

# FIRST NATIONS DANCE COMPANY

*Riverina*



## ABOUT THE PROGRAM



This program provides an opportunity for talented First Nations dance students in Years 7 to 12 from the Riverina area: Wiradjuri Country, to extend their skills in dance and connect with culture whilst being mentored by highly accomplished Wiradjuri choreographer Ella Havelka.

The ensemble will foster a love of dancing by providing rehearsals and performance opportunities, developing dance technique and performance quality through traditional and contemporary choreography to an original Wiradjuri based sound track. Students will have the opportunity to participate in performances and festivals which complement and extend school programs.

## AUDITIONS

Interested students will be required to audition to be a part of the dance company. Students must register for the auditions.

Date: Thursday 21 March (Term 1 Week 8)

Venue: Wagga Wagga PCYC

Time: Sign in starts from 8:30 am. Auditions 9:00am to 2:00pm

Successful students will then be required to attend an additional workshop the following day on Friday 22 March 2024 from 8:30am to 2:00 pm where they will rehearse a choreographed piece to submit to The Riverina Dance Festival and State Dance Festival.

## HOW TO REGISTER

Students will self nominate and must register for the audition by completing the [online Riverina First Nations Dance Company](#).

Simply scan the QR Code OR go to <https://artsunit.nsw.edu.au> and search for Riverina First Nation Dance Company. Registrations close Friday 8 March 2024 (Term 1 Week 6)



REGISTER HERE

## REHEARSALS

Rehearsals will be held initially once a term at a venue to be advised with additional rehearsals for any special events.

## COST

This program is free to Public School Students. There may be some additional costs related to excursions.

## CHOREOGRAPHER



Wiradjuri Woman Ella Havelka is passionate about creating new pathways for First Nations storytelling through dance, Wiradjuri language revitalisation and traditional weaving. Having danced for both The Australian Ballet and Bangarra Dance Theatre, Havelka was the subject of the documentary film ELLA, which premiered at the Melbourne International Film Festival in 2016. Ella is a traditional weaver with Wagga Wagga's Hands On Weavers group and an Atlantic Fellow for Social Equity with a Masters in Social Change Leadership through Melbourne University.

## ENQUIRIES

Melissa Brown: Program Coordinator  
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