

February 2018



Moving Forward Together



Call for submissions 2018 Poster and Song Writing Competitions

Theme for this year:

Growing Together in Harmony

\$5,000 total prize money

Every entrant will receive a certificate of participation

Entries close 6th April 2018

Prize giving ceremony will held at the NSW Parliament

**Encourage your students, children or
grandchildren to enter**

Entry forms and full details are on:

www.movingforwardtogether.org.au



Moving Forward Together Association Inc
CELEBRATING AUSTRALIA'S DIVERSITY

An Initiative of the B'nai B'rith Alfred Dreyfus Anti-Defamation Unit
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President's report



Welcome into 2018.
Happy New Year!!!!

Many thousands of people, after difficult and sometimes even harrowing times, have had the good fortune to find themselves in

Australia. A country that for most part, supports and respects greater understanding between all people regardless of cultural or religious background.

It is important that this precious aspect of our lives is not taken for granted, and like a rare plant, we should nurture it so that it will continue to flourish. Also, we must be prepared to condemn prejudice, discrimination and marginalisation of the innocent in the strongest possible terms.

We are thrilled to welcome three new Board Members; **Laurie Ferguson** former federal MP and his wife **Maureen Walsh** and **Najla Turk** author and educator.

We thank Peter Filmer, the Community Events Manager of the Blacktown Council, for his organisation of the **Moving Forward Together Festival** which incorporates the **Harmony Walk** and the **Mother Language Schools**.

Winning posters from the **2017 Poster Competitions**

are currently being exhibited at the Blacktown library. They will be there until after the Moving Forward Together Festival.

Our **Harmony Day Poster competition** is now in its 12th year. The deadline for submissions is 6 April. As in previous years, the Prize Giving will be held at NSW Parliament. A firm date is yet to be decided; but it will be in June. The format for submissions for the **Harmony Day Song Writing Competitions** has been changed this year. It gives students the option of adopting two musical suggestions and just adding their lyrics or composing their own.

Recently we had an important meeting with **Shaun Spence**, the Fan and Community Manager of the West Tigers. He was introduced to us by **Steve Meredith** and **Emily Latu** from the NRL Social Inclusion Program. We are now working together with Shaun on having a Harmony Walk in Campbelltown early May – we now have local support including in the Federal and State member of Parliament and the Council.

We are looking forward for your continued support and like to encourage you to also introduce your family members and friends to our projects.

Best wishes.

Ernie Friedlander OAM
President

2017 Poster and Song Writing Competitions Prize Giving



Poster Competitions 2017

Strength in Harmony

Examples of winning posters

Nepean CAPA High School
(Secondary)



Newington Public School
(Primary)



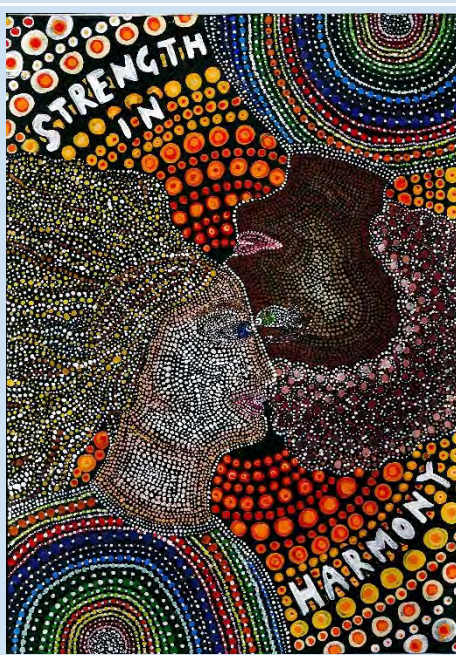
Korean Catholic Language School
(Primary)



Ben Venue Public School
(Primary)



Duval High School
(Secondary)



Berowra Christian Primary School
(Primary)



Korean Catholic Language School
(Secondary)



Nepean CAPA High School
(Secondary)



Armidale High School
(Primary)



Harmony Day Poster and Song Writing Competitions



Display of a selection of winning posters from the 2017 competitions at the Blacktown library

"Thank you to you and your organisation for a lovely ceremony yesterday and for making us feel so welcome. It really was an eye opener for our students and it is certainly a day they will never forget"

Primary school teacher



I am thrilled and simply ecstatic that I have been awarded this prestigious prize. What inspired and motivated me to enter was that every day, wars, famine, and corruption occur and you do not know. Then I feel sorrow for those people who have to suffer. This is when I realised that we can do something to CHANGE it and helped me to develop my poster's main theme which is – that we need spread harmony inside all of us and bring it to reality. It can change the world because it can bring people together. All this is possible – WE CAN MAKE IT HAPPEN

State Senior Schools Winner

Moving Forward Together Association

"If everyone is moving forward together then success takes care of itself". Henry Ford



In 2017 Harmony Walk was held in Blacktown and at the West Tigers Multicultural Day Sports Festivities. Both events were a huge success. The Moving Forward Together Association firmly believes 'Harmony Day is Every Day' and that diversity is the acknowledgment and respect of people from all walks of life.

