

MEDIA RELEASE

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Excitement builds with Festival of Summer fast approaching

Only three sleeps remain until Gladstone Regional Council's Festival of Summer launches at Tannum Sands on Sunday, 12 January.

The week-long festival is designed for 11 to 17-year-olds in the Gladstone Region and will be held from 12-18 January at various locations.

The fun begins with a free, all ages Opening Festival at Millennium Esplanade, Tannum Sands on 12 January from 11am-2pm.

It will feature live entertainment, market stalls from local young entrepreneurs, food vendors and free activities including laser tag, bouncy boxing, bouncy bull riding, rock climbing, bungee run, drama workshop and live painting.

Festival of Summer merchandise will be available to purchase on the day, as will tickets to other activities taking place throughout the week, which culminates in the Festival of Summer Sounds concert from 5pm-10pm at Marley Brown Oval on Saturday, 18 January.

Festival of Summer Sounds features Australian headline act E^AST and international sensation Mako Road, as well as support acts Will Hearn and Daryl James.

The concert is for 13 to 17-year-olds only and will have food trucks and non-alcoholic bars in operation, festival merchandise for sale and a chill-out zone offering concert goers a chance to relax with friends.

Tickets to the Festival of Summer Sounds concert cost \$30 each and are available from the Gladstone Entertainment Convention Centre (GECC) box office, online at www.gladstoneentertainment.com or by phoning (07) 4972 2822.

Gladstone Region Acting Mayor Rick Hansen said Festival of Summer has replaced the SUNfest program, originally initiated in 1998.

"Festival of Summer builds on the popular SUNfest concept but adds in modern elements and activities which best appeal to today's youth," Councillor Hansen said.

"The Gladstone Region Youth Council was called on during the planning process and they provided some great insight into what activities and events our young people would like to participate in.

"Activities include the popular adrenaline sports of laser skirmish and gel blasters, an Agnes Water beach day, a two-day modelling workshop, photography workshop, musical theatre and music video workshop, an arts day and much more.

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“Further details relating to cost, times and what to bring to each activity can be found on the GECC website.

“Spaces are limited so please book ahead to avoid disappointment.”

Prior to the Opening Festival on 12 January, Gladstone Regional Council will operate a pop-up stall at Stockland Gladstone from today until Saturday, 11 January.

The pop-up stall will have information on hand about Festival of Summer, as well as the ability to purchase tickets and merchandise.

An exclusive promotion will also take place for people who purchase tickets at the pop-up stall, as they'll go into a draw to win one of three Festival of Summer merchandise packs containing a t-shirt, water bottle and a hat or cap.

Winners of merchandise packs will be drawn on Monday, 13 January.

Visit www.gladstoneentertainment.com/fos for more information about Festival of Summer.

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