



# CANBERRA REGION LANGUAGES FORUM

Update June 2023

## UPCOMING EVENTS and ACTIVITIES

### 1 . Canberra Festival of Languages

A chance to explore many of the languages being spoken, used, taught and learned in our multilingual city!

- Saturday 17 June, 10.30am-4pm
  - Come for the whole day or just drop in for the morning or afternoon
- ANU building 127 Ellery Crescent (Centre for Arab & Islamic Studies)
- Refreshments provided
- Free and all welcome but booking required via Eventbrite

Language 'taster' sessions, short talks and panel discussions, learn how to be a bilingual ventriloquist, have your name written in another script, watch a calligraphy demonstration PLUS Informative displays, a chance to chat with experts and others interested/involved in language policy development, translating and interpreting, language education and raising children bilingually.

Draft program at <https://actbilingual.weebly.com/events.html>

Organised by the ACT Bilingual Education Alliance with the support of the ANU's Centre of European Studies, Centre for Arab and Islamic Studies, School of Literature, Languages and Linguistics (CASS) and School of Culture History and Language (CAP), Canberra Multicultural Community Forum and an ACT Government 2022 Participation (Multicultural) Grant.

### 2. The role of languages in education, society, and the economy

- Tuesday 20 June 6.30pm – 8pm
- Free and Online

A panel of experts and community members will share their experiences and insights on the role of languages in education, society, and the economy in Tasmania. Followed by Q and A. The issues discussed are not unique to Tasmania, and participants and perspectives are welcome from far and wide.

Register via Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/languages-in-tasmania-community-discussion-tickets-638384534327?aff=oddtcreator>

### 3. Multilingual poetry workshop

- Saturday, June 24, 10am -12:30pm
- Food Co-op Shop & Cafe, 3 Kingsley Street, Canberra City
- Tickets: \$20, \$10 Concession, \$0 Access (if cost would prevent you from participating).

A hands-on and pens to paper workshop with Andrew Geoffrey Kwabena Moss. Participants can expect tips on how to write poetry that mixes English with other heritage and learned languages. Drawing upon several of his poems and processes that mix Twi, Japanese and English as stimuli, Andrew will guide participants to craft their own multilingual poems.

For more details and to register: <https://www.poeticcitycbr.com/program/multilingual-poetry-workshop-with-andrew-moss>

#### **4. Mother Tongue - Multilingual Poetry**

- Saturday 1 July 4:30pm-6.30pm
- The Street Theatre, 15 Childers Street, Canberra
- Cost \$10, \$5 Concession, \$0 Access (if cost would be a barrier to attending)
- Free entry for open mic readers

Come and enjoy poetry in many languages! Share a poem in your mother tongue, heritage language or learned language and enjoy listening to the poetry of a variety of languages and cultures.

This event will feature multilingual poet and songstress Karina Palomita, readings by participants in the Multilingual Poetry Workshop with Andrew Moss and a multilingual poetry open mic.

If you would like to read at the open mic, email [poeticcitycbr@gmail.com](mailto:poeticcitycbr@gmail.com) with 'Mother Tongue Mic Sign Up' in the subject heading

Booking and more details at: <https://www.poeticcitycbr.com/program/mother-tongue-multilingual-mic>

For more information about events in Poetic City Festival in Canberra – Winter Edition see <https://www.poeticcitycbr.com/>

#### **OTHER NEWS**

#### **5. An opportunity to help shape the future of education in Australia**

The current National School Reform Agreement is being reviewed.

Students, teachers and parents/guardians are being invited to contribute their perspectives on student learning and wellbeing, teacher recruitment and retention, and funding transparency and accountability through an online survey.

Survey results will

- assist the Expert Panel for the Review to draft a consultation paper and
- inform the development of recommendations for the final report, which will advise Education Ministers on what targets and reforms should be included in the next National School Reform Agreement.

The survey is now open and available online until 23 June 2023:

<https://www.education.gov.au/review-inform-better-and-fairer-education-system/consultations/review-inform-better-and-fairer-education-system-consultation>

ACT ATESOL is encouraging respondents to mention the need for English as an Additional Language or Dialect education as an equity priority. For background, see joint statement of the Australian Education Union and the Australian Council of TESOL Associations at <https://www.aeufederal.org.au/news-media/media-releases/2023/may/180523>

You could also mention languages education more generally.

#### **FEEDBACK AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO FUTURE UPDATES WELCOME**

Details of previous Forum Updates are available at <https://canberrallanguages.blogspot.com/>