Diversity is an integral part of today's changing landscape. As an Australian-Muslim, Cultural Advisor and trainer for ConneQt I am proud to be involved with what Moving

Forward Together stands for. They stand for a decent society whereby more people STOP, THINK and CONSIDER all individuals. The organisation, their ambassadors and varying community networks have been successful in their commitment to raising awareness to create positive change, cohesion and social harmony.

Najla Turk

Diversity and Integration Consultant
Recrafting the diversity experience
[site:www.conneqt.com.au](http://www.conneqt.com.au)
[email: najla@conneqt.com.au](mailto:najla@conneqt.com.au)

My experience with Harmony Day



My experience with Harmony Day started with wearing orange to school on the 21st of March. From a young age, I found it amazing seeing a sea of students wearing orange t-shirts and orange ribbons, thinking that it could possibly make a difference to our school environment. I learnt as a child that even though we celebrated

on a specific date, harmony day should be everyday. From there I was gradually educated about what harmony day was, the importance of multiculturalism and the value of harmony and of course the poster competitions.

So knowing about the harmony day poster competitions was probably one of the most grateful opportunities I have had. I always had a passion for art and enjoyed painting my thoughts onto paper. So when I knew I could express my idea about harmony day I knew I couldn't sit around and do nothing. I have handed an artwork

annually since I was a little girl in Year 3. I guess this started my journey to where I am now in this competition. Until now I was able to experience a new environment with different people who had the same eagerness towards the idea of harmony growing worldwide. I was able to see a whole range of creative ideas in a variety of artworks. I always received inspiration every year at the award ceremony because there was always something new to the table.

Currently, I have been participating in Harmony Day activities for seven years now. Out of those seven years, I was fortunate enough to receive highly commended, junior and senior state winner prizes. I am still very honoured and thankful to Ernie for giving me such a great opportunity to showcase my artworks and allowing me to spread the message harmony and harmony day, peace and love through my artworks. I am always thankful that I could be part of harmony day and that I could share my experience with you. Remember together, we can have harmony day everyday.

Julia Jeong

Student

Star House Art and Music College

Working collaboratively with Moving Forward Together



I have been involved with the Moving Forward Together Association since 2013. I have worked collaboratively on the Harmony Day Poster and Song Writing Competitions and the Harmony Walk Committee.

As I reflect on being involved in the Moving Forward Together Association. I am proud to see every year many students and people get together to celebrate Australia's rich cultural diversity by taking part in the Harmony Day Poster and Song Writing Competitions and various Harmony Day events. As a result, I can see that it gives students and communities an opportunity to celebrate all the benefits we receive from our rich multicultural

society and heritage with the purpose of living in a harmonious inclusive society by moving forward together. I believe everyone has a part to play in upholding the best of our values – those values of equality, acceptance and living in a harmonious society regardless of religious, social, cultural and racial differences. *"Harmony Day Every Day"*.

Richie Kim

Teacher

Harmony Day Poster Competition and Song Writing Coordinator

Moving Forward Together Association Committee Member

CONGRATULATIONS on truly another wonderful and inspirational Awards Ceremony celebrating the Harmony Day initiative. My daughter's teacher and I were absolutely amazed at the calibre of entries at both the primary and secondary levels. The state winning posters were brilliant and to listen to the Korean student's vision was special to say the least"

Mother of primary school student

Early success of the Poster Competition

NEWS

Ben and Nadia – in harmony

BEN Lesui from St Paul of the Cross School, Dulwich Hill is this year's primary school winner of the Harmony Day Art Competition.

More than 3500 primary and secondary school students in NSW and the ACT entered the competition, which is in its second year.

"The main objective of the competition was to help shape the outlook of our young school students," said Dr Soo-Keat Lim, president of the Chinese Australia Forum, one of the organisers.

"By encouraging them to respect the diversity of cultures and live in harmony in Australia, we can hopefully minimise conflicts like those that happened in Cronulla and Maroubra."

Students were asked to 'interpret and conceptualise' the theme of 'Making Our World A Better Place' into a poster art form.

