 Production Shooting Script – Ryan

Ryan Pearson, 16, New South Wales

| Segment | Format beats | Ryan’s story | Visuals/Locations |
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| Hero introduction (approx. 0:30) | * Ryan introduces himself – a brief summation of who he is, where he comes from and what he does. * Ryan talks about where he is now, and teases back to the fact there’s been a dramatic change in his life, which leads us to the beginning of his MY24 journey. | Example needs to be in Ryan’s words:   * Hi, my name is Ryan and I’m 16. * I’m from Taree in New South Wales. * Likes/dislikes * Quirky fact about himself * I used to love dancing in front of the telly with my sisters when I was younger, but now my stage is much bigger than my lounge room! | Diary-cam – somewhere personal with a background reflecting a space they feel comfortable in, that is personal to them |
| Life before (approx. 1:30) | * Relationships to friends, family, attitude towards life, school, and so on * There is a focus on illustrating the aspects of his life that will come to be directly affected by his life-changing experience, and is a clear set-up for the forthcoming MY24. * Need to ensure the ‘Life before’ segment is clearly different from the ‘Pay-off segment’ and ‘Life now’ beats towards the end of the episode, so the sense of transformation of Ryan (both in terms of character and story) is clear. | Toplines:   * Ryan is from Taree on the Mid North Coast of NSW. * He grew up in a family of five sisters – 3 older and 2 younger. * He was an average teenager – hung out with friends, and didn’t know what he wanted to do in the long-term future. * He just thought he’d move to Sydney and study there because it was near the beach. * He loved hip-hop dancing, and would dance with his sisters who would tell him off if he mucked up the steps. * He’d never had any formal training, and learned moves from video clips and dance movies. * Ryan’s sisters looked after him when he got to high school, and stopped him from getting picked on like he did in primary school. * His PE teacher noticed he had skill when doing gymnastics or dance classes. * His grandmother was one of Australia’s first indigenous dancers. * When Ryan was in Year 10, Mrs Fotheringham told him about ‘The Company’ (a NSW public schools Aboriginal dance company) and encouraged him to apply. * He had reservations at first, but decided to do it and went to the regional auditions in Grafton. * Two weeks later, he found out he’d been accepted, and was invited to the 3-day Bangarra Dance workshop in Sydney.   Ryan is from Taree, a regional town on the Mid North Coast of NSW. Before his MY24, Ran’s life was that of an average teenager in a country town. He hung out with friends, went to the local high school (Chatham High School) and had little idea of what he wanted to do in the future. He dreamt of moving to Sydney and studying something at UNSW “because it was near the beach”.  Ryan’s passion was hip-hop dancing. He grew up as the only boy in a family of five sisters (3 older and 2 younger). He danced from an early age with his sisters, being bossed about and told off when he didn’t get the steps right. He has never received any formal dance training. He learnt moves from video clips and dance movies like ‘Stomp the Yard’. He still knows all the steps in [Beyonce’s ‘Single Ladies’ video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4m1EFMoRFvY).  Going into high school, Ryan was fortunate (in an odd way) in that he had 3 older sisters who had already carved a way for him, and they made sure Ryan did not get picked on like he did in primary school.  Ryan was an average student, who liked to hang out with his friends and do school work. Ryan’s PE teacher had noticed that he had certain flair when they did gymnastics and basic dance classes. This could have been hereditary – Ryan’s grandmother, Mary Murphy, was one of Australia’s first indigenous dancers to dance professionally – she was the very first Aboriginal dancer in the West Australian ballet. She still lives in Perth and Ryan sees her for holidays, and speaks to her on the phone. She phones him up and gives him tips on dance. “Yes, yes, I know nan.”  When Ryan was in Year 10, his teacher Mrs Fotheringham told him about auditions that were being held for ‘The Company’, a NSW public schools Aboriginal dance company, and encouraged him to apply. The Company is a joint initiative between NSW Department of Education and Bangarra Dance Theatre. Ryan resisted it at first and had reservations, but he went along to the closest regional auditions that were held in Grafton. Two weeks later, his teacher received an email that Ryan has been accepted and was invited to attend the 3-day Bangarra Dance Theatre workshop in Sydney. Up until this point, he had had no formal dance training. He would mostly dance at home and in the streets with his friends.  Questions:   * Tell us about your family family life * What sort of kid were you? * Tell us about the dancing you used to do with your sisters? How did they help you? * Tell us about your grandma – did she influence or inspire your love for dancing? * How did you feel when you were dancing? * What did your friends think about your dancing? * Did you ever think about or want to go to proper classes? * Tell us about how your sisters looked after you at high school and why. * Tell us about when Mrs Fotheringam talked to you about the auditions for ‘The Company’. What did you think? Why did you have reservations at first? What made you hesitate? * Tell us about what the regional auditions were like. How did you feel when you were doing them? Who did you meet? * Tell us about when you heard you’d been accepted to go to Bangarra workshop in Sydney. What did you think? What did you family think? | Overlay:   * Taree landscape * Ryan’s home – showing us around * Ryan’s family – introducing us * Ryan’s room – showing us around * Ryan dancing in front of the TV with his sisters * Ryan hanging out with his family/family life * Reflective shots – walking along the side of the road, riding his bike, past his school, and so on.   Archive:   * Photos of Ryan when he was young * Photos of Ryan and his family when he was young * Hoping for photos of his grandma when she was a dancer * Searching for articles, photos or footage from Ryan’s regional audition in Grafton   Emotive recon:   * Ryan’s teacher noticing his skill level for dance and gymnastics * Ryan being hesitant * Ryan finding out he’d been accepted from his teacher |
