

IT'S LIVE!
in Queensland

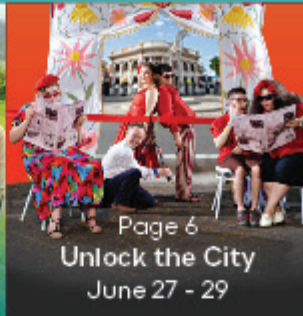
MACKAY FESTIVAL OF ARTS 2024

#MACKAYINJULY

FESTIVAL *Calendar*



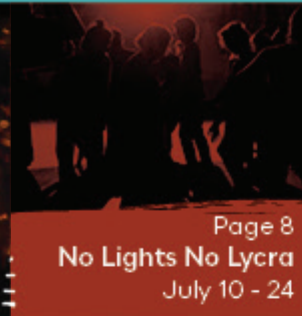
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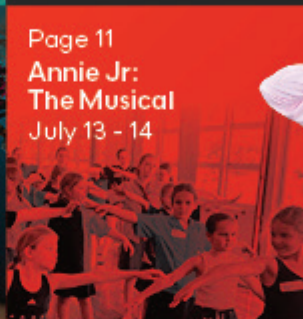
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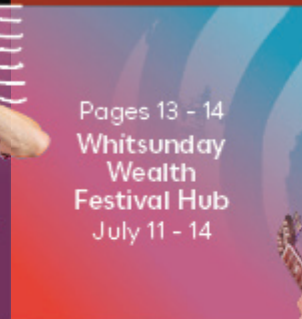
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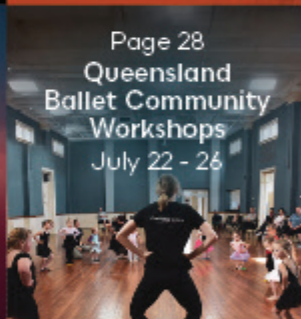
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OFFICIAL
Wine and Food
AFTER-PARTY



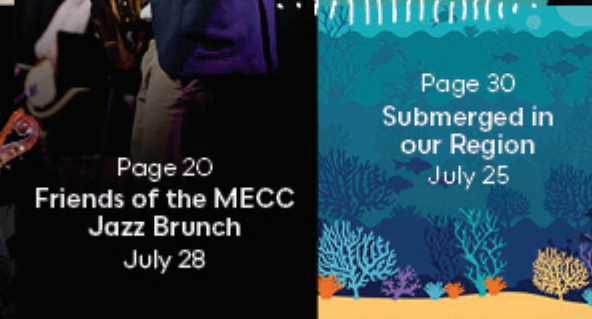
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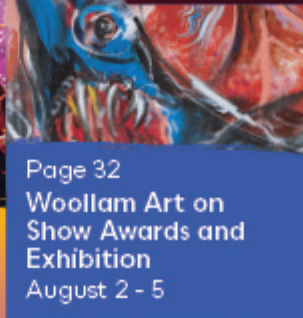


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BOOKINGS



4961 9777

@mackayfestivals

@mackay_festivals

WELCOME

The Mackay Festival of Arts respects the Traditional Custodians, the Yuwi people, and the lands that make up our region on which the Mackay Festival takes place. We extend our acknowledgment to all other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who call our region home. We pay our respects to elders past, present and emerging, as well as embrace the significance and invaluable contributions of First Nations people to the Mackay Festival of Arts.



MINISTER OF TOURISM AND SPORT

THE HON. MICHAEL HEALY MP

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2024 Mackay Festival of Arts which highlights the personality and uniqueness of Mackay.

The Mackay Festival of Arts is supported by the Queensland Government through Round 26 of Tourism and Events Queensland's Queensland Destination Events Program, which strives to highlight the vital link between the wonderful events we host in our great state and the diverse destinations in which they take place.

Events such as this foster community pride, impart local culture and contribute to the local economy. Beyond the festival, there is so much to see, do and experience in Mackay. I encourage all visitors from far and wide to soak in all the delights of the region and make the most of all the experiences unique to this special part of Queensland. Congratulations to all those involved in working tirelessly to stage such a great event.



MAYOR OF MACKAY

MAYOR GREG WILLIAMSON

This year's Festival, the 37th iteration, will have dozens of diverse events on offer. We have you covered with art exhibitions and workshops, cultural theatre, literature, photography, wine tastings, performance art, chamber music, arthouse films and jazz.

Then there's pub rock, paint and sips, a folk music concert, pop culture, karaoke, comedy, local band showcases, family theatre and the festival favourites - Daly Bay Illuminate and the Wisely Wine and Food Day.

This year, our Festival invites you to see, taste or explore something that may be outside your comfort zone; to broaden your horizons and create some memories. Mackay in July is also an opportunity to explore our cafés, restaurants, pubs and attractions - to visit somewhere new or to introduce friends to an old favourite. Help us spread the Festival Fever! Let's make the 2024 Festival our best yet.

Outside the LINES

Selected by the Mackay community as the face of the Mackay Festival of Arts 2024 program, Lian Meaney curated 'Outside the Lines'. This is a contemporary mixed media piece in acrylic and ink, and includes a collage of found materials, drawing inspiration from the natural challenge faced by artists to move outside of what's expected of them.

As children we are told to colour within the lines, and Lian wanted to capture that creative instinct to put a mark on the page, even where it doesn't make sense. A reminder that it's your art and that you need to be brave with it, follow that inspiration to express creatively.



Spirit SPOTLIGHT

In celebration of the 37th year of the festival, Sarina Sugar Shed and Mackay Festivals have joined forces to bring you a new limited-edition liquor with a tantalising fusion of tropical artisanal flavours.

