

**DAY 1  
FRIDAY  
31 JULY 2026**

# NATIONAL TEACHER CONFERENCE



Scan for session abstracts  
and speaker biographies

TIME (AEST)	SESSION	PRESENTER/S	VENUE
8:15 – 9:00	Day 1 registration & refreshments		Pier 2/3, Shared Foyer
9:00 – 9:15	Welcome & Opening remarks Acknowledgement of Country	Peter Evans, Artistic Director Joanna Erskine, Head of Education	Pier 2/3, The Neilson Nutshell
9:15 – 10:15	<b>PRESENTATION</b> <i>The Classroom Voice</i>	Jack Starkey-Gill	Pier 2/3, The Neilson Nutshell
10:20 – 11:20	<b>KEYNOTE</b> <i>The Value of the Child</i>	Kurt Fearnley AM PLY – Proudly presented by Teachers Health	Pier 2/3, The Neilson Nutshell
11:20 – 12:00	Lunch		Pier 2/3, The Seed
12:00 – 1:10	<b>PRESENTATION</b> <i>Shakespeare &amp; Violence Prevention</i>	Dr Amanda Giguere (USA LIVESTREAM)	Pier 2/3, The Neilson Nutshell
1:15 – 2:30	<b>TEACHER SNAPSHOTS #1</b> <i>Australian teachers share quickfire classroom stories and strategies</i>	Various	Pier 2/3, The Neilson Nutshell
2:30 – 2:50	Afternoon tea / refreshments		Pier 2/3, The Seed
2:50 – 3:50	<b>PRESENTATION</b> <i>Cultural Conversations</i>	Miriam Corowa	Pier 2/3, The Neilson Nutshell
3:55 – 4:50	<b>PRESENTATION</b> <i>Poetry, Hope and the Prison Classroom</i>	Dr Jedidiah Evans – Proudly presented by The University of Sydney	Pier 2/3, The Neilson Nutshell
4:50 – 5:00	Day 1 reflections & closing remarks	Joanna Erskine	Pier 2/3, The Neilson Nutshell
5:00	<b>Evening soiree</b> <i>Drinks and refreshments to celebrate teachers and teaching, set against the spectacular backdrop of Sydney Harbour</i>		Pier 2/3, The Seed
6:30	Day 1 close		

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**DAY 2  
SATURDAY  
1 AUGUST 2026**

# NATIONAL TEACHER CONFERENCE



Scan for session abstracts  
and speaker biographies

TIME (AEST)	SESSION	PRESENTER/S	VENUE
8:15 – 9:00	Day 2 registration & refreshments		Pier 2/3, Shared Foyer
9:00 – 9:10	Welcome & Opening remarks	Joanna Erskine, Head of Education	Pier 2/3, The Neilson Nutshell
9:10 – 10:10	<b>PRESENTATION</b> <i>Much Ado About Numbers – How Elizabethan Maths Shaped Shakespeare</i>	Rob Eastaway (UK LIVESTREAM)	Pier 2/3, The Neilson Nutshell
10:15 – 11:20	<b>PRESENTATION</b> <i>Child Stars &amp; Macbeth: Yve Blake on Adaptation</i>	Yve Blake, in conversation with Joanna Erskine	Pier 2/3, The Neilson Nutshell
11:20 – 12:00	Lunch		Pier 2/3, The Seed
12:00 – 1:10	<b>FILM PREMIERE</b> <i>The Best of Us: Ten Years of National Teacher Mentorship Impact</i>	Proudly presented by Teachers Mutual Bank	Pier 2/3, The Neilson Nutshell
1:15 – 2:30	<b>TEACHER SNAPSHOTS #2</b> <i>Australian teachers share quickfire classroom stories and strategies</i>	Proudly presented by Teachers Mutual Bank	Pier 2/3, The Neilson Nutshell
2:30 – 2:50	Afternoon tea / refreshments		Pier 2/3, The Seed
2:50 – 3:55	<b>PRESENTATION</b> <i>When Shakespeare Comes to Town: School and Community Impacts of Bell Shakespeare's Regional Outreach</i>	Prof Emerita Robyn Ewing AM & Dr Natasha Beaumont (CREATE Centre, USYD)	Pier 2/3, The Neilson Nutshell
4:00 – 4:50	<b>PANEL</b> <i>Shakespeare Hot Takes</i>	With Virginia Gay	Pier 2/3, The Neilson Nutshell
4:50 – 5:00	Day 2 closing remarks	Joanna Erskine	Pier 2/3, The Neilson Nutshell
5:00	Day 2 close		

Event partners



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