



29 January 2021

The McDonald College & Australian Theatre for Young People Announce Partnership for Aspiring Young Actors

The McDonald College is excited to partner with national youth theatre company, Australian Theatre for Young People (ATYP). This new partnership will allow students at the College to engage with ATYP industry tutors, who will lead workshops and masterclasses in acting, screen acting, auditions and screen tests, devising and theatre making. ATYP will also direct productions and showcases at The McDonald College with ATYP teaching artists directing and devising performances and shows.

"I am thrilled that the College is joining with ATYP as an Acting partner, allowing us to collaborate and expand student knowledge and theatrical experiences. Our shared commitment to excellence in education and connecting young people with the professional theatre industry will assist us to bring phenomenal opportunities to our young actors," commented Maxine Kohler, Principal and Founding Director of The McDonald College.

Operating as a K-12 day school, The McDonald College gives students the opportunity to study a Performing Arts genre (Acting, Ballet, Dance, Music, Musical Theatre) daily integrated with their academic studies. Acting students will participate in two hours per day of acting training facilitated by ATYP teaching artists.

"I'm very excited ATYP is partnering with The McDonald College. Traditionally, ATYP has been working outside of schools, using professional artists and processes to develop work with and for young people. This unique partnership gives us the chance to share the way we make theatre, working with Australia's leading theatre companies and venues. At the same time our artists will be learning from The McDonald College's education specialists, building their knowledge of working collaboratively in a school environment. I am excited to see what we can create during 2021," commented Fraser Corfield, Artistic Director and CEO of ATYP.

Prospective families interested in finding out more about The McDonald College's Acting Stream can contact The McDonald College Registrar at registrar@mcdonald.nsw.edu.au or by calling (02) 9752 0507.

More information:

<https://www.mcdonald.nsw.edu.au/atyp>



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About The McDonald College

Established in 1984, The McDonald College is an independent, co-educational, K-12 school that offers the rare opportunity for young people to receive an outstanding academic education integrated with their performance training in the areas of acting, ballet, dance, music, musical theatre, technical production and elite tennis.

The College's performing arts training strives for professional standards; proof of which is evidenced by the impressive number of graduates who have pursued tertiary studies and successful careers in the performing arts. Alumni includes **Amanda McGuigan** (The Australian Ballet), **Kip Gamblin** (Former Sydney Dance Company, *All Saints*, *Home & Away*), **Harrison Lee** (Royal Ballet, 2015 Prix de Lausanne Winner), **Dimitri Kleioris** (Sydney Dance Company, *An American in Paris on Broadway*), **Emma Watkins** (The Wiggles), **Josh Quong Tart** (*Home and Away*, *All Saints*, *Underbelly: Razor* and *The Lion King*) and **Meg Mac** (Indie Artist).

About ATYP

Australian Theatre for Young People (ATYP) is the national youth theatre company. From its home in Sydney, ATYP partners with organisations across Australia, from our largest cultural institutions to our smallest regional schools, to deliver programs engaging young people locally, regionally, and nationally. ATYP is driven by the belief that the performing arts transform lives, enrich communities and ultimately impacts the future of our nation. It provides a supportive, creative environment for artists of all ages to take risks, engage, challenge, test ideas, and in doing so, uncover their creative potential.