This is distilled with locally grown and handpicked zested lime. The lime is macerated in cane spirit, with unpinned earthy flavours of agave extract. The finish then delivers a gentle lingering, tingling warmth of chilli to complete the experience. Each bottle holds a story of creativity and passion which draws inspiration from the Festival Fever of the Mackay Festival of Arts 2024.

Sarina SUGAR SHED



Experience @ THE BRAE

EXHIBITION RIDGELINES

Immerse yourself in a curated art exhibition in a bespoke marquee yurt whilst connecting with local artists. Embraced by panoramic Pioneer Valley views, witness the sun set over the Eungella Range whilst enjoying live music, two complimentary drinks and delectable finger food. Don't miss this truly exclusive event like no other.

Artists include: Brigitte Zimmerman, Charlene Attard, Fi Flohr, Grace McDonald, Jodie Connolly, Kate Williamson, Leah Tranter, Rosemary Payne, Stacey Nicholas, Wanda Bennett and Lisa Roebig-Holmes.

Saturday 22 June

3.00pm

📍 74 De Bonis Road, Netherdale

Suitable for older teens and adults

\$33 per person

→ charleneattard.com.au/events

ART WORKSHOPS

Explore various artistic mediums with artist Charlene Attard at "The Brae". The stunning Netherdale mountain views provide an inspiring backdrop for a range of workshops hosted in a charming marquee yurt.

Workshops include: printmaking, ceramics, mixed-media, artists' books, watercolour and a fun family morning.

Tuesday 25 June - Sunday 10 August

See website for all dates and times

📍 74 De Bonis Road, Netherdale

All ages event

\$143 full day workshop

\$71.50 half day workshop

\$49.50 per child

Family workshop (6 years +) and 1 adult per child booking participates for free

→ charleneattard.com.au/workshops



Unlock THE CITY

What if the "keys to the city" were bestowed upon you to unlock secrets and mysterious stories of Mackay?

Crossroad Arts performers give you the chance to explore the city through their eyes and ears, presenting you with a fresh new perspective on the familiar and unfamiliar city in which you live.

Crossroad Arts highly visible work continues to agitate, spark discussion and promote Mackay as a leading inclusive destination that gives voice to stories that need to be heard. Unlock the City invites audiences to discover unique tales of our region, celebrate our diverse history and uncover our shared hopes for the future.

Thursday 27 June - Saturday 29 June

7.00pm

📍 Secret locations in the Mackay CBD

*Location will be revealed on ticket purchase.

Age 15+



\$35 adult

\$30 concession

\$25 groups of 4+

* Audio description upon request

→ crossroadarts.com.au

CROSSROAD
ARTS

DALY BAY

bold
ENTERTAINMENT

Crossroad Arts is supported by Arts Queensland, the Tim Fairfax Family Foundation and receives funds from Creative Partnerships Australia through the Australian Cultural Fund and the Australian Government through Creative Australia, its principal arts investment and advisory body.



From Campfire to STAGE LIGHT

From Campfire to Stage Light is an epic journey toward self-determination and Indigenous pride, as told through the life experience of David Bindi Hudson. David is a cultural leader and global ambassador for Indigenous Australia.

David is the ultimate storyteller, artist, singer-songwriter, dancer and actor, and the performance is brought to life through songs, storytelling and extraordinary visual design.

The stories take us from David's traditional lands to the international mega stages as David traversed the world musically, educating people about his culture. He co-founded the award-winning dance troupe "Tjapukai", whose achievements include being Australia's longest-running theatrical production.

Wednesday 3 July

7.30pm

MECC, Plenary Halls

Age 13+



Tickets ranging from \$26 - \$49

Warning - Includes scenes that depict images of Indigenous Australians who have passed away.

→ themecc.com.au



This project is supported by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland



No lights NO LYCRA

The place to go to truly dance like no one is watching - because it's pitch black and no one's watching! We've turned out the lights and are cranking up the tunes for No Lights No Lycra.

This casual free-form dance event is held in the dark, where you can just dance for the sake of dancing. No judgement, no lessons, no talking, just the joy of movement and one hour of non-stop beats. Release your inhibitions, improve your mood and work up a wild sweat, simply because joy is contagious, and we know you secretly love to dance. This "dance in the dark" movement originated in 2009 and has spread to more than 75 locations around the world, including Mackay.

Wednesday 10 July and Wednesday 24 July | 6.15pm

Performing Arts Centre, Northern Beaches Mackay State High School | Ages 12+ | \$10 per person



→ themecc.com.au/festivals

NO LIGHTS
NO LYCRA



Merrick Watts

AN IDIOT'S GUIDE TO WINE

Merrick Watts is a qualified wine specialist and comedian. Join him on a journey through the wonderful world of wine where he is the idiot but also strangely the expert.

After sold-out seasons around the world, Merrick is finally bringing his smash hit show to Mackay. Join Mez as he takes you on a wine flight, showing six great wines, each with a story, and tasting notes to boot. Comedy meets wine, laughter meets learning, and you get to drink! Whether you are a connoisseur or an enthusiast, there is something for everyone.

Friday 5 July - Sunday 7 July

See website for all dates and times

MECC, Plenary Halls

Age 18+



\$65 per ticket

Includes - 6 wine tastings

This is a fully licensed event, strictly no BYO and ID required for the purchase of alcohol. Get the facts drinkwise.org.au

→ themecc.com.au/festivals



Hina:

UNDER THE SAME MOON

Welcome to the world of traditional storytelling, where magic is woven into words and stories come alive. There is something special about the art of storytelling that transcends time and connects us.

