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A theatrical production for school students

By Lane Hinchcliffe



PRESENTS Do Not Forget, •
Australia

Project summary

Project Title

"Do Not Forget, Australia" - a theatrical production for school students

Project Description

A 50 minute production suitable for school students to perform as a commemorative event for the Anzac Centenary. Written by South Australia writer Lane Hinchcliffe, the production includes music and script and can be modified to suit primary and secondary school students.

Synopsis

"Do Not Forget, Australia" tells the story of a group of school students who are touring the battlefields in France. With every historical location that they visit, the narrative goes back 100 years to an evolving story about young Australian soldiers and nurses who are similar in age and profile to the students in modern day. Their story ends at Villers-Bretonneux, where the students see the poignant sign "DO NOT FORGET AUSTRALIA" written in a school courtyard. It leaves them to reflect and contemplate the lessons that can be learnt from the past.

Resources required

Can be produced with minimal resources or on a larger scale depending on the preference of the school. Music can be produced live or there is the option to use backing tracks.

Cost

The cost is \$2700 (excl. GST) for a single-school, which includes a 2 year licence and all necessary production materials (eg. Scripts, music books, Teacher guides).

There is the option for multiple-school licensing by negotiation.

Our Supporters

- The Australian History Teachers Association
- His Excellency, The Governor of South Australia, Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce
- Mr. Ian Kelly (Deputy Commissioner, South Australia) Dept. of Veteran Affairs
- Bill Denny (Veterans SA)
- Ms. Amanda Rishworth MP

More information

Contact Nick on 0417 873 713 or email admin@upfrontproductions.com.au



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From the writer



DR. LANE HINCHCLIFFE MBBS. DCH. VGCert.Counselling

I am delighted to introduce you to "Do Not Forget, Australia" – a theatrical production for school students to commemorate the Anzac Centenary.

The Anzac Centenary holds such importance to me. It is an opportunity for people around the world to stop, reflect and learn. Beyond the historical facts, dates and figures, there lies an endless sea of human stories that have been lost in the midst of tragedy.

As a medical practitioner, I have been very privileged to work with so many, to share their emotions and learn their stories. As a writer, I strive to recount the essence of my own experience and the experience of others through the medium of music and literature.

For 13 years, I have dedicated much time to learning about the lives of so many young Australian men and women who either experienced the Great War first hand, or experienced the aftermath or the tragedy. I have been both moved and inspired by the stories told through diaries, letters and books. In later years I have stood on the very soil in which the infamous battles occurred and visited the gravesites and memorial plaques of my own ancestors who died in France.

Therefore, as we approach this significant time, I have asked myself, "What will the centenary mean for our young people today?" In particular, how can we help them to empathise with events that occurred a hundred years ago?

'Do Not Forget, Australia' provides an opportunity for school students around Australia to explore the human stories of Australian men and women who served in World War I in a unique and exceptional way – they will learn their stories and portray them on stage. I strongly believe that in this way, students not only have the opportunity to actively learn about the events surrounding the centenary, but may develop a deeper appreciation and understanding for the future.



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Project Description

"Do Not Forget, Australia", is a theatrical piece for school students. It tells the story of a group of young people who visit the WWI battlefields in France. As they visit each historical location, the narrative takes us back 100 years and follows the lives of young Australian men and women who were involved in the Great War.

The title is an adaptation of the famous sign in a Villers-Bretonneux school yard.

The production itself lasts approximately 50 minutes and includes both spoken script and song. There is an option to use live or pre-recorded music, making it suitable for schools with a range of musical resources. There is also an option to modify the script, substituting different scenes to allow individual schools to customise the layout and make it suitable for their own students regardless of age, gender, cultural background or learning ability.

"Do Not Forget, Australia" is based on 'The Front' by Australian writers Lane Hinchcliffe and Rob George. However, it is been specifically targeted for school-aged students with script and music suitable for younger performers.

In licensing this product, each school will receive a package, including:

- Printed scripts and music books
- Teacher's Guide an instruction book for teachers wishing to direct the production on stage.
- Media pack including video files, photographs and other valuable resources which may be used for production (ie. Screen projection), educational purposes or promotion

In addition, South-Australian-based schools will have an opportunity to resource local Arts-based industry professionals to run workshops for their students in character analysis and dramatisation.

"Do Not Forget, Australia", is a unique project. It offers schools the chance to commemorate the centenary in a way that not only engages their students, but delivers a poignant production for their wider community of families, friends and peers. Through the medium of arts and drama, young people will have an opportunity to empathise with characters and actively explore what it would have been like to have lived 100 years ago.