| MY24 statement (approx. 0:30) | * In his own words, Ryan makes a decisive statement about his MY24 moment in Act 1. * This is the inciting incident to the ensuing drama and creates curiosity in the audience. For example, “My life changed completely the day I was confronted by police in the principal’s office.” | Needs to be in Ryan’ words.  Ryan’s MY24 started with a nervous solo plane trip to Sydney to attend a dance workshop, and ended being inspired by talented indigenous dancers, who left him with the firm conviction to pursue life as a dancer. | Diary-cam – somewhere personal with a fun background, reflecting a space they feel comfortable in that is personal to them |
| The MY24 (approx. 3:00) | * Ryan goes back to give us a blow-by-blow account of their MY24 in detail from his perspective. We track through the moment or event chronologically to induce a growing sense of drama, including:   + What happened? When? Where? How?   + What was he thinking while it was happening?   + What did he do?   + How did he feel? * This event is the cause of their life transformation, so it must carry weight for Ryan and the audience. * This account leads us to understand clearly the inciting incident Ryan referred to in his MY24 statement – it makes sense now. * This is the cause of great transformation that life is now offering. | Toplines:   * Ryan and his mum drove from Taree to Port Macquarie, then he took a plane by himself (for the first time ever) to Sydney. * He met up with all the other country kids at Sydney airport, and they travelled to the studio together. * He was worried about the city kids, that they’d judge him, that they’d be better than him, that they’d tease him for being from the country. He was incredibly nervous and intimidated. * When he arrived at the studio, everyone was lovely. He met other Aboriginal kids just like him, and they were all kind, talented and inspiring. * As the day went on, he realised they all had loads in common, and that he could hold his own with the group. * He was inspired by everyone, and threw himself into the workshops. * He decided this is what he wanted for his future – a dance career with people like this.   Blow-by-blow account:  Ryan’s MY24 was the first day of that workshop. It was held in August last year at the Bangarra Dance Theatre at the Wharf, Walsh Bay in Sydney. It all started at 6am when he took a flight from Port Macquarie to Sydney. This was the first time that he had every travelled such a distance on his own, and he was incredibly nervous. Ryan and his mum left Taree in the early morning and drove to Port Macquarie, and then he took a flight on his own for the first time in Sydney.  He met up with the other country kids at the airport in Sydney, and they all travelled to the dance studio at the Wharf on Sydney Harbour, where they met the city kids doing the workshop. Ryan had certain anxieties about how the other kids at the workshop would treat him. He expected to be mocked as the country boy from Taree and he thought that they would all be ‘city slickers’ and ‘gay’. He was intimidated about going to the workshop and imagined that the other dancers would be highly trained and amazing.  When he arrived at the dance studio, he was overwhelmed by how lovely everyone was. He was surrounded by other Aboriginal kids like him and they were all extraordinarily kind, talented and inspiring.  As the day progressed, he realised ‘we are all the same people’ and felt a sense of belonging with the group. He thought they all had so much in common – “They’re just like me” and “If they can do it, so can I.” He was surprised that he could hold his own as a dancer with the group and felt comfortable and inspired by the other dancers. He threw himself into the workshops and decided there and then that this was a world he wanted to be a part of for his future.  Questions:   * Can you tell us about the drive from Taree to Port Macquarie with your mum? What did you talk about? Did she know you were nervous? What advice did she give you? * Tell us about your first plane flight. How did you feel? How long was it? What did you think? * What happened when you met the other country kids at the airport? Were they nice? Were they nervous too? * Tell us about when you got to the studio. How many other people were there? Did you introduce yourselves? What were the teachers like? How did you feel? * Talk us through the day. What classes did you do? Who did you meet? How did you feel when you realised you were all good dancers, and that you could hold your own? * Tell us about the people you met and the friends you made. How did they inspire you? * At what point during the day did you realise this is what you wanted your future to be? | Emotive recon:   * Drive with Ryan and his mum in the car * Planes flying overhead * Arrivals Sydney airport * Feeling alone in the airport * Drive into Sydney/Syd GVs – subject to naval clearance * The Wharf – Bangarra Dance * Theatre (external/internal) * Young people dancing   Archive:   * Any photos or footage from the workshop   Hero stills:   * Nervous * Intimidated * Worries * Feeling on the outside * Feeling not good enough |