Let us celebrate the rich cultural heritage of the Pacific Island nations, and the First Nations people who have kept the traditions of Hina alive for centuries. From tales of heroic deeds to the legends of mythical creatures, this unique way of passing down knowledge and wisdom from generation to generation is something for all ages to cherish and celebrate. Join us as we continue to share our stories, connect with each other and build a better world, one tale at a time.

Sunday 7 July

5.00pm

Australian South Sea Islander Hut

All ages event

\$30 per ticket - includes meal
\$25 early bird ticket - includes meal
Free admission - BYO food

→ themecc.com.au/festivals



Between THE TIDES

Experience a world-first concert series on Yuwi Country at Cape Hillsborough. Two magical evenings featuring intimate performances by Christine Anu (Saturday 6 July) and Josh Pyke (Sunday 7 July), supported by Tia Gostelow each night. Experience pristine coastal beauty between two tidal movements and make unforgettable memories, leaving only footprints behind.

Saturday 6 July and Sunday 7 July | 4.00pm

📍 Cape Hillsborough National Park

All ages event



Tickets ranging from \$65 - \$224

→ qldmusictrails.com/events/between-the-tides



**BETWEEN
theTides**

QLD MUSIC TRAILS



Annie Jr THE MUSICAL

Proudly brought to you by Mackay Fame Talent School, Annie Jr is a musical theatre production based on the Broadway Musical, Annie.

Set in 1950s New York, Annie is a spirited little girl living in an orphanage. Despite being treated terribly by the orphanage's Mistress, Annie is alive with hope. She truly believes her parents will eventually find their way to her and they will be reunited as family.

Saturday 13 July and Sunday 14 July

See website for all dates and times

📍 CQU Conservatorium of Music, Ooralea

All ages event



\$39 adult

\$27 children 12 years and under

→ trybooking.com/CQQDL



11



YOU ARE A Doughnut

Join biology teachers Oesoph A. Gus and Dewey Dean for a brilliantly grosstacular tour of the human digestive system – with sketches, songs and sensational science.

Along the way you'll encounter a frenzy of enzyme-powered ping pong balls, sing along with a rainbow collection of poop puppets and witness the weirdest poetry performance you have ever seen. Each new digestive destination will inspire a wonderfully unusual performance.

Thursday 11 July and Friday 12 July

See website for all dates and times

📍 Multiple venues

Ages 5 - 12 years



\$18.50 per ticket

Warning - loud noises and haze effects

→ themecc.com.au



12

WHITSUNDAY WEALTH

Festival Hub



Immerse yourself in the vibrant atmosphere of diverse sounds at the Whitsunday Wealth Festival Hub. Located at Bluewater Quay, this lively entertainment hub will be filled with music, food and fun!

Each night, a new band and genre will take centre stage, providing an unforgettable experience. That's not all! Ignite your senses further by indulging in the delectable street cuisine and locally crafted brews from our on-site pop-up bars. Step outside your comfort zone and embrace some new sounds.

What evenings will you be there?

Thursday 11 July - Sunday 14 July

5.30pm - late (Thursday and Friday)

4.00pm - late (Saturday and Sunday)

📍 Bluewater Quay

All ages free event



Those under the age of 18 years must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

This is a fully licensed event, strictly no BYO and ID required for the purchase of alcohol. Get the facts drinkwise.org.au

→ themecc.com.au/festivals

4 NIGHTS
BANDS
GENRES



THURSDAY ROCKIN' RHYTHM AND BLUES - THE WILD SKY

Relax by the waters of the Pioneer River with the seamless blend of rhythm, blues and a dose of funk. With their explosive energy and sophisticated melodies, The Wild Sky is the perfect three-piece rock 'n' roll outfit to kick off the weekend!



FRIDAY FOLK AND OLD TIME MOUNTAIN MUSIC - HILLBILLY GOATS

Kick off your shoes, put yer hoe down and hang on to yer britches! Featuring banjo, bones, double bass, fiddle, tap dancing, three part harmonies and more, there is a tale told of the history of mountain music's evolution into blues, country and bluegrass. Hillbilly Goats aren't just a band - "they're a show" and "Keeping it Real" is their motto!

SATURDAY SWING AND ROCKABILLY - JOSHY J AND THE RICOCHETS

Put on your best dancing shoes, grease up that hair and get ready to boogie to the tunes of yesteryear! Let us transport you to a 1950s shindig celebrating the best of rock 'n' roll, swing and rockabilly.



SUNDAY FESTIVAL FIESTA! - VIVA AND BAND

Immerse yourself in the festival fever with Viva and band! Prepare for a sensational dance fiesta as we transform the Bluewater Quay into a vibrant paradise with a Latin flavour! Get lost in the rhythmic sounds or try out those salsa moves.



Literary Dinner

DBI PRESENTS AN EVENING WITH KATE CEBERANO



Spend an evening with **Kate Ceberano** at the highly anticipated DBI Literary Dinner to celebrate the conclusion of the 2024 **Whitsunday Voices Youth Literature Festival**.

Enjoy a delicious three-course dinner, mingle with the high-profile presenters from this year's Festival, and be entertained by the spectacular voice of Kate Ceberano as she takes us on a journey through her career and shares the stories behind her most popular songs.

