

# ACT Bilingual Education Alliance Update

May 2012

## 1. MULTILINGUAL POTLUCK LUNCH

Our second 'meet a language grand' event for 2012

**When?** Sunday 17 June, 11am to 2pm.

**Where?** Function Room, Theo Notaras Centre, North Building, Civic Square

Come and meet other families raising children in more than one language and some multilingual seniors. All are invited to bring along their favourite foods and share their cooking skills and recipes. There will also be children's games from around the world and free fun activities for children.

For more details or to book, email [canberrabilingual@gmail.com](mailto:canberrabilingual@gmail.com) or phone Mandy on 6125 9673 or 0408 089 235

This event is supported by the ACT Government Multicultural Grants Program 2011-12

**NOTE:** To see how our March 'Meet a Language Grand' event went, see the report on the ACTBEA website at <http://actbilingual.weebly.com/events.html>

## 2. MANDARIN IMMERSION PROGRAM (MIP) AT MAWSON PRIMARY

Mawson Primary School has extended its Mandarin Immersion Program to kindergarten level! There are 21 students in the class in 2012. This unique program gives kindergarten students in the ACT the opportunity to learn parts of the regular kindergarten curriculum in Mandarin for one full day a week. From Grades 3-6, the MIP is extended to two days each week.

Enrolments are now open for the kindergarten MIP program in 2013. For more information visit <http://www.mawsonps.act.edu.au/> or contact the Principal, Amanda Andrews, on (02) 6205 8033

## 3. ACT DADS PLAYGROUP

The group meets on the first Saturday of every month from 11am to 3pm. Activities include meeting and greeting each other, songs and activities (one in English and others in other languages), a pot luck lunch for children and Dads, and unstructured play.

Whilst multilingualism is not the focus of the group, languages other than English are used, and the majority of dads are multilingual.

For more details email [actdadsgroup@gmail.com](mailto:actdadsgroup@gmail.com), visit the group on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com#!/groups/170971599622220/>, or read the report on the ACTBEA website at <http://actbilingual.weebly.com/news.html>

New members are welcome.

## 4. GERMAN AUSTRALIAN PLAYSCHOOL AND SPIEL UND SPASS PLAYGROUP IN 2013.

In 2013, the **German Australian Playschool (GAP)** will operate a two-day program which aligns with ACT public preschool days.

An immersion program on Mondays and Tuesdays will cater for children with reasonable German comprehension levels, and a bilingual program for all levels will operate on Thursdays and Fridays.

Families are encouraged to attend both days (or all 4) at their child's level. Families are also free to enrol for only one day if they wish.

**The Spiel und Spass German playgroup** will run on Wednesday mornings in 2013.

For more information see <http://www.spielwelt.org.au/home/> or call 6251 7743

## **5. For Adults: FREE FRINGE EVENT AT FESTIVAL OF GERMAN FILMS**

Acclaimed Austrian performer, Justus Neumann, will read excerpts from the controversial play 'Der Reigen/La Ronde' by Arthur Schnitzler. He will read in English, with some teasers from the German original.

When? Saturday 5 May 7-8pm at the National Sound and Film Archive of Australia (NSFA).

This special FREE fringe event is presented by the Austrian Embassy in cooperation with the Goethe Institute and the NSFA.

For more information see <http://www.nfsa.gov.au/> or call 6248 2000 for bookings.

You can stay on and attend the thematically linked film "Mahler auf der Couch" (Film festival is ticketed). See <http://www.nfsa.gov.au/calendar/event/3490-mahler-couch/> for details.

## **6. THE ACT MULTICULTURAL GRANTS PROGRAM IS NOW OPEN**

This program assists community organisations to

- develop initiatives that will advance multiculturalism in the ACT;
- promote the ACT as a socially cohesive and harmonious community; and
- foster opportunities for community groups to maintain, develop and express their cultural diversity.

Priority groups for funding are children and young people, older people, women and refugees, asylum seekers and humanitarian entrants.

Closing date for applications: Monday 2 July 2012.

For more Information see:

[http://www.dhcs.act.gov.au/multicultural/services/grants/act\\_multicultural\\_grants\\_program](http://www.dhcs.act.gov.au/multicultural/services/grants/act_multicultural_grants_program)

## **7. BILINGUALISM CONFERENCE**

Growing Up Bilingual in Australia: An Investment

**Thursday, 14 June 2012**, 8.30am-4.00pm, University of Sydney

A day-long conference for parents, early childhood educators, service providers and others interested in bilingualism.

Excellent keynote speakers and presenters, variety of workshops, panel discussions, information and resources (program attached).

COST: \$88 for eligible services, \$176 for others. Concession available for parents and students. Registration includes lunch.

For further information see <http://www.eccfcsc.org/index.php/latest-news> or email [conference@eccfcsc.org](mailto:conference@eccfcsc.org)

## **8. MULTILINGUAL PERFORMANCE OF SILENT NIGHT, DECEMBER 2012!**

We are still hoping for one or two volunteers who can dedicate some time to help us make this idea a reality. The aim is to celebrate languages in the ACT area by holding a community event which centres on a performance of this carol in as many languages as possible, one after the other. Some groups are willing to sing, but we need help with logistics and planning.

If you can assist, please contact Mirjam on [canberrasilentnight@gmail.com](mailto:canberrasilentnight@gmail.com)

## **FEEDBACK ON THESE ACTBEA UPDATES AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO FUTURE UPDATES ARE WELCOME**

Copies of previous Updates can be downloaded from the ACTBEA website at <http://actbilingual.weebly.com>