Local students to ‘Shine On’

MORE than 30 students from Mansfield Secondary College (MSC) have been chosen to be a part of a state school spectacular named ‘Shine On’.

Local 16 year-old Thomas ‘T.J’ Alcaniz, singer of the local band ‘Uprising’, was chosen to be a back up singer for the big show which will be held at the Hisense Arena in Melbourne, televised by Channel 7.

The show will be performed on September 18 and 19, coinciding with the broadcast date.

The massive production includes a massed choir with more than 1000 students in it, including 20 students from Mansfield Secondary College.

Some 10 other students were chosen to be in the production’s orchestra, where all students had to go through many audition processes.

Alcaniz has been travelling to Melbourne every weekend for rehearsals and the orchestra has travelled numerous times for rehearsals as well.

Every week the school also rehearses together, making sure there is plenty of practice for the big event.

Jan White and Shane Burns are organising the group of students from MSC and holding the rehearsals and helping the students.

Kirk Skinner, musical director of the production from Melbourne, came to the school for some practice sessions and said MSC is the most heavily involved school with the production in Victoria.

As well as the production, the Melbourne trip in August was a great success with many bands and acts going to record the second school CD through the Kool Skools program.

Last year the band Uprising won Best Rock Band for the state through this program and all the participants of the CD had a great experience and learnt a lot.

MSC music teachers said the amazing musical talent at the school was definitely of excellence.