inclusive learning environment.	CJ Hampson		
	Workshop 2: Drama Essentials for the Classroom (Secondary)	This hands-on workshop introduces simple yet effective drama techniques to engage students, foster creativity, and build confidence in the classroom. Participants will explore a range of adaptable drama exercises, from warm-ups and improvisation games to storytelling and ensemble-building activities. These techniques can be easily incorporated into lessons across different subjects to encourage collaboration, critical thinking, and expressive communication.	Teresa Jakovich		
	Workshop 3: Crafting Immersive Art for Children and Young People	In this dynamic session, participants will explore playful and imaginative approaches to designing and facilitating immersive experiences that deeply engage young audiences. Through hands-on activities, storytelling and collaborative play, participants will discover practical techniques to spark creativity, foster collaboration, and ignite the imagination of young participants.	Ariana Paganetti & David Williams		
	Workshop 4: Integrating the Arts into the Curriculum	Sam is a skilled writer and theatre maker. Their works are across performance, direction, production and dramaturgy. In 2024 Sam worked with Newman Primary School educators to explore activities linking oral language skills with core curriculum. Sam worked with teachers to explore activities that connected creativity, story and self within classroom learning. This included using the body, connecting to narrative, intentional celebration, and incorporating games.	Sam Nerida		
		Rae is a skilled multidisciplinary artist specialising in unique Aboriginal arts and crafts. Her works are across visual art, ceramics, environmental art and installation. In 2024 Rae delivered workshops in Perth Primary Schools that combined classroom learning with creativity.	Maxxi May		

		Artists Rae Cottam and Maxxi May delivered a residency that used arts processes to explore the local natural environment and the link between biology and Indigenous cultural knowledge. They explored the local area while searching for materials to use in sculptures. Participants learned about the animals that live in that area and the seasons we would most likely find them. Participants also learned about the trees and flowers in the local area, their seasonality, Noongar names, uses and benefits of using them. The residency explored Maths, Science, Ecology, Noongar Language, and History Curriculum areas. As well as promoting positive social and emotional wellbeing in participants.		
6:15 pm - 6:30 pm	Hospitality			
6:30 pm - 7:45 pm	Workshop 5: Collaborative Creation in the Classroom	Get ready to unleash your creativity and collaborate in this high-energy workshop on devising original performances. Participants will engage in fun, hands-on activities that teach the art of building a performance from scratch. Learn how to guide your students through brainstorming, improvising, and crafting scenes that reflect their unique voices. By the end, you'll leave with a toolbox of techniques for fostering student-led creativity in drama.	Ariana Paganetti & David Williams	
	Workshop 6: Sensory Tales: Creative Inclusive Theatre for Children and Young People with Disabilities	Step into the world of immersive multi-sensory theatre and storytelling designed specifically for children and young people with disabilities. In this hands-on workshop, participants will explore innovative techniques and strategies for creating inclusive theatrical experiences that engage all the senses.	Michelle Hovane, Sensorium Theatre	
	Workshop 7: Stage Adaptations: Bringing Books to Life	Transform celebrated children's and young adult literature into magical stage performances in this creative and collaborative workshop. Learn how to dissect award-winning stories, adapt their themes and characters, and engage students in the exciting process of building scenes. By the end of the session, you'll be equipped with innovative tools to breathe new life into beloved books and captivate audiences of all ages.	Adam Mitchell	
7:45 pm - 8:00 pm	Session Ends: Participants Depart			