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The Producers

Up Front Productions

Up Front Productions is a South Australian based company committed to managing and producing the written works of Lane Hinchcliffe.

In 2015, Up Front Productions aims to co-produce the Australian premiere production of 'The Front' by Lane Hinchcliffe and Rob George, from which the story of 'Do Not Forget, Australia' is based.

As a company with strong values and a community focus, the development of 'Do Not Forget, Australia' has been undertaken specifically to offer a unique and innovative product for schools across Australia.

For more information about Up Front Productions, visit www.the-front-musical.com

From Page to Stage

From Page to Stage Limited is a not-for-profit public company and registered charity in South Australia.

The company's principal purpose is to promote music and performing arts; specifically the development of new Australian theatrical works with a cultural, historical or humanitarian focus.

From Page to Stage has been founded with the philosophy that theatre and other art forms provide a unique medium for reflection and empathic awareness of important societal issues, including cultural diversity, history and humanitarian values.

From Page to Stage has been commissioned to distribute the licensing for 'Do Not Forget, Australia' to schools nationwide. All profits from this project will be retained by From Page to Stage and go towards supporting the production of new Australian works in the area of performing arts.



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For Schools

This product is ideal for schools Australia wide who are looking for an innovative way to commemorate the upcoming centenary in a unique and poignant way.

Not only will each school receive an all-inclusive package containing resources to assist teachers with rehearsal schedules and directions, but they can also access other support services such as students workshops with industry professionals in the lead up to production.

For schools wishing to integrate this production with specific curriculum objectives, consider some of the options in which students may be involved in order to achieve educational outcomes:

- Set design and construction eg. How were the trenches built? Why were they built this way? How can this be reproduced on stage? What would it have looked like?
- Costumes and props eg. What did the soldiers and nurses wear? Why were the uniforms designed like this?
- Photo displays eg. An exhibition of photographs and stories as compiled by students can be displayed at the venue or in preparation of the final production

Total cost of project

The total cost for the license and package is \$2700 (excluding GST). This includes:

-	2 year performance license (single-school), all royalties included	\$1000
-	Rehearsal materials: Scripts, music books, rehearsal guides and piano backing tracks	\$950
-	Orchestral pack - musical arrangements for school band / orchestra OR full orchestral backing	
	tracks	\$400
-	Electronic resources - promotion materials (eg. production logo and poster, video projection files,	
	education pack for teachers)	\$350
-	GST	\$270

Total: \$2970





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Frequently asked questions

Can my school access government funding to assist with the cost of the licence?

Yes. The federal government has offered each electorate up to \$125K to support projects relating to the Centenary. Each electorate has designated committee and you should contact your local MP for more information about how to make an application.

Are there any extra charges for performances, such as royalties?

All royalties are included in the initial fee. In other words, there is no extra charges payable for performances, regardless of whether or not the school decides to charge an entry fee or not. This is a huge incentive for schools interested in further fundraising by way of ticket sales / donations.

Can the production be produced on a tight budget? Do we need costumes / set / etc?

The production can be produced on a minimal budget or on a large scale, depending on your resources and or what you prefer. A good chance to be creative!

Can we do a combined production with another school(s)?

Absolutely. The purpose of the production is to encourage collaboration and community involvement. If you have other schools who you wish to partner with, you are free to do so! We offer single-school or multiple-school licences.

Is there a deadline for us to decide by?

The licence can be purchased at any time, but if you are interested in seeking government funding by way of the centenary grant, you should look to submit your application as soon as possible. Some electorates have already allocated most of their funds so you should contact your local MP immediately.

What is provided in the package we receive?

Once the licence has been purchased, you will receive a package including scripts and music books, a Teacher's Guide with suggestions for rehearsals and stage direction and a media pack containing videos and recorded music.

We have a school band. Can they be involved?

Yes, there is the option to obtain the full score for live performance if you choose.

If we have any problems or questions, can we obtain support?

Absolutely. You can contact us by email or phone at any time and we will arrange to assist you.

So how do we apply?

Contact us at admin@upfrontproductions.com.au and we will be able to assist you from there.



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Our supporters

Up Front Productions and From Page to Stage have been well supported by prominent figures at both the state and national level:

- His Excellency, The Governor of South Australia, Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce
- Mr. Ian Kelly (Deputy Commissioner, South Australia) Dept. of Veteran Affairs
- Mr. Bill Denny (Veterans SA)
- The Australian History Teachers Association
- Ms. Chloe Fox MP (State Government of South Australia)
- Ms. Amanda Rishworth MP
- RSL
- Legacy

Up Front Productions

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