Nominations are now open for the 2019 Hunter Creative Arts Camp, “When Pigs Fly”, to be held at Camp Toukley Monday 2 September – Friday 6 September.

The Hunter Creative Arts Camp is aimed at students in Years 5 and 6 with a passion for and exceptional abilities in music, art, dance or drama. This week-long intensive camp provides students with access to industry professionals in their area of expertise. Students are exposed to the secondary syllabus in their art form with activities in their specialised area each day to extend their skills, knowledge and understanding of their chosen area, and also complete one lesson during the week in each of the other creative arts areas. This allows students to be extended in a creative environment, with specialist staff and likeminded students, whilst also gaining an understanding of all art forms, and learning to be responsible and resourceful, and creating a sense of team as they work towards an end of camp performance for parents.

Theme: The theme for the Creative Arts Camp this year is “When Pigs Fly”. Activities and the end of camp performance will be based around this theme.

Accommodation: Students will be housed in cabins that accommodate four or five rooms with six students in each room. Each room has an ensuite, air conditioning and a small common area in the centre. Staff members are responsible for the supervision of specific lodges and are housed in lodges that sit between cabins. Students are grouped with others from their school wherever possible. The camp has a large security fence which requires a passcode to access.

Meals: All meals are prepared on site by qualified catering staff in commercial kitchens. Care is taken to ensure food is tasty, nutritious and plentiful, and caters to any dietary needs identified in student’s applications.

Activities: Students will undertake activities in their chosen art form everyday with specialist staff in that field, as well as one activity in each of the other art forms during the week. Creative arts activities are conducted throughout the days with one day devoted to a visiting professional in each of the art forms. Each evening after dinner students participate in activities led by Camp Toukley staff including a campfire, indoor and outdoor games, mini olympics and a night walk.

Staffing: Students will be supervised by Department of Education staff as well as Tutors throughout the camp. Specialist and expert staff are brought in on specific days to work with students to extend their skills.

T-shirt: As part of the camp fee each student will receive a 2019 camp T-shirt. This will be distributed at the camp and worn at the end of week concert.

Cost: The cost of the camp is $450. This includes all meals, accommodation, activities, specialist teachers, visiting professionals, supervision of students and a camp T-shirt. Do not send any money at this stage. Once offered a position, payment will need to be made by Friday 2 August to secure your child’s position.

The nomination process: Information regarding the camp should be sent home to students who meet the above aim of the camp. Parents need to complete the online application form via the link included below. Once the application is submitted, the applicant’s school will be sent an email advising them of the student’s application as well as a link to endorse the student’s application.

Student online nominations need to be completed by Friday 21 June.
Teacher endorsements need to be completed by Friday 5 July.
Students will be advised of an offer, place on the reserve list or decline by Monday 22 July.
When sending home information and completing the application for students to nominate, teachers and parents should be aware of the following:

- this is a program specifically for Gifted and Talented students in the areas of creative and performing arts
- in our experience, children who have behaviour problems in their school do not benefit from this camp as a certain level of self-discipline is required
- the camp is residential. Students who are not used to staying away from home for extended periods should not apply
- due to the intensity of the program it is not possible to allow students to phone home;
- mobile phones and electronic devices are not permitted at the camp as this will cause disruption to the program and
- applying students should demonstrate self-confidence and independence.

To apply for the Hunter Creative Arts Camp parents need to click on the link below to complete the application for your child to attend.

https://forms.gle/nwp6XWf1FKE6EkYr7

Once submitted your school will be emailed to complete an endorsement of this application.

Students will not be considered for a placement unless their application has been completed online, and the nominated teacher has completed the student endorsement online.

Nominations from parents close Friday 21 June and endorsements from schools close Friday 5 July. No late nominations will be considered.

WHAT HAPPENS IF MY APPLICATION IS SUCCESSFUL?

- Parents and schools will be advised via email by Monday 22 July, 2019 of an offer, place on the reserve list or decline of application.
- Details on how to accept or decline an offer will be included in the email.
- Parents accepting their child’s offer will be required to pay the cost of the camp in full of $450 by Friday 2 August, 2019.
- Parents who accept an offer for their child will then be sent additional detail as required.

For further enquiries please email the camp coordinator, Karen O’Neill, Hunter School of the Performing Arts, Rel Deputy Principal Primary karen.oneill@det.nsw.edu.au

Regional North Operational Directorate