| New direction statement (approx. 0:30) | * This is a moment of self-revelation – we can clearly see how Ryan’s MY24 event has changed his perspective of his life forever, and through the revelation, he has a new view of life and the future. * Ryan succinctly defines the new path he’s found himself on – his new goal, the new purpose he wants to strive for and achieve. * This occurs at the end of the MY24 account, leading directly into ‘The impact’. | Needs to be in Ryan’ words.  Self-revelation and new path –Ryan returned home with a new direction. He was going to take his hobby of dancing with his sisters to video clips, to a lifetime career of becoming a dancer. | Diary-cam – somewhere personal with a fun background, reflecting a space they feel comfortable in that is personal to them |
| The impact (approx. 3:00) | * Ryan works through the impacts of the life-changing event – his decision takes him on a journey, one filled with new experiences and new people, combined with problems and obstacles that need to be overcome. * Other people in his life share their views on the impacts and obstacles of Ryan’s story * This narrative builds as we head closer to seeing Ryan achieve his goal – we get a clear sense he has been changed by his choices. | Toplines:   * Ryan joined and was part of The Company last year, doing workshops and various performances (including NSW School Spectacular). * He saw a flyer in one of the rooms at The Company about auditions for NAISDA dance college – he wanted to audition, but was worried about attending the school itself. * He visited the school and auditioned in October, and when he finished, he knew he wanted to go there. * He was accepted, left his normal mainstream school and moved to Kariong to board with a different family so he could attend NAISDA.   Ryan spent last year as part of ‘The Company’ participating in workshops, which were held over three days every fortnight and performing at various events. The group trained with a larger group of 300 dancers and performed at the NSW School Spectacular in November last year.  While he was in The Company, Ryan saw a flyer up in the Koori room at his high school for auditions for NAISDA Dance college. He was excited about the prospect of auditioning but was unsure about actually attending the school. After visiting the school and doing the audition in October, Ryan walked away knowing that he had to come here.  He was accepted in NAISDA and left his normal mainstream school, his home and moved to Kariong to board with a different family and pursue formal training and a career in dance.  Questions:   * Can you tell us more about your involvement in The Company after your MY24? What did you do at the workshops and how did they help you? * Did your family come to see you perform? What did they think? Had your grandma seen you dance? * Can you tell us what The Company was like? How long were you there? How did you get along with the other dancers? How did being there make you feel? How did it change you? * Tell us about how you came across the flyer for the NAISDA auditions. What did you think when you saw it? How did you feel about it? * Tell us about your visit to the school, and how your audition went. Who did you meet, and what made you decide that you definitely wanted to attend the college? * Tell us about when you were accepted after your audition. How long after the audition were you accepted? How did you react? How did your family react? * How did you find your homestay family, and how did your move go? Tell us about moving and starting at NAISDA? Take us through that first day. | Emotive recon:   * Seeing a flyer on a noticeboard * Auditioning * Being accepted into NAISDA * Packing/moving   Archive:   * Ryan appears in this video about the [NSW Public Schools Aboriginal Dance Company](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ptGVlAPWbk). * [Aboriginal dance ensemble at the 2012 School Spectacular](http://www.dancelife.com.au/school-spectacular-aboriginal-dance-ensemble/) * Photos or footage from the NAISDA audition? * Photos or footage from various workshops or performances with ‘The Company’   Hero stills:   * Inspiration * How dance makes him feel |
| Pay-off statement (approx. 0:30) | * In his own words, Ryan crystallises his achievements as a result of his MY24 moment and its impacts – this second turning point mirrors the MY24 statement at the turning point of Act 1. * This section, directly following ‘The impact’, gives the audience a firm understanding of what the physical and emotional actions of Ryan have led to – this is the ‘Pay-off statement’.   + It may be a specific tangible achievement, or a stage of their personal development that is well underway and moving towards achievement.   + It may be a realisation that has come through the actions and obstacles outlined in ‘The impact’ that is leading them to a new, more ambitious goal.   + It could be an achievement that is introspective – a character shift and new understanding of their purpose in life and how they relate to the world around them. * This segment is in direct contrast to the ‘Life before’ section at the beginning of the story – it must clearly show Ryan in a different phase of life, having clearly developed as a character in his actions and his understanding of his life and his place in it. | Needs to be in Ryan’ words.  Ryan talks about how he’s achieved his goals of pursuing his dancing dream by acting on the inspiration and revelation that hit him on the first day of the Bangarra workshop in Sydney. It hasn’t been an easy road – having to move away from his family to go to dance college, and other challenges he’s faced, but he loves it. He knows it’s right for him, and it makes him incredibly happy. | Diary-cam – somewhere personal with a fun background, reflecting a space they feel comfortable in that is personal to them |
