

POETRY ACTION

Verses for All

Play it Forward



Image: **Poetry in Action** in-schools program



Education is not the filling of a pot but the lighting of a fire.

– W.B. Yeats, poet and politician.

Let's unite in caring for those beyond our immediate students and families to extend the transformative reach of Poetry in Action.

Poetry in Action is Australia's leading youth theatre company performing to more than 70,000 students each year in schools across Australia and New Zealand, sharing the love of literature and poetry through engaging curriculum-supporting performance.

Founded in 2006 by actor Bryce Youngman (Bell Shakespeare, Underbelly, Blue Heelers, Home and Away), Hazem Shammam (Bell Shakespeare, Bump, Hungry Ghosts), **Poetry in Action's** troupe of skilled actors have enriched the lives of young people with poetry, rhetoric and song from Ben Jonson to Baker Boy, Maya Angelou to Lady Gaga, Queen Elizabeth I to Salman Rushdie.

Sharing the power of words

However, there are schools and students who, for reasons of distance and economic disadvantage, we can't reach - yet. We are excited to introduce Verses for All: Play it Forward, a school-to-school, student-to-student, community-to-community pay it forward program, fostering inclusivity and equal access to educational opportunities for students across all socioeconomic backgrounds.

A portion of our tickets are subsidised for schools in need through a small cohort of generous individuals. Inspired by the spirit of giving back, we are launching the **Poetry in Action** Verses for All: Play it Forward program to extend the benefits of our programs to students who may face financial barriers to participation, or the remote location prohibits our tour from reaching them.

Image: **Poetry in Action** First Nations program





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Here's how it works:

We are reaching out to schools and communities with the means with an invitation to partner with us in our mission to provide enriching educational experiences for all students. Through this generosity, they can sponsor participation fees for students from less affluent communities who may not have the means to afford this inspiring and educational experience.

By paying it forward, these schools not only support the immediate beneficiaries but also contribute to building a more inclusive and equitable educational landscape. They play a vital role in empowering students from remote and regional communities, giving them access to transformative experiences that can shape their academic and personal growth.

Furthermore, participating schools will receive recognition and acknowledgment for their contributions, showcasing their commitment to social responsibility and community engagement. Through their support, they become champions of change, demonstrating that education should be accessible to all, regardless of financial circumstances.

We invite you...

... to join us in this meaningful endeavour and make a difference in the lives of students across our bountiful country. Together, we can create a ripple effect of positive change, ensuring that every student has the opportunity to thrive and succeed.

With your booking of **\$12.50** per student, we ask you to contribute a gift to open the doors to better futures for all young people.

- **\$1250** allows 100 students to experience life-changing poetry performances, often their first performance.
- **\$5000** contributes to the participation of two or more schools in regional locations – that's 265 regional students impacted through your care.

Image: **Poetry in Action** artists





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Play your part, play it forward

Poetry is woven into the fabric of our lives through songs, written words, and spoken language. It lays bare the vulnerabilities inherent in human experience, fostering a deeper understanding and connection among us all. Let's work together to extend the power of words to all young students.

Thank you for considering our invitation to participate in the Poetry in Action Verse for All program.

Watch our trailers here: [Poetry in Action Trailer](#) and our [First Nations Program](#)

Please be in contact with our Head of Impact and Engagement, Dee Rennie:

e. dee@poetryinaction.com.au

m. 0433 449 963

Let's discuss how we can partner and change lives.