

# ELEANOR CLAPHAM

*presents*

## Cheeky EMUS

*An exciting and interactive workshop inspired by the language, songs, stories and dances of the Murrawarri people.*



### **CHEEKY EMUS**

The Emu is a spirited and cheeky animal; curious by nature and loves getting up to all sorts of mischief when given the chance. Join Eleanor on this fun filled musical adventure to learn all about Emus and their songs, stories and dances. After an interactive call-and-response style Welcome to Country in Dhurug language, Eleanor will have students playing instruments, learning dances, and enchanted by the stories of Baime, the dark Emu found in the sky, and the legend of the Munduguddah, the rainbow serpent. All students will participate and perform in this dynamic workshop, where alongside fun fact about emus, Eleanor will interweave a message of sustainability, drawing on the practices carried out by her ancestors.

Inspired by her continuing connection to her heritage and informed by her years as the creator and presenter of “Cheeky Tunes”, Eleanor believes that music and play are some of the best ways to introduce students to new ideas and concepts. Eleanor will leave teachers with follow up project work that will allow students to continue practicing the songs, dances and languages they have been introduced to throughout the session.

**Suitability:** Years K-4

**Audience size:** Maximum of 60 students

**Cost:** \$350 GST N/A

**Duration:** 60 minutes

*Preschool Programme – Flat rate \$340 GST N/A for up to 40 students*

### **ELEANOR CLAPHAM**

Eleanor Clapham is a descendent of the Murrawarri people of Brewarrina NSW. Following the completion of her Performing Arts degree at the University of Wollongong, Eleanor had a highly successful career as an Opera singer in Vietnam. Garnering acclaim as the first non-Vietnamese person to study and perform traditional Vietnamese opera, Eleanor presented two one-woman shows at the Opera House in Hanoi.

Following the birth of her children, Eleanor discovered a real passion for creating and performing songs and dances for young children. From this passion “Cheeky Tunes” was born – an interactive performance for preschool aged children that has been presented as both a live performance and an in-class incursion.

Eleanor has had a long career in dance but began studying Aboriginal dance styles in 2019 at Mudgin-gal with Rayma Johnston. Eleanor has collaborated with Matthew Doyle, composing and performing songs such as Ngaya Naba (my family). In 2019 Eleanor took a number of trips back ‘to country’ to connect and learn from the Murrawari people living in Weilemoringle, Brewarrina, Lightning Ridge and Bourke. Through this, she has developed a strong relationship with Weilemoringle Public School at the heart of Murrawari country where she has committed to develop a music program in an effort to revive the language and build a strong sense of identity for Murrawari children.