

Media Release

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TV PERFORMER TO HELP COACH BILOELA STUDENTS

Actor and director **Sean Dennehy** leads the *Moving Opera!* team who travel to Biloela next week to coach 32 performing arts students from local schools in opera, musical theatre and performance skills.

An actor and director whose credits include *Home and Away* and *All Saints*, Sean will direct the *Moving Opera!* Biloela program alongside sopranos **Dania Cornelius** and **Anna Peterson**, bass-baritone **Darian Johns** and music director/pianist **Raymond Lawrence**.

Sean's involvement in the program highlights that *Moving Opera!* is not just about opera – it also coaches students in general performance skills and integrates music and drama.

Moving Opera! was presented in Biloela in 2003 and 2007. This year, the program involves students from Redeemer Lutheran Primary, St Joseph's Catholic, and Biloela State Primary and High Schools, thanks to the generous support of CS Energy.

Next week's workshop runs from 9 to 13 June and will be held at the Biloela Civic Centre (Prairie Street, Biloela). At the conclusion of the workshop on Saturday, 13 June, the students will showcase what they've learnt at a concert where they will perform excerpts from musical theatre and well-known opera classics. Saturday's concert, also at the Civic Centre, starts at 6.30pm. Entry will be by gold coin donation with all proceeds going to music education at the participating schools.

Moving Opera! focuses on the creative process of making opera and music theatre. It provides opportunities for creative, literary and personal development to students by giving them the opportunity to work with professional artists from the performing arts. Program participants not only have fun, they also achieve a level of personal growth, especially confidence and self-esteem, which affects all areas of their lives.

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