| Life now (approx. 2:00) | * Ryan gives us an account of life now – what he’s doing, study, friends, social and family life – a rounded summary that illustrates just how far he’s come since the start of his story. * There should be a brief moment of reflection about the journey he’s been on. | Toplines:   * Ryan is now studying at NAISDA college, since January 2013, after being accepted from his audition in October 2012. * He lives away from his home and family in Taree in order to study at NAISDA on the Central Coast of NSW. * He boards as a home-stay with a family whose kids have grown up. * He visits his family in Taree during holidays, but one of his sisters lives in Newcastle so he visits her on the weekend if he feels homesick. * He loves hip-hop and modern dance, but is enjoying ballet, contemporary and tap. * He also does extra contemporary and ballet dance classes at Sydney Dance Company.   Ryan auditioned in October last year and was accepted to study at NAISDA college this year. He’s made the big move away from his home and family in Taree in order to study at the college on the Central Coast NSW. He boards as a home-stay with a couple whose kids have grown up, but he still travels back to Taree during holidays to visit his family. One of his sisters lives in Newcastle and he’ll often visit her on the weekend and they hand out together, especially if he’s feeling a bit homesick. His favourite type of dance is hip-hop and modern, although he is enjoying the challenge of learning ballet, contemporary and tap. Each week, he’s back where it all began at the Wharf in Walsh Bay, where he’s doing extra dance classes at Sydney Dance Company in contemporary and ballet.  Questions:   * What’s it like going to NAISDA? What do you like about it? * Take us through a normal day for you at NAISDA. How is your time divided between dance, study, nutrition, and so forth? * Tell us about your friends there. * What challenges do you face there? * How hard is it to live away from home? * Talk to us about what it’s like seeing your family again during the holidays after being away at school. * Tell us about the dance classes you take at Sydney Dance Company. Why do you take them? What do you learn there that you don’t get from NAISDA? * Tell us about the people you met as NAISDA and SDC. How do you feel when you’re around them? What types of people are they? How do they make you feel about yourself and dance? | Overlay:   * Ryan at NAISDA – with friends, on his own * Ryan at dance practice/in class/studying * Ryan and his home-stay family * Ryan’s room with them * Ryan talking to his sister/family on the phone/skyping? * Reflective shots of Ryan – walking around the corridors by himself * Fun stuff of Ryan dancing in different places – we could do this in Taree, NAISDA and Sydney – like Crystal’s hoop stuff? * Ryan dancing in his class, on his own, and so on * Listening to music, doing normal teenage stuff, and so on   Hero stills:   * Homesickness * Family * Home |
| The future (approx. 0:30) | * Ryan gives us a short summation of what he sees for himself in the future:   + What will he be doing?   + What will he continue with?   + What will he leave behind? * There must be a sense of forward momentum and a continued path that his MY24 has put him on. | Toplines:   * Ryan will continue at NAISDA for the next three years. * When he graduates, he wants to be a professional dancer and choreographer. * He wants to bring Aboriginal dance into mainstream music.   Ryan plans to continue his studies at NAISDA over the next three years and after graduating, his hopes for the future are to be a professional dancer and choreographer. He particularly wants to choreograph music videos, and wants to bring Aboriginal dance into mainstream music.  Questions:   * What are you going to perform in next? * Where do you hope to end up? In what city/dance company? * What does he think the future holds for him? * What else does he see himself doing in the future – his hopes and goals? * Sums up his MY24 experience and how it changed his life forever – what does he think his life would have been like had his MY24 not have happened? How has it made life better? | Overlay:   * Ryan dancing at NAISDA, on his own, watching clips, working out dance moves * Reflective stuff at NAISDA |

Archive

* Photos of Ryan when he was young
* Photos of Ryan and his family when he was young
* Any photos of his grandma when she was a dancer?
* Do we have any articles, photos or footage from Ryan’s regional audition in Grafton?
* Any photos or footage from that day – MY24 workshop?
* Ryan appears in this video about the [NSW Public Schools Aboriginal Dance Company](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4m1EFMoRFvY).
* [Aboriginal dance ensemble at the 2012 School Spectacular](http://www.dancelife.com.au/school-spectacular-aboriginal-dance-ensemble/)
* Any photos or footage from the NAISDA audition?
* Any photos or footage from various workshops or performances with ‘The Company’?

Suggested stills

* Nervous
* Intimidated
* Worried
* Feeling on the outside
* Feeling not good enough
* Inspiration
* How dance makes him feel
* Homesickness
* Family
* Home