



For immediate release: Feb 25 2015

## HIP HOP STARS INSPIRE RURAL RYTHMS

Emcee workshops in Merredin, a B-Boy dance residency in Kellerberrin and an intensive Hip Hop camp are just a few of the highlights of CAN's new Rural Rhythm project.

Popular WA rapper Ryan Samuels, aka TROOTH, is set to deliver a series of hip hop workshops teaching local teenagers how to turn their love for hip hop into urban poetry and lyrics.

Trooth started writing poetry at 13 and by age 15 he was rapping and freestyling. He met American producer Trumpnotics in Melbourne in 2001 and the LA native opened his eyes to the history and culture of hip hop. His career highlights include filming a video clip in Los Angeles and performing in New York.

TROOTH starts off his workshop programs by focussing on the history of hip hop and then uses this knowledge base to teach young adults how to build Emcee and rhyming skills for rap writing and battles.

The workshops are aimed at Aboriginal teenagers, in years 7 – 10 and will take place at Merredin College every Wednesday between 12-1.100pm during term 1.

Meanwhile, kids in Kellerberrin will get the chance to work with an internationally experienced break dancer and hip hop artist who has won the Australian B Boy title three times.

Carlos 'Pepito' Estigarribia has been travelling to Kellerberrin every Monday to deliver dance classes alongside CAN's choreographer Connie Yarran, who has also been leading dance workshops in schools in Quairading and Cunderdin.

Pepito's first Monday session at the Town Hall is at 3:30-4:30pm. It's open to anyone in the community interested in learning Hip Hop dance and it's suitable for all ages and abilities.

Then, from 5:00-6:00pm the choreographers hold a master class for local dance group Static Crew, focusing on performance style and attitude.

Connie says her dancers are in awe of Pepito, who originally hails from South America and has performed extensively around Australia and overseas. And she says he's taken the local dance group to a whole new level.

"He really motivated the kids to learn new and more challenging moves and they've stepped up their game... they can't wait for their next big performance so they can show off their new skills."

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# CAN



And if that's not enough.... Plans are underway to hold a three-day intensive hip hop camp in Kellerberrin.

The Beat Walkers from Midvale and Yonga Boys from Kwinana and will join Static Crew in a once in a lifetime immersive hip hop experience

Karla Hart will teach lyric and song writing, Pauly P will show participants how to put their own beats together and B-Boys Carlos Pepito Estigarribia and Rush Wepiha will extend both crews experience with Hip Hop skills like footwork, freestyling and attitude.

The dance crews and developing their skills and working towards a joint performance for all groups during NAIDOC week.

The Rural Rhythms project is part of CAN's Rekindling Stories on Country, community arts program.

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