Friday 12 July

6.30pm

📍 **MECC, Plenary Halls**

Age 18+

\$195 per ticket

→ whitsundayvoices.com.au



Neon Fireworks

SIP AND PAINT NIGHT

During this fun session, we draw the curtains and turn out the lights. We'll then paint under UV lights to bring our neon artworks to life. All art supplies provided, with easy-to-follow instructions. BYO drinks and nibbles if you please.

Saturday 13 July

6.00pm

📍 **The Creative Art Studio**

Age 16+ accompanied by participating adult

\$65 per ticket

→ handdrawndesignsbymichellemdv.com

The Creative Art Studio
By Michelle's Designs

SARINA

Small Halls Concert

Festival of Small Halls Winter Tour 2024 is produced by Woodfordia (Woodford Folk Festival). International, national and local musical folk and contemporary artists will be presented for your enjoyment in the ambience of a small hall in the sugar town, Sarina. This is a family-friendly event with barbecue, catering and bar.

Saturday 13 July

5.00pm

📍 **Bob Wood Cultural Hall, Sarina**

All ages event

\$10 adult

\$5 concession/children under 18

→ festivalofsmallhalls.com



SARINA
NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE

Queensland Government



Graeme CONNORS

Following two packed houses at the Tamworth Country Music Festival, legendary singer-songwriter Graeme Connors brings his special 'My Lyrical Life' show to his hometown. The show celebrates his 50 years in the music industry.

'My Lyrical Life' the book, contains 217 songs from the Mackay artist's pen, recorded by himself, or by artists including Slim Dusty, John Denver and Jon English, plus autobiographical reflections from various phases of his long, colourful career. Ranging from the 70s through to now, the songs showcase an incredible career that continues to shine a light on the Australian psyche, life and love, and world events.

Saturday 13 July | 7.30pm

📍 MECC, Plenary Halls

All ages event

→ themecc.com.au

Tickets ranging from \$68.10-\$78.10



OURSCAPE ART CHALLENGE

Connecting Artists and Community

Artists Connect Inc. invites 2024 members to connect with other artists and the community in the ourSCAPE art Challenge across the region. Members of the public can also enter the action as wildcards.

These exciting new events will be set in picturesque regional areas. Artists will create their own artwork in response to the place in just four hours using any media/technique. Following two exciting rounds, selected artists will respond to place at Wisely Wine and Food Day for the final challenge of 2024.

Sarina Beach: Sunday 7 July | 10.00am
Eungella Chalet: Sunday 14 July | 11.00am
Queens Park: Saturday 20 July | 11.00am

Free to attend and watch

Challenge participation age 18+ (entry fee applies)
See website for further details

→ artistsconnectinc.au/events/ourscape



Artists Connect Inc. acknowledges the contribution of the Mackay Regional Council through RADF and Community Grants Funding.

The Appleton Ladies' POTATO RACE

In the small country town of Appleton, the annual show includes carrying large sacks of potatoes round a racetrack.

The winner of the men's race gets \$1000, while the winner of the women's race wins a paltry \$200. Something's got to give!

Playwright: Melanie Tait.
Director: Luana Royle.

Thursday 18 July - Saturday 27 July

See website for all dates and times

 Kucom Theatre

All ages event 

\$35 adult

\$30 concession/group of 6+

\$25 Kucom member

\$20 early bird

→ bit.ly/3VU97Ge

**Early bird offer only available 6 - 12 May 2024*



Friends of the MECC JAZZ BRUNCH


AN UNFORGETTABLE BRUNCH EXPERIENCE THAT WILL LEAVE YOU YEARNING FOR AN ENCORE.

Embark on a delightful journey of flavours and melodies at the Friends of the MECC's decadent brunch affair. Experience the rhythmic magic and the captivating melodies of award-winning jazz vocalist, Jacki Cooper (Sydney).

This talented musician will be supported by ConJazz, featuring talented staff from the Central Queensland Conservatorium of Music and will perform classics from the Great American Song Book and more. Treat your palate to a tantalising array of culinary delights, accompanied by a refreshing drink on arrival.

Sunday 28 July | 11.00am



 MECC, Plenary Halls

| All ages event

Tickets ranging from \$70-\$75 → themecc.com.au/festivals



Wisely WINE AND FOOD DAY

EXPERIENCE A FUSION OF MUSIC AND FOOD.

Brought to you by the Mackay Festival of Arts and the Wisely Group, prepare yourself for a sensational food and music experience at Wisely Wine and Food Day!

Join us at Queens Park for a day filled with mouthwatering cuisines, refreshing brews, exciting new experiences and epic music. From a delectable selection of lunch experiences to mouthwatering street bites, there will be something there for everyone to feast on and enjoy.

Quench your thirst with a wide variety of craft beers, wines and ciders. Are you a connoisseur or someone simply looking to enjoy a refreshing beverage? Don't worry, we've got you covered.

Immerse yourself in the vibrant atmosphere with a mixed fusion of music that will have you dancing and grooving all day long. Whether you're a local or visiting Mackay, this free and family-friendly event is an absolute must-attend.

** A responsible parent and/or guardian will need to supervise children at all times. This is a fully licensed event, strictly no BYO and ID required for the purchase of alcohol. Get the facts at drinkwise.org.au*

Saturday 20 July | 10.30am - 5.30pm

📍 Queens Park, Mackay | All ages free event 🏞️

→ themecc.com.au/festivals

WISELY

Mackay
REGIONAL COUNCIL

M
MACKAY
FESTIVALS

BB PRINT MAIN STAGE DRAPHT

Drapht is one of the pioneering heavyweights of Australian hip-hop. Since bursting onto the scene 20 years ago in Perth, Drapht has developed a global fanbase. With two ARIA awards and multiple platinum and gold singles under his belt – including smash hits Jimmy Recard and Rapunzel – Drapht has continued to innovate, collaborating with the likes of the Hilltop Hoods, Dune Rats and Katie Noonan. Drapht's diverse array of influences can be heard throughout his seven studio albums, where he is constantly evolving and experimenting across genres.

