



***The catalyst in developing creative, open-minded young
Western Australians who are engaged with the world***

Punmu's AWESOME Experience!

25 November 2008

The young people of the Punmu and Kunawarritji Communities in the Pilbara were welcomed as special guests in the Perth CBD last week at the official Opening of the **2008 AWESOME International Arts Festival for Bright Young Things** where they attended the premiere of a film made in their community, *Punmu Stories*.

"The Punmu students had a fantastic time at the screening, the theatre was full of laughter throughout the film and there was a great sense of pride and ownership surrounding the event," said Li-anne Carroll, Community Development Manager of AWESOME Arts.

Over three two-week residencies in 2008, digital media artist Mat de Koning worked with the bright young things of Punmu to produce a 30-minute film created entirely within the community. A feature of the film was the soundtrack, provided by the Punmu Lakeside band, with assistance from Sound Artist, Lenny Rudeburg.

The budding young Punmu artists explored the history, stories, landscape and culture of the land and expressed this identity through film and music. The media activities saw the students use super 8 cameras, digital video and stills cameras, capture documentary footage of their artistic process and create a short cops & robbers action film named 'The Toilet Paper Heist.'

The AWESOME Festival Opening saw Punmu students treated to an array of creative splendour in Forrest Place and the Perth Cultural Centre including a life-sized interactive board game, a circus from Belgium that shrank in the wash, a film made in real time inside a sea container and a giant sand sculpture made from 40 tonnes of sand.

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