

# *Creative Generation*

*By Kristy Taylor*

On 10 July, Kirsty Taylor, Sheree Newcombe, Jovy Griffin, Zoe Rolls, Ellky Slaughter and Zane Ratcliff from Burnett State College travelled to Brisbane with Laura Kronk and Kathy Ratcliff to be a part of Creative Generation – State Schools Onstage. CGen is a youth performing arts initiative for students in state schools all over Queensland. Over 1800 students performed in the show and 700 of these students were in the dance department.

As part of the Senior Rural Massed Section, the students had to learn the choreography to the dances from online videos before going to Brisbane.

During show week, the students worked with many choreographers such as Julie-Ann Byster, Simon Lynd and George Canham from Rokit Productions. The shows were performed at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre where the majority of the rehearsals were held.

The Gayndah students performed in three dances. 'Reach', where they held and danced with the flags that will be used at the Commonwealth Games. This dance was particularly hard as there were strict protocols to follow. 'Heroes' which was a favourite as it was hip hop and the choreographer Simon was great to work with. Finally the Finale which was a mash up of songs and very enjoyable as all 700 dance students danced together. All three pieces were performed at each of the four shows for an audience of over 4000 people.

The students agreed that CGen was an amazing experience as they met and worked with a lot of very talented people including the Queensland Ballet, Raw Dance Company, Rokit Productions and the CGen Company Dancers.