MATTY ROGERS

Northern Rivers based Matty Rogers doesn't play music so much as he becomes possessed by it - a conduit for the musical muse. Showcasing Americana blues-rock drenched in soul, Matty taps into the depths of his heart and weaves it into a dynamic music experience.

MANGO JUNCTION

A local Mackay band that needs no introduction, Mango Junction has become a crowd favourite performing for 24 years throughout the region. This duo is bound to get you up on your feet and dancing with classics and current pop tunes.

JOSIAH SAMUEL

Relocating from New Zealand, Josiah now calls the beautiful Airlie Beach home. Armed with just his guitar and his soulful voice, he captivates listeners with his blend of reggae roots, pop and funky grooves.

BBPrint
QUALITY PRINT & DESIGN

FIERCE
CREATIVE

HOT POTATO BAND

This 10-piece, larger-than-life brass collective is a breath of fresh air, setting a new bar for energetic and interactive musical performances. Based in Sydney, they have reinvented the traditional brass band as a modern-day dance machine and visual spectacle to complimenting their fun-loving, organic and quirky musical nature.

TROPICAL STATE OF MIND

Mackay based, Tropical State of Mind are a breath of fresh air in the Aussie music scene, where listeners journey through a kaleidoscope of genre fusion. TSOM seamlessly blends surf, soul, indie, pop, funk, rock and blues into an irresistible concoction of original sound.

ALEX KOSENKO

Alex Kosenko is an independent travelling artist from Brisbane, Australia and his music can be described as a unique mix of Australian Blues and Roots, accompanied by his inventive electric sound. Alex's one-man band performances include a thumping kick drum and tambourine, howling harmonica solos, bluesy acoustic-electric guitar and soul driven vocals.

FIERCE CREATIVE DANCE STAGE

Brace yourself for an adrenaline-pumping showcase of talent on the Fierce Creative dance stage. Experience the dynamic energy brought to life by an array of local dance schools and community groups.

Want something
MORE?

Check out the Kids' Entertainment Hub, the Arts and Culture Hub or go all out and participate in one of the new Wisely Wine and Food Day event experiences:



MARGS AND AMIGOS

Let's get spicy with Margs and Amigos VIP area! Dive into a Mexican paradise right by the main stage - where chillies, margaritas and Coronas await you for the ultimate fiesta experience!

Savour authentic Mexican flavours from a special menu that will keep you energised for the main event. Enjoy exclusive bar selections, private facilities and a vibrant setting perfect for you and your amigos.

Don't miss out on this VIP fiesta - secure your tickets now! Let's party like there's no mañana!

11.00am - 5.00pm

📍 Wisely Wine and Food Day

Age 18+

\$165 per ticket

→ themecc.com.au/festivals



SARINA SUGAR SHED LONG LUNCH WITH ONE HUNGRY MUMMA

Indulge in a delightful three-course longtable dining affair, offering a fusion of Asian flavours meticulously crafted by One Hungry Mumma.

Sip on expertly crafted cocktails and explore exquisite liqueur tastings from Sarina Sugar Shed, adding an extra layer of decadence to your dining experience. Full bar available for duration of event.

11.00am - 5.00pm

📍 Wisely Wine and Food Day

Age 18+

\$195 per ticket

→ sarinasugarshed.com.au/events

Sarina SUGAR SHED • One Hungry Mumma



POSH IN THE PARK - LONG LUNCH

Indulge in a blissful afternoon of culinary delights and fabulous entertainment.

Tempt your palate with bold, fresh flavours from the region with a sumptuous two-course signature 'Feast for the Senses' menu. These signature dishes are specially designed to encourage pairing with a curated lineup of wines and a great selection of beverages.

11.00am - 5.00pm

📍 Wisely Wine and Food Day

Age 18+

\$175 adult early bird

\$1700 group of 10 early bird

\$185 adult

\$1850 group of 10

→ events.humanitix.com/posh-in-the-park

KICKASS
WOMEN

CORK AND VINE BY P...
Embark on a...
EVENT CANCELLED

Culinary meets live entertainment,
featuring an oyster bar and cocktail bar,
an unparalleled afternoon...
EVENT CANCELLED

Age 18+
\$220 per ticket

and Food Day
EVENT CANCELLED



PAINT AND SIP

Awaken your inner artist at a mini paint and sip session! This unique experience, is brought to you by local art operator Bottletops and Brushes and provides a step by step guide in creating a stunning artwork. Discover the joy of painting, share some laughs and have some fun.

Session 1: 11.00am - 12.00pm

Session 2: 12.30pm - 1.30pm

Session 3: 2.00pm - 3.00pm

Session 4: 3.30pm - 4.30pm

📍 Wisely Wine and Food Day

All ages event

\$50 adult

\$35 child (16 years and under)

→ bottletopsandbrushes.com/shop

BOTTLETOPS
AND BRUSHES

OURSCAPE ART CHALLENGE: CONNECTING ARTISTS AND COMMUNITY

Participate or witness the third and final event in a series of timed artmaking challenges performed by local artists around the region. With 30 participants, four hours, and one final location (Queens Park), audiences are free to view and interact with participating artists as they create their final artwork.

