

A joyous cross cultural performance

Based on traditional children's stories from Japan, the performance tells the story of Oshin, a poor peasant, who, in a day of very 'good luck', acquires a sailing boat and saves a bird. Together they embark on a journey over the Sea of Japan, meeting a host of marvelous characters; sailors, fishermen, boat makers, sail weavers... even monsters, who share tales of magic, bravery, kindness, ingenuity, determination, family, friendship and joy.

Three traditional Japanese children's stories form the basis of the show: *A Piece of String, The Crane Child* and *Peach Boy*. These stories are favourites with Japanese children and hold universal appeal as they explore the themes of small overcoming big through courage and ingenuity and of acts of kindness having profound effects and bringing rewards. These are themes common to many seminal Japanese children's stories.

As always, the performance by Bronwyn Vaughan is a thrilling and inspiring one for all audiences. She brings to her work a highly theatrical storytelling style filled with drama, action, hilarity, humour, intelligence, wit and involvement. She uses movement, dance, music, song, a fabulous range of traditional and contemporary musical instruments and compelling characterisations to create a rich and rewarding theatrical experience for young audiences. Characteristically, Bronwyn's performance is enriched by exquisitely designed and crafted props, puppets, costumes and sets.

The show is culturally sensitive as it explores Japanese culture with respect and enthusiasm and at the same time celebrates our shared humanness which crosses cultural boundaries. The post show discussion/question time will provide audiences with a chance to learn about the theatre craft used in the show, such as sets, props, puppets and costumes and how they were made, as well as looking at the stories, songs, music and background to the show. The show compliments curriculum areas of English, Drama, Creative and Visual Arts and HSIE.

<u>The Performer</u> - Bronwyn Vaughan has worked as a performer, writer, musician and storyteller in the field of Theatre-in-Education, Children's Theatre and Community Cultural Development for the past 28 years, touring extensively throughout Australia to schools, community venues, libraries and art galleries. She was founding member of Pipi Storm and her many credits include: *Pipi Storm Children's Circus, Kids Cabaret, Carburetta and Dummy Half, The Bombshells, I Know That Now* and *Stories Given...Handed On* and *At the Foot of the Storyteller Chair.*

	Curriculum Links
ENGLISH	introduces stories from a range of cultures
HSIE	introduces customs, practices & symbols of others
DRAMA	identifies drama from different places
MUSIC	explores sounds from other cultures

DURATION: Infants – 45 mins + question time	SUITABILITY: Years F-2		
PERFORMANCE COST	PERFORMANCE MINIMUM (100 students)*		
\$4.50 per student	\$450.00 per performance		
<u>\$0.45</u> GST	\$ <u>45.00</u> GST		
Total: \$4.95 (Incl. GST)	Total: \$495.00 (incl. GST)		
*PLEASE NOTE EVERY STUDENT OVER 100 PAYS \$4.50 + GST			
Teacher's Notes provided on website below.			