As a result of winning the national Generation One ‘Hands across Australia’ competition in 2010, students from Marree Aboriginal School and Pembroke School recently enjoyed a Hip Hop Dance Workshop. The workshop formed part of the Annual Pembroke School Year 5 Trip to Marree.

Generation One is a movement to end Indigenous disparity in Australia. Before achieving the national prize, our entry in the competition won the state prize. This entry comprised a music video clip created during the 15th Annual Exchange Program in August 2010. In addition, we were to propose a plan for what we would do if we should win the national prize.

As state winners, a dance workshop was provided by the Australian School of Performing Arts and two dance teachers came along on the trip with Mr Keatch and Ms Corbett. We met the Year 5 teachers and students in Marree and spent a day learning and performing together at the Marree Aboriginal School.

Parents from the local community cooked a shared lunch for all and we performed our dance routines for them. It was another fantastic opportunity for the students to engage in enjoyable and educational activities together while developing friendships and experiencing life in another school.

We now look forward to implementing our prize as national winners in an Indigenous Residency Program. During our Annual Exchange Program each year, we will be inviting a guest of Indigenous descent to share their story with children from both schools, as well as engage in activities at the school, on the land and with the community. Over the next 5 years we hope to use the funding from our prize to expose children to a range of Indigenous residents who will share their stories with students in an effort to create inspiration. We believe that inspiration can lead to aspiration.

Gabrielle Corbett
Chairperson of The Marree Aboriginal School/Pembroke School Connection