


# mungoyouthproject



Information Update **May 2011**



**mungoyouthproject**

**MUNGO YOUTH PROJECT  
2011 CONFERENCE  
7 - 9 SEPTEMBER**

***Kids teaching kids*  
in the Willandra Lakes World Heritage Area**

**[www.mungoyouthproject.com.au](http://www.mungoyouthproject.com.au)**

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*The conference brings young people into the Willandra World heritage area to work with mentors, elders, pastoralists, national parks and scientists to directly engage with history and culture, have fun and develop self-esteem through the gaining and sharing of knowledge in this landscape like no other.*

**The Mungo Youth Project aims to:**

Create an authentic student centred approach to learning about the deep history and Aboriginal Culture of Australia

Immerse students in contemporary challenges like climate change and reconciliation

Engage with the ongoing Aboriginal connection with the landscape

Increase self esteem, engagement with education and pride in culture

*Students directly engage with the longest continuous human history and culture on the planet, while developing personal learning, self esteem and friendships*



## PROJECT NEWS UPDATE

Of interest is the great success of the **MAKET program** from Mt Austin High School in Wagga. Students from this program have presented their successes in Hobart, Sydney and have been invited to Darwin. A feature of their work includes their great participation and leadership at previous Mungo Youth Conferences. Professor Marie Bashir, Governor of NSW has accepted an invitation from the Mt Austin to attend the 2011 conference!

Last week, **Barkindji Elder, Auntie Lottie Williams**, attended Coomealla High School, to mentor and support their learning on the topic *Traditional Lore & Language* and we look forward to another strong presentation from Coomealla! We look forward to visiting your school and organising mentors to support your education.

In 2011, our caterers and the committee are committed to ensuring healthy food at the Conference, and to that end have invited **Jimmy Little Foundation's Thumbs Up** program to attend and work with the students to promote healthy eating education. You can find out more about here: <http://www.jlf.org.au/>

The **Local Healthy Community Campaign** to promote better Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health (The Australian Government's COAG closing the gaps in indigenous health) has joined our sponsorship group.

Educational expert, **Robert Biggs**, accompanied by **Mungo Community Engagement officer, Ricky Mitchell**, begin their road trip next week to visit school around the Willandra Lakes World Heritage area. They will be talking with teachers and students about kids teaching kids, providing support for their learnings and arranging a mentor visit in the near future to enhance studies.

We have been investigating funding for the past 12 months, and again thank the NSW Government for their support, and whilst we await a few major outcomes, we can announce funding from the Wentworth & District Community Bank and Lower Murray Darling CMA.



## **SCHOOLS CURRENTLY REGISTERED**

Wentworth Public School  
Chaffey Secondary College  
Menindee Central School  
Thankakali Aboriginal Dance School  
Mildura Primary School  
Mt Austin High School  
Wilcannia Central School  
Two Rivers College  
St Joseph's College Mildura  
Ivanhoe Central School

Swan Hill College  
Vincentia High School  
Coomealla High School  
Merbein P-12 School  
Irymple Secondary College  
Mildura West  
Robinvale Secondary College  
Balranald Central School  
Dubbo College - Delroy Campus  
Tumut students



*Archeological Dig*



*Mentor visits to schools*



*Team building activities*



*Presenting*



*Presenting School—Bush foods and medicines*

*Budding archeologist with 45,000 year old Genyornis egg shell*



Presentation Topics	Notes
<b>Song lines &amp; dance stories.</b>	Culture is a living entity. What are some significant cultural events you attend? Why are they important? Learn about, adapt and develop an exciting presentation to celebrate culture.
<b>Bush Foods &amp; Medicine</b>	Bush Foods and Traditional Medicine helped people thrive and survive? Consider traditional living and make it alive today through your presentation.
<b>Time Travel</b>	20,000 years ago it was freezing at Mungo. The footprint track ways mark the presence of people then. Go back in time through scientists and trackers... tell the story of human travel, of land and people and Mungo Man & Mungo Woman
<b>Climate Change – World Change.</b>	The climate is continuously changing. Floods, fire and the future... How will we/ survive if the hottest day is hotter by 2C. How would people survive if the coldest days were colder by -9C than they are now? What does Mungo tell us about Climate Change?
<b>Traditional Lore &amp; Language</b>	Keep the Lore strong. Through your community (elders and community educators) find a way to present understandings and respect for traditional lore. Explore and find ways to use traditional language in your presentation.
<b>Initiation - Growing up, then and now</b>	"What does it mean to 'come of age'? Consider the way we "grow up now" and the way it was in the past. Interview people who know the values of the past...find an agreed way to share. Do people grow up differently across cultures? Are there differences in the ways that girls and boys grow up? What inspires you in your life?
<b>Mega Fauna</b>	Giant animals of the past – what were they and what changed? Become an archaeologist and reveal the past...

## Wednesday 7 September

- morning Students and visitors arrive and set up camp.
- 1pm Students set up teaching marquees
- 1.30pm All to Mungo Meeting Place.  
Welcome to country by Willandra World Heritage area Two Traditional Tribal Groups  
Smoking ceremony  
Elder's Rules and Protocols  
**Allocation of tribal groups and Team Building Activities**
- 2.30pm Tours**
- 1. Pastoralists** – tour of woolshed, sheep shearing and explanation of their history and involvement in management.
  - 2. National Parks** – tour of interpretation centre and work sites to show employment opportunities in management, conservation and education
  - 3. Joulni with Traditional Owners** – special visit to site where Mungo Man and Woman were found .
  - 4. Archaeological Dig**– Archaeologist and Discovery Rangers take tour from camp over sand dune to excavation site.
- 5pm Walls of China for Sunset**
- 6.45pm Dinner
- 7pm After dinner activities, talks, film and supper.

## Thursday 8 September

- 7.30am **Breakfast**
- 8.30 **Student half hour Presentations in marquees**
- 11 **Activities including**
- **Fossil trackway Footprint activity**
  - **Mungo Education Display**
  - **Thumbs Up activity**
  - **Language lessons and Storytelling**
- 12.30 Lunch at camp**  
Motivational Talk from guest
- 1.30pm **Student Presentations in marquees**
- 4pm Group Photo on sand dune  
Indigenous Games & rehearsal for Show Night 'Let the Stars Shine'
- 6pm Dinner
- 7pm Role Models give motivational talk –  
Show Night 'Let the Stars Shine'  
Night Walk. Astrology and reading the stars  
Johnny Cakes for supper made with assistance of 2TTG.

## Friday 9 September

- 7.30am Breakfast with Elders**  
Students thank elders and give feedback on value of project.
- 9am Student Presentations in marquees in rotating groups**
- 11am Morning Tea
- 11.30 Pack up camp site and presentation marquees.
- 12 Lunch. Pack up site. Leave nothing but footprints.  
Closing ceremony, farewells, travel home



**TEAM BUILDING**



**STORIES OF DEEP TIME**



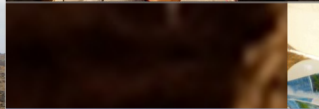
**SPIRIT OF PLACE**



**WORKING WITH ELDERS**



**BUILDING KNOWLEDGE**



**MENTORS & ROLE MODELS**



**COMING TOGETHER IN A SPECIAL PLACE**



**KIDS TEACHING KIDS**

**WORKING WITH SCIENTISTS & RANGERS**



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