11.00am - 3.00pm

📍 Wisely Wine and Food Day

Age 18+ to participate as an artist

\$20 entry for artists

→ artistsconnectinc.au/events/ourscape



ART AND CRAFT MARKET TRAIL

Start your event journey by browsing through the various handmade art and craft markets and indulge in some of the best local creations our region has to offer.

Kids' Entertainment HUB



BUBBLE CANTEEN

Immerse yourself in this free immersive wonderland where 12,000 bubbles spring to life every minute, dancing and floating in perfect harmony. This captivating interactive installation is designed to ignite the imaginations of both the young and the young at heart.

11.00am - 11.50am

1.00pm - 1.50pm

3.00pm - 3.50pm

SIDESHOW ALLEY

Keep the kids (big and small) entertained at Sideshow Alley! Featuring a variety of paid amusement rides, jumping castles and thrilling games! They won't want to leave!

A responsible parent and/or guardian must supervise their children at all times.



OFFICIAL
Wine and Food
AFTER PARTY

Massaoke OZ

GET READY TO BRING THE SING LIKE NEVER BEFORE!

Get ready to unleash your inner rock star with the legendary band, Massaoke Oz! Brace yourself for a mind-blowing, high-energy live music experience that will have you singing your heart out to the biggest hits of the 70s, 80s, 90s and beyond.

Prepare for a whole lot of mash-ups, megamixes, spandex and glitter - supercharged with giant singalong lyrics, face-melting guitar solos, rock star poses, and YOU - the real stars of the show.

Thursday 18 July - Saturday 20 July

See website for all dates and times

📍 MECC, Plenary Halls

All ages event



\$50 adult

\$45 friends/members of MECC/early bird*

\$30 child (under 15)

→ themecc.com.au/festivals

*Early bird offer ends 31 May 2024

Hey.Dowling

MASSAOKE

TOP

Tom
Oliver
Productions

M
MECC
FESTIVALS

DOUBLE DATE

and Singles Night



Experience Viking-style seating with a set menu, where you can mingle and mix with others or choose a double date table to share with your partner. Meet new people and enjoy live local music in a stunning atmosphere.

Couples: Choose a DOUBLE DATE table to share with your partner and meet new people. Live music from Mackay's own super couples: Kristina and Adrian (Significant Other), Ari and Kylie (The Feels) and Jo and Doug (Mango Junction).

This is a fully licensed event, strictly no BYO and ID required for the purchase of alcohol. Get the facts drinkwise.org.au

Friday 19 July | 6.30pm

📍 **Seabreeze Hotel** | **Age 18+**

\$30 singles admission | \$50 doubles admission



Tickets include: Whiskey tasting station, professional photographer and nibbles

→ seabreezehotelmackay.com.au/whatson



Queensland Ballet

COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS



As part of their 2024 Community Regional Tour, Queensland Ballet is excited to hit the road again to spread the magic of ballet with people of all ages and abilities in the Mackay Isaac Region.

In 2024 Queensland Ballet's expert teaching artists will visit over 30 locations across Regional Queensland, New South Wales and the Northern Territory to deliver community classes, in-school workshops and teacher professional development sessions. Young dancers aged 2-17 years, adults and senior participants, as well as school and dance teachers are invited to join Queensland Ballet for a range of inclusive workshops to explore the wonderful world of ballet.

Monday 22 July - Friday 26 July

See website for all dates and times

📍 **Multiple venues**

All ages event

Free in-school workshops

\$10 per ticket at the following workshops:

- Petit Pointer workshops (2-5 years)
- Community Classes (6-17 years)
- Ballet for Seniors (active older adults)

→ queenslandballet.com.au

Queensland
Ballet

MACKAY
ENTERTAINMENT
COMPLEX
CENTRE **MECC**

Mackay CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL



Friday 19 July - Sunday 21 July

See website for all dates and times

📍 CQU Conservatorium of Music, Ooralea

All ages event



\$50 adult | \$45 concession | \$35 student
Festival weekend packages also available

→ mackaycmf.com.au



Proudly supported by Central Queensland Conservatorium of Music, CQUniversity and the Queensland Government.

RYDGES

MACKAY SUITES



MACKAY FESTIVAL OF ARTS ACCOMMODATION PARTNER

Stay at the hotel or dine in our restaurant.
Use promo code MFOA24 and get 15% discount
on accommodation during the Festival*

9 Gregory Street, Mackay | +617 4969 1000 | rydges.com/mackay-suites

- Located in the city centre
- 24 hour reception
- Free WIFI and parking
- Indoor pool & fitness centre
- Variety of room options
- Restaurant open breakfast, lunch and dinner
- Live entertainment
- Late night bar on weekends
- Event spaces for 250 guests
- Gaming lounge open 10am
- **Pizza and beer special available at Moss on Wood during the festival**

* Rooms subject to availability at the time of booking. Discount not available from 22 - 26 July 2024. Rydges Mackay Suites general booking Terms & Conditions apply.



Submerged IN OUR REGION

Join us for the opening of Submerged in Our Region. Brought to you by the Healthy Rivers to Reef Partnership, explore a photography, art and film exhibition showcasing the beauty and diversity of waterways in our region.

Thursday 25 July

6.00pm

📍 Gallery 31, CQUniversity

All ages free event



→ Contact info@healthyriverstoreef.org.au



HEALTHY RIVERS TO
REEF PARTNERSHIP
MACKAY-WHITSUNDAY-ISAAC

Mackay International FILM FESTIVAL

Film and Arts Mackay Inc. are thrilled to once again host the Mackay International Film Festival, featuring another electrifying selection of thought-provoking arthouse and independent studio release films from around the world.

