

MEDIA RELEASE

18 November 2019

Council pleased to present Festival of Summer youth festival in January

The excitement is building with plans underway for Gladstone Regional Council's Festival of Summer debut.

The week-long festival for 11 to 17-year-olds in the Gladstone Region, will launch from 12-18 January 2020.

Gladstone Region Mayor Matt Burnett said the festival was a refreshed approach to Council's superseded SUNfest event with the Gladstone Region Youth Council assisting in the development of the Festival of Summer in consultation with the region's youth.

"SUNfest has been a popular, annual event for our younger generations for about 20 years and initially started to provide low cost activities and opportunities for young people in the region," Councillor Burnett said.

"Following on from this success, Council has introduced modern elements to this concept which are appropriate to attract today's youth.

"Council is pleased to present Festival of Summer to our region, specially developed with our young residents in mind, to offer a fresh and fun approach to activities during the school holidays."

Cr Burnett said the week-long festival would include three signature youth inspired events.

Festival of Summer will kick-off with a free carnival-like Opening Festival at Millennium Esplanade, Tannum Sands on Sunday, 12 January from 11am-2pm.

There will be live music, festival food and fun activities including bungee run, rock climbing, beach activities and more.

"In line with being a festival for youth, young entrepreneurs will be invited to hold market stalls to showcase their creations, designs and talents," Cr Burnett said.

The event will be open to all ages and will promote Days of Summer, a showcase of activities to be held in the following week.

Activities on offer include full days of fun, exploring the region and enjoying activities for all areas of interest from outdoor activities to adventure, fashion, circus, theatre, music, art and more.

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The week-long festival will conclude with Festival of Summer Sounds, an outdoor concert at Gladstone's Marley Brown Oval for 13-17-year olds with a line-up of local talent and nationally and internationally acclaimed headline acts from 5pm-10pm on Saturday, 18 January.

Festival goers will be treated to an exclusive event for under 18s, with a young adult festival feel.

Food trucks and non-alcoholic bars will operate.

Tickets for Days of Summer activities and Festival of Summer Sounds outdoor concert will be on sale from 2 December at www.gladstoneentertainment.com

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