

Students debut on Triple J

David Charlesworth

What started as a performance at NAIDOC Week has landed a group of local youngsters on national radio.

The Burdiya Mob originally performed their song Djarilyn (Listen) at a NAIDOC Week event in Narrogin.

The song was submitted to and played on air as part of Triple J's Unearthed High competition, which finished last week.

The Burdiya Mob is a Community Arts Network program in which Aboriginal students from Years 7, 8 and 9 at Narrogin Senior High School wrote and performed their own hip-hop song in the Nyooongar language.

CAN regional co-ordinator Geri Hayden said the youngsters not only wrote the song themselves while still learning the Nyooongar language, but did so in only two days.

"Those kids are really dedicated to the project and the song says it all," she said. "That song being played on Triple J, I can't express how pleased I am, how happy I am for them."

Burdiya Mob member Stephanie Yarran said she was excited that people were able to hear their song on the radio and that it had received a positive response.

"It was just pretty cool that everyone got to hear it and they said good things about it," she said. "Especially because there's lots of records that people put there and they don't get played."



The Burdiya Mob performing their song Djarilyn during NAIDOC Week. Picture David Charlesworth

Students began the project during workshops with professional musicians Gina Williams and Scott Griffiths, about month ago.

Williams sings in Nyooongar language and Griffiths is a hip-hop artist.

"There were about 20 students involved (in the workshops)," Burdiya Mob Project artistic director Poppy van Oorde-Granger said.

"Together (Williams and Griffiths) helped the young people produce their song Djarilyn,

which means listen in Nyooongah."

Griffiths was contacted about the Unearthed High competition, and he urged CAN to submit their song. While the Burdiya Mob didn't make the final five, they received a special mention.

The students are now working on a new project — producing a music video for their song to be filmed around Narrogin.

Locations are currently being scouted and Ms van Oorde-Granger said the filming will begin next month.

Drugs bound for Albany

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A 37-year-old Morley man was charged with possessing a prohibited drug with intent to sell or supply, three counts of possessing a controlled weapon and possessing drug paraphernalia.

Narrogin Det. Sen. Const. Steve Burke said police would allege the drugs were concealed in a magnetised box in the engine of the car and were intended for Albany.

The man was remanded in custody after appearing in Narrogin Magistrate's Court last week and will reappear in Perth Magistrate's Court on August 25.

Det. Sen. Sgt Travers said officers were passionate about stopping the flow of methamphetamine.

"What that stuff is doing to the community is absolutely tragic and has a terrible flow-on effect," he said.

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