NAIDOC 2007  
Looking Forward, Looking Blak

NAIDOC festivities will be held all over the country this month to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Held over the first week of July each year, NAIDOC week is celebrated not just in the Indigenous community, but in all communities across Australia.

The theme for this year's NAIDOC Week is 50 Years: Looking Forward, Looking Blak, with the focus city for 2007 being Darwin in the Northern Territory.

The NAIDOC Ball and Awards Ceremony will be held here on the aptly named Black Friday – Friday, July 13, 2007. The NAIDOC Awards recognise the outstanding achievements of Indigenous Australians in such categories as the Elder of the Year, the Indigenous Person of the Year and the Lifetime Achievement Award.

Speaking of awards, the Deadly Vibe team have our very own winner, with our junior designer, Tyeli Hannah, winning the 2007 NAIDOC Poster competition.

Tyeli’s artwork is called The Path We Lead and joins a NAIDOC tradition that can be traced back to 1972, when the poster competition began.

The strong imagery and bold colours Tyeli has used represent Indigenous people and their journey over the past 50 years, while the figure climbing the staircase is carrying battle-torn Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags towards a brighter future – a future where all Australians are equal.

"I wanted people, especially Indigenous people, to feel as if the future holds positive things for them," Tyeli says. “As an Indigenous person, there are a lot of hard things to deal with in life, but there are also a lot a great things and that’s what we should be celebrating.

“We need to recognise and strive to achieve good things in life, as well as deal with the negative stuff."

Join us in congratulating Tyeli on his win, and have a great NAIDOC Week, everyone!
PREPARATION BEFORE READING

NAIDOC activities have been held all over Australia in July to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

National and local awards have been handed out to Elders and young Indigenous achievers throughout Australia.

This year’s NAIDOC poster called The Path We Lead was designed by Tyeli Hannah. It represents a journey towards a brighter future for Indigenous people.

ACTIVITY 1: READ NAIDOC 2007
LOOKING FORWARD, LOOKING BLAK PAGE 13

Look at the poster

1. When was NAIDOC Week celebrated?

2. What is the theme for this year’s NAIDOC?

3. Describe what you see illustrated in the NAIDOC poster.

4. Explain how this illustration links to this year’s theme.

5. What does NAIDOC mean to you?
ACTIVITY 2: COLOUR IN THE BUBBLE TO SHOW YOUR ANSWER.

1. How many years has NAIDOC been celebrated?
   - 55
   - 50
   - 2007

2. NAIDOC is celebrated in Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities across Australia.
   - True
   - False

3. Which word is spelt correctly?
   - achievements
   - acheivements

4. Circle the 7 mistakes in this sentence.
   the strong imagery and bold kolours tyeli has used represent indigenous people there jurney over the past 50 years

   Write the sentence out correctly.
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________

6. Order these events from 1 to 3 in each box to show your answer.
   - The first NAIDOC poster competition was held in 1972.
   - In 1957 a National Aborigines Day Observance Committee (NADOC) was formed to promote Aboriginal Sunday as a day to focus community attention on the nation’s Aboriginal people.
   - NAIDOC Week was held 8 -15 July, 2007.

Some words have been left out. Choose the best option to fill in each gap. Colour in the bubble to show your answer.

**NAIDOC 2007**

NAIDOC ______________ will be held all __________ the country this month to __________ the history, culture and achievements _____

Aboriginal and __________ Strait Islander people.

| festivity's | festivities |
| about      | over        |
| celebrate  | celebrate   |
| of         | as          |
| Torres     | Torres      |

ACTIVITY 4: THE PATH WE LEAD

The artist’s description of his poster says:

As Indigenous Australians, we are travelling along a path.

This path is a long and ancient one that has served us well.

Along this path we have hit hard times, often leaving us heart broken.

Though we are torn and weathered, we still have a bright future.

We look forward to equality in education, health, employment and standard of living.

The path won’t be easy, but we will get there.
1. What does this mean to you?

__________________________________________________________________

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2. Why do you think this poster was a good choice as the winning entry?

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ACTIVITY 5: WRITING

Write your own explanation of what Looking Forward Looking Blak means to you.

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FURTHER READING

To read more about NAIDOC and to order a free poster, head to:

http://www.naidoc.org.au