

Community News

Saved by the Belle



St Mary's College students will take to the stage in August for their biennial musical, *Beauty and the Beast*. Pictured, from left, Cecilia Hutchinson (year 8) as Belle, Grace Boxall (year 11), Taylah Lowry (year 11), Fay Burke (year 10) and Lucinda Smith (year 11), seated, as the 'Silly Girls'.

PREPARATIONS are in full swing at St Mary's College for this year's highly-anticipated school production *Beauty and the Beast*, which will be staged at the Playhouse Theatre in August.

Thirty-five of the school's year seven to 12 students – with skills across a range of performing arts disciplines – have dedicated themselves to bringing the magic of the classic Disney fairy tale to life.

This includes year eight student Cecilia Hutchinson as the lovable, headstrong Belle.

Produced by St Mary's College, the musical is a collaborative effort between students and staff, with 11 St Virgil's College students rounding out the gifted cast.

It follows the story of

Belle, a young woman in provincial France, and the Beast, an arrogant young prince transformed into a monster after he is cursed by an enchantress.

St Mary's College senior drama teacher Leah Smith said there was a wealth of talent to choose from, with more than 80 students from both schools auditioning for a part.

"Musical productions give young people the opportunity to express themselves in a different way and to find their creative spark," she said.

"Not only do students benefit from and enjoy the thrill of being part of a full-scale production, but they are encouraged and inspired to take creative risks – to think on their feet, work as supportive team members and set achievable

goals."

The College's newly-refurbished drama and music facilities, unveiled in 2017, offer students a suitable environment in which to refine their craft.

St Mary's College music coordinator Scott Weston said students appreciated being able to rehearse in a professional space that closely mirrored a "live theatre" setting.

"It gives them the confidence to create a product that they can be proud of and which the audience will enjoy," he said.

Mr Weston said students' involvement in the musical was not limited to singing, dancing and acting roles.

"Students have input in all production aspects from set design to costume and prop devel-

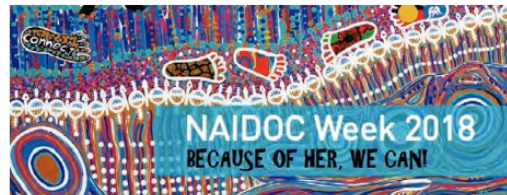
opment, and backstage coordination," he said.

The vibrant production will be supported by the College's 16-piece musical band and choreographed by St Mary's College alumna Georgie Taskunas.

St Mary's College principal Helen Spencer said the school's biennial musicals were always of a high calibre, with students performing each show with professionalism and passion.

"Arts education is a highly valued component at St Mary's College and the opportunity to collaborate with St Virgil's is welcomed," she said.

Beauty and the Beast will be performed at the Playhouse Theatre from 16-18 August at 7pm, with a school matinee performance on 15 August.



Celebrating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage

IT will be a celebration of the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people during NAIDOC Week this month.

Held from 8 to 15 July, a range of events will be taking place in Hobart thanks to a partnership between the City of Hobart, Reconciliation Tasmania and the University of Tasmania.

The NAIDOC Week Forum will feature a

theme of "Because of Her, We Can", recognising the invaluable contribution that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women have made – and continue to make – at community, local, state and national levels.

The panel discussion will be chaired by Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Kate Warner AC, Governor of Tasmania.

It will feature inspir-

ing women from across Tasmania including Aunty Patsy Cameron, Clair Andersen, Fiona Hughes, Erica Maynard and Alderman Helen Burnet.

The forum will be held on 12 July from 5.30pm to 7pm at the Dechaineux Theatre, University of Tasmania, located at 41 Hunter Street, Sandy Bay.

To register your attendance, visit naidocforum.eventbrite.com.au.

Drafting a transport strategy



A public information session will be held this month to review the City's draft Transport Strategy. Photo credit: Brad Harris.

THE City of Hobart will be holding a community and stakeholder information session this month to go over its draft Transport Strategy.

The draft Transport Strategy is a comprehensive, multi-layered document that addresses Hobart's current and future transport needs.

It outlines the areas of focus that the City of Hobart must develop to achieve integrated and sustainable transport solutions, to support growth in the city's pop-

ulation and the economy while holding on to what makes Hobart special and unique.

To have a clear understanding of what people want and what can be done, the City of Hobart undertook extensive research and community and stakeholder consultation from September 2016 to July 2017.

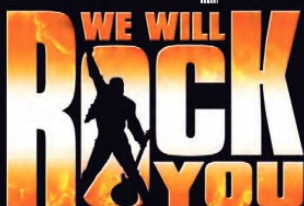
The outcomes of the consultation process and the Hobart Vision project have informed the development of the

draft Transport Strategy.

The City of Hobart thanked the community and stakeholders for their invaluable contribution during the engagement and invites them to attend a series of information sessions in different parts of the city during the week commencing 23 July.

For a full schedule and more information about the draft Transport Strategy, visit hobartcity.com.au/transportstrategy or phone 6238 2711.

John X in association with TRADA presents



THE MUSICAL BY
QUEEN AND Ben Elton

10 - 25 August, 2018 - Theatre Royal

By Arrangement with David Spicer Productions
www.davidspicer.com.au

Produced by John X, Cassie Xintavelonis and Ben Armitage

Directed by Ingrid Ganley

Choreography by Kate Crichton

Musical Direction by Lisa Roberts-Scott and Jamie Scott

Tickets from just \$39
theatroyal.com.au