



Chance to soar: Amy Lundgren, of Dun Craig, and Shyanne Diconza, of Parkwood. Picture: Nic Ellis

Window of dancing opportunity

■ Phoebe Wearne

When Perth schoolgirls Amy Lundgren and Shyanne Diconza leave for the US tomorrow, they will have rehearsed just once with the 11 other dancers with whom they will be performing for dozens of international audiences.

The talented pair are among 35 performers from across Australia chosen to go on an 18-day international tour organised by the National Institute of Youth

Performing Arts Australia, a national organisation helping young people get involved in music and dancing.

Amy, 12, and Shyanne, 14, have been intensively rehearsing their routines together in Perth since February, but only met their fellow performers on social networking sites until today, when the show will come together for the first time in Sydney.

They will accompany 22 choristers, 14 of them from WA, to New York, Philadelphia, Bos-

ton, Washington and Los Angeles and perform at famous landmarks and local schools in each city.

NIYPAA managing director Julie McKenna said the trip was an important opportunity for the young performers to improve through performing almost every day.

"This group is extremely dedicated," Ms McKenna said. "Their passion for song and dance really shines, so this tour will give them a chance to soar."