Saturday 27 July - Sunday 4 August

See website for program and ticket info

📍 Pinnacle Playhouse (27 July)
BCC Cinemas, Mt Pleasant (2-4 August)

Age restrictions - see classification



→ filmartsmackay.weebly.com



Festival VOLUNTEERS

OUR EVENTS WOULDN'T HAPPEN WITHOUT OUR AMAZING FRIENDS OF THE FESTIVAL VOLUNTEERS.

CATCH THEM IN THE PINK SHIRTS AT MACKAY FESTIVAL EVENTS!

Our incredible and diverse crew of volunteers work closely with our festival team to deliver a number of large, annual community-based events and ensure all festival-goers are having the best time possible.

Our Friends of the Festival gain valuable experience working in the event industry -and insight into the workings of both small and large scale events. It also provides opportunities to gain new friendships, network with arts and industry professionals as well as contribute to the community by providing safe, fun and welcoming events for the region.

Are you interested in volunteering?

→ themecc.com.au/festivals



Woollam ART ON SHOW AWARDS & EXHIBITION



IMAGE: Stephen HOMEWOOD, Step into another (world)

Proudly presented by the Mackay Show Association, the Woollam Art on Show Awards and four-day exhibition sees up-and-coming and renowned artists from across Australia vying for a \$12,000 prize purse (non-acquisitive).

Artists in Residence
Live demos and activities
Saturday 3 August

Director's Choice
Artists' Book Talk
Saturday 3 August

Opening | Friday 2 August | 6.30pm
Exhibition | Saturday 3 - Monday 5 August
| 10.00am - 4.00pm

📍 500 Pavilion, Mackay Showgrounds

All ages event



\$15 official opening

Gold coin donation exhibition entry

→ artonshow.com.au

All exhibits for sale!



woollam
SINCE 1884



Paint your bottle at

SARINA SUGAR SHED

Let BottleTops and Brushes demonstrate and guide you through how to paint your own liqueur bottle, which will then be labelled and filled with your favourite Sugar Shed liqueur. Includes a welcome drink on arrival, grazing platter and tasting liqueur board to get the creative juices flowing.

Sunday 4 August

3.00pm

📍 Sarina Sugar Shed

Age 18+



\$189 including transfers from Mackay
\$139 including filled bottle
\$80 bottle only

→ sarinasugarshed.com.au/events

Sarina SUGAR SHED . BOTTLETOPS AND BRUSHES . MINGLE EVENTS CO.

Mack PopCon is a one-day celebration of all things pop culture - cosplay, anime, comics, collectibles, gaming, art, medieval, plus celebrity guests, authors and artists.

Join us for a fun, all-inclusive day out, connect with other fans and explore the exciting world of pop culture!

Saturday 10 August

9.00am

📍 Mackay Showgrounds, Big Shed

All ages event



\$5 10 years +
Free 9 years and under

→ mackpopcon.org.au



MACK PopCon



Painting WITH THE TIDE

The Cumberland Islands of the Great Barrier Reef, with their vivid and ever-changing beauty, remain a magnet for artists.

In 2023, artists Evan Macleod, Ron McBurnie, Bradley Short and filmmaker Ben McBurnie explored the region from Cape Hillsborough to Pentecost Island and captured what they saw.

Opening | Friday 9 August | 6.30pm
Exhibition | Saturday 10 August - Tuesday 10 September

📍 88 Milton Street, Mackay | All ages free event

RSVP opening night attendance to shorty@miltonhouse.biz by Wednesday 31 July

→ miltonpictureframers.com.au

Photo art by Evan Macleod, Cape Hillsborough acrylic on polyester, 840 x 120



Daly Bay ILLUMINATE

ART, LIGHT AND CREATIVITY!

Get ready to experience the magic of Mackay this July! Mackay's beloved winter light display is back and better than ever in 2024! For four nights Queens Park will be transformed into a stunning showcase of art, light and creativity. As the sun sets, Daly Bay Illuminate will transcend Queens Park, highlighting its historic landmarks and natural beauty. Join us as Daly Bay Illuminate aims to captivate and reignite your sense of wonder.

Thursday 8 August - Sunday 11 August | 6.00pm

📍 Queens Park, Mackay | All ages free event



→ themecc.com.au/festivals

FEELING HUNGRY?

As you venture further into Queens Park, prepare to discover a delightful array of Festival delicacies that will tempt your taste buds. Each night, an assortment of foodie favourites will be waiting for you to savour. Stay updated on all the exciting announcements by following @mackayfestivals on social media. Get ready for a culinary adventure like no other!

BUBBLE LAB

Immerse yourself as 12,000 bubbles spring to life every minute, dancing and floating in perfect harmony. This visually stunning installation seamlessly blends the delicate beauty of bubbles, ensuring that laughter and excitement permeate the air! Across two shows each night, witness the joyous glow on children's faces and watch as adults rediscover the enchantment of their inner child.

FIRE TREES

Fire Trees brings the natural shape and beauty of a tree's form to life. Neon flex is installed along the length of the tree's branches. Waves of colour pulsates along the branch, enhancing the sense of wonder. Fire Trees can simulate a tree on fire, a world underwater or magical rainbow fairyland.

SPECKLED GUMS

Bringing ghostly gums and surrounding trees to life, the Speckled Gums transforms these natural wonders through the layering of rainbow colours bringing nocturnal life to a daytime's natural beauty.

