

# A JOURNEY TO THE HEART

Six hundred guests gathered in the Camden Civic Centre on November 16 to be entertained by the unique talents of our students at our third annual Performing Arts Night titled 'Journey to the Heart'. Once again it was a sell out and by all accounts, the audience (and performers) were thrilled!

Following the successful formula of our previous shows, the night had two components. The first half featured a variety of acts showcasing the wonderful talents of the students in music and dance, enthusiastically introduced by MCs, Pamela Templeton, and School Captains, Genevieve Ryan and Nathan Leich. The program saw a return of the popular Mater Dei choir, soloist Jade Di Girolamo and our own 'Front Street Boys' performing the hit song 'Everybody'. Other highlights included our very own African Drummers, our Infant classes performing the 'Woodpecker' and 'Wake-Up' songs and our Secondary students bringing the crowd to their feet in their version of the hit tunes, 'Thriller' and 'Parachute'.

The second half of the show was based on Mater Dei's well known book "Journey to the Heart" as edited by Jeanie Heininger sgs. In the book Jeanie writes "Journey to the Heart speaks of that inner journey that encounters suffering, challenge and the unexplainable. Mater Dei embodies this mysterious journey and the stories in the book reveal something of the accumulated wisdom to be found in the place. These stories deserve to be proclaimed, celebrated and shared."



"The idea for the show first came to me after reading this book" says the show's Director, and Mater Dei teacher, Andre Daniels. "How I was going to present it on stage was the big dilemma, not because of the lack of stories, but having too many. I had good interviews with Sister Mary Gregory, the first Principal of Mater Dei School, as well as other Sisters." The other challenge was to make the show flow and be fun whilst not compromising the facts. "In order to do this I used some Director's license and I hope this was achieved successfully."

Indeed it was Andre! The sets, the costumes, the lights, the music, the sound and of course the performers were all star quality and the production was as enjoyable as it was educational.

Apart from all the work done by staff, parents and friends, we would like to thank the following businesses for sponsoring this event: Camden Council, Camden Golf Club, Downes Wholesale Nursery, JMC Academy, Larren Charlton Carpentry, Pan Sports and The Logo Guys.



If you would like to support the children of Mater Dei into the future by leaving a bequest in your Will please contact the Development Office on 4655 7481 or visit [www.materdei.org.au](http://www.materdei.org.au)