"Ben fulfilled the criteria very well and in a very unique and Australian way," said Lyn Greaves, art director of the Gail Thomas Gallery and one of the judges.

"His poster looked a bit like the Aboriginal flag and it was great to be able to have a boy winner."

The winners were presented with their awards at an awards ceremony at Sydney Town Hall on Harmony Day.



WINNERS: Senior winner Nadia Syazlina Azni of Makek Fahd Islamic school, Greenacre and junior winner Ben Lesui of St Paul of the Cross, Dulwich Hill.

Islamic school student, Nadia Syazlina Azni, 13, from the Malek Fahd Islamic School, Greenacre, has beaten students five years her senior to win the 2006 senior Harmony Day Art Competition.

"Nadia's poster just stood out ... she had covered every brief in a beautifully artistic way," said Lyn.

The competition was organised by

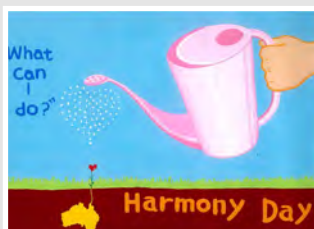
the Chinese Australia Forum and the B'nai and B'rith Anti - Defamation Commission, a Jewish organisation.

The winning posters will be on exhibition in the Kent Street foyer of Sydney Town Hall until April 21.

The exhibition will also be on display in local NSW councils including Willoughby City Council and Parramatta City Council.

Source: Catholic Weekly 2006, 2 April Page 4

Provided by: Sydney Archdiocesan Archives Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney



Current challenges to multiculturalism



Internationally and within Australia we experience very distinct challenges to multiculturalism and understanding. In an age where social media has augmented abusive commentary and self-reinforcing tribalism, the era of bipartisanship around working together seems distant.

part of a devil's cauldron.

Nevertheless, in attempting to combat these aspects, we need to understand that even from a self-interested, security perspective, inclusion, camaraderie, enhanced awareness of other strands and the undermining of populist rhetoric are axiomatic. Pushing people into corners of exclusion and marginalisation abets extremism and enhanced polarisation.

The huge population movements, a new bipolar ISIS/US picture, the drift to identity politics, association of elitism with liberal values and grosser inequity are all

Laurie Ferguson
Retired federal MP

Collaboration with the NRL (National Rugby League)

*From left to right Jordan Mose – Past NRL Youth Ambassador ,
Ernie Friedlnader, Ruan Sims – Australian Jillaroo and NRL Am-
bassador and Clinton Toopi – NRL Ambassador and former NRL
player*



*Kenneth Tuala – NRL Youth Ambassador &
21017 NRL Respect Young Person of the Year*



NRL Respect hosted an inaugural Appreciation Night Friday evening, 8 December. The night was an opportunity for NRL Community to thank teachers, volunteers and key stakeholders for their continued support the NRL Respect programs including; In League In Harmony (ILIH), Voice Against Violence (VAV), Pacific Youth Program (PYP) and the Youth Ambassador Program (YAP).

Themed '**Game Changers**', the Appreciation Night recognised an NRL Respect School, Teacher and Youth Ambassador of the Year 2017 - community champions who have contributed positively to their communities through extraordinary acts



*NRL In League In Harmony Gala Day for Term 3 - ILIH partici-
pants, hosted NRL Youth Ambassadors at
Ringrose Park.*



*Ernie Friedlander OAM and the Youth Ambassadors
led participants in a Harmony Walk to conclude the
event.*



MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER FESTIVAL

Celebrating International Mother Language Day And Harmony Walk

SUNDAY, 18 FEBRUARY 2018



Photo of the steering committee

2018 HARMONY WALK - BLACKTOWN

2018 will be exciting for Blacktown. The event will be held at the Blacktown Showground on Sunday 18 February, 2018 commencing at 9am. The Harmony walk will commence at 12.30pm.

This year we are combining the Harmony Walk event with International Mother Language Schools and the event will be known as the Moving Forward Together Festival. There will be on-stage multicultural entertainment all day, a marquee expo, cuisine from many different cultures, inter-active sports and many other attractions.

Founder of the Moving Forward Harmony Walk, Ernie Friedlander OAM has said, "this is a wonderful initiative in our quest to bring people of all cultures closer together. Understanding and respectful each other is the key to our future."

For more information you can contact :

- ♦ **Ernie Friedlander OAM at Moving Forward Together on 9321 6309; or**
- ♦ **Peter Filmer at Blacktown Council on 9839 6429.**

Moving Forward Together is sponsored by: B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation Unit, NRL, Multicultural NSW, Blacktown City Council, STARTTS, Baha'i Community, and Australian Catholic University

