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**OSCAR DREAMS:** A PERFORMANCE SCHOOL IS COMING TO NORTH LAKES

# Film classes give children stage time

WORDS: KATIE DUNCAN PICTURE: BRAD COOPER

THE next generation of Oscar winners can now hone their talents locally, with the Australian School of Performing Arts, Film and Television soon expanding to North Lakes.

Amanda Hardwick, co-owner of the Brisbane-based business, said residents had already expressed some interest in the school, which will run classes and workshops out of the North Lakes Community Centre.

"What we provide is an opportunity for students - children between the ages of three to 18 - to have experience performing," Ms Hardwick said.

The school's main teacher, Ms Hardwick said she worked with students to develop short films and theatre productions so the children gained real experience.

Films are screened at local cinemas and plays are performed in front of audiences for an authentic experience.

"With the younger children, the emphasis is on learning through playing, because obviously you can't hand them a script," Ms Hardwick said.

"With the older kids the emphasis is on creating. We believe you learn best by doing something."

The school is also affiliated with a talent agent, so students who have the skills to work professionally can seek work.

Classes are capped at 12 pupils and many children attend not just to learn acting skills, but to increase their confidence.

"It's fantastic to see the children's confidence grow," Ms Hardwick said.

➔ For more information, phone 0432 055 966

**PERFECT ROLE:** (Pictured back row to front) Lachlin Keenan, Lisa Davidson, Samuel Dutton, Angus Castellana, Dayna Roberts and Sarah Galvin.



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