RADIANT EARTHSCAPE

Step into the enchanting realm of "Radiant Earthscape", where the ground itself comes alive with a symphony of colours. Delicate tubes of moving lights rise from the earth, gracefully accentuating the contours of the landscape. As you wander through this luminous wonderland, be prepared to witness the ordinary transformed into the extraordinary.



HABITAT

Enter the Habitat, an underwater wonderland of imagined lifeforms. Touch, listen, look closely. Created from recycled materials, even the smallest rock has a secret to share.

DREAMSCAPE ARTISTS PRESENT INSECTARIUM

The Insectarium reveals the unseen inhabitants of our natural environment. The installation shines a light on the diversity and beauty of our local insects. Vital to the world's ecosystems, 41 per cent of global insect species have declined over the past decade.

MECC LIGHTING

Brought to you by our talented lighting team at the MECC, enjoy a whimsical journey through the park and enjoy bold flickers of colour connecting you from installation to installation. With the use of vivid colour palettes and patterns, explore the natural and historic features that are Queens Park.

EXPLORE OUR LOCAL *Businesses*

Immerse yourself in Mackay this Festival season! Explore what our vibrant Mackay City Centre and regional businesses have on offer between 24 June and 11 August. From discount deals to exciting offers on tasty treats, accommodation and local tours, this is a great time to explore and support our local businesses. Embrace the festivities and unlock a world of exclusive offers waiting to be savoured. Visit somewhere new or try an old favourite once more - your adventure awaits!

CITY HEART FESTIVAL PARTNERS

- Aligned Corporate Residences
- Bing's
- Bottletops and Brushes
- Coco Cubano
- Gelatissimo Mackay
- Masala Indian Cuisine
- Moss On Wood
- Rare
- Red Dog Riverfront
- Rydges Mackay Suites
- Sorbello's
- The Deli Nook
- The Real Korean
- Thursday Riverside Markets
- Wednesday Farmers Markets
- YAW
- 9th Lane Grind

REGIONAL FESTIVAL PARTNERS

- Mackay Adventure Tours
- Sarina Sugar Shed
- The Flackyard
- Vintage Kiss
- Whistlestop Cafe

Wanting to explore more of the region? Check out our festival itinerary filled with picturesque local highlights and hidden creative gems just waiting to be explored. From the river and reef to the rainforests and canefields, a trip to Mackay and its surrounding region promises an exciting adventure for all ages.

See the itinerary here → themecc.com.au/festivals



EXPLORE OUR LOCAL *Art and History*

Filled with charmingly decorated 1920s architecture and vibrant public artworks, Mackay's City Heart is the place to explore and appreciate. Take a self-guided tour using the online maps, or perhaps explore in a group setting. These online maps include images and descriptions to guide you on your adventure.



MACKAY PUBLIC ART WALK

Take an urban stroll and explore the iconic large scale public sculptures and painted laneway murals located throughout the Mackay City Centre and alongside the Pioneer River.



MACKAY LANE ART WALK

Enjoy this one hour circuit walk of the colourful artist murals that activate and brighten the city's urban laneways. The interactive artworks come to life using an app - a fun and exciting way to explore.



RON MCBURNIE ARTIST TRAIL

Inspire your own art making and follow the footsteps of artist Ron McBurnie. Explore the picturesque locations throughout the region which inspired Ron's solo exhibition: In Search of Arcadia.



MACKAY CITY AND WATERFRONT HERITAGE TRAIL

Step back in time and explore a range of sites and historical events that have shaped the city. Hear stories from locals, compare photos and footage from yesteryear and read about tales from the past.

PUBLIC ART AND MURAL TOURS

Artspace Mackay and Mackay Regional Council Libraries offer free monthly public tours. Explore, ask questions and find out more about the exciting new murals on display. Don't forget to register your spot on the tour!

See all tours here → themecc.com.au/festivals



How to BOOK

Ready to book your tickets?
Our friendly team are here to assist in getting the best seats in the house!

GIVE US A CALL OR VISIT THE BOX OFFICE

Book your tickets over the phone by calling (07) 4961 9777 or in-person at the MECC Box Office. If required, you can contact the MECC Box Office through the National Relay Service on 133 677.

📍 Alfred Street, Mackay

Box Office opening hours:

Monday to Friday, 9.00am-4.30pm
Saturday, 10.00am-1.00pm
Sunday, closed

HEAD TO OUR WEBSITE

Book your tickets online at themecc.com.au/festivals and advise of any accessible requirements at checkout or contact the event organiser directly.



Tickets are sold in accordance with the LPA Ticketing Code of Practice which can be accessed online at liveperformance.com.au.

Event details are correct at time of printing and are subject to change. Keep up to date with all event details at themecc.com.au/festivals

Accessibility ICONS

Look out for these icons in the guide to assist you navigate the shows.



WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE

Indicates access for people with limited mobility, including wheelchair users. Please contact the event organiser directly to book your seat and/or confirm details.



OUTDOOR ACCESS

Pathway is outdoors and may not be firm, level or obstacle free.



AUSLAN INTERPRETED EVENTS

Deaf Australian Sign Language (Auslan) interpreting provided.



AUDIO DESCRIPTION

Verbal narration.



ASSISTIVE LISTENING

Assistive listening systems (hearing loop) or portable system (hearing receivers) are available to amplify or enhance sound quality via hearing aids, headsets or other devices.



GUIDE DOGS AND ASSISTANCE ANIMALS

Guide dogs and assistance animals are welcome to all public venues.



COMPANION CARDS

Indicates that the provider is a Companion Card Affiliate.



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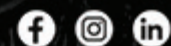


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