

Fast, Fresh and Cool

It's been a pinnacle year for some students of Western Sydney based performing arts school, The Australian International Performing Arts High School (AIPAH), with recent awards, achievement and recognition highlighting their talent and future potential as professional artists.



In particular Sheridan Mouawad (a year 11 student at AIPAH) took out 2 major awards at the FAST & FRESH DANCE 2008 premier season, which was co-presented by Western Sydney Dance Action and Short+Sweet at Parramatta Riverside. The high standard of works by choreographers aged 16-21 is testament to the talent that exists within our younger dance community. Sheridan was awarded the BEST NEW TALENT award by judges for her work "River Flows In You". To add more glory to the occasion she also tied first place for the PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD again for "River Flows in You".

Earlier in the year, two separate bands won the Kool Skools Recording and Multimedia competition against other young hopefuls across the country. Amazingly, both bands comprised of students from the Australian International Performing Arts High School (AIPAH), a testimony to the quality of talent being developed in this specialist school.



The Kool Skools Competition is part of an exciting Recording and Multimedia Project for secondary level students funded by the Federal Government. Stars and signed artists that have come through or been showcased first through Kool Skools include: Delta Goodrem, Missy Higgins, The White Room, Anthony Calea, The Sparrows, Dean Geyer, Casey Donovan, Simon Bruce, Cat Empire, Brianna Lee and Axle Whitehead. Kool Skools promotes, develops and supports a diverse range of talent and all genres of contemporary music writing and performance.

The winners of this year's competition are both currently studying at AIPAH, and with such big names having come through the programme in the past, are ecstatic about taking out the prize. Natasha Duarte (Year 8) and her band, 'A Bad Days Good Night' and Luke Hemmens (Year 9) with his band 'Zygotic' were both awarded professional recording studio prizes including airfare and accommodation with one adult, 3 days recording at Studio 52, 500 CDs with their own music, video, album art, photography and virtual photo album. They will also perform in the ARIA styled State Awards Night featuring concert sound systems, lighting, multimedia and awards presented by big acts such as Regurgitator, Killing Heidi, Area 7, Glenn Wheatley, Delta, the Whitlams, 1200 Techniques, Superheist, Molly Meldrum and many other industry professionals.

To finish off what has been a fantastic year, AIPAH students will be celebrating their achievements with an end of year Showcase Concert at the Riverside Theatres on 16th and 17th December, 2008.