



Fringe Festival set to impress

by Mel Williamson

Think you know Nimbin? Join us later this month for the inaugural Nimbin Fringe Festival (Friday 30th October to Sunday 1st November) and discover that there is so much more to Nimbin.

This new spring festival is a multi-arts, multi-venue festival showcasing the incredibly rich seam of creative talents we have in Nimbin and the Northern Rivers, with a program of emerging and established artists almost exclusively from the Northern Rivers region.

There is something for everyone in the diverse program that includes music, dance performances, comedy, theatre, films, visual arts, spoken word, roving performers and more.

There will also be a dedicated youth stage that will host a skate competition, battle of the bands competition, music performances, and a silent disco.

And you don't want to miss the opening ceremony on Friday evening which includes a lantern parade, ending at the Rainbow Walk community park. There will be lantern decorating workshops held at the Nimbin Markets on Sunday October 25th, and also on the festival Friday (30th) in town ahead of the dusk parade.

Live music will be happening across four venues, with multiple genres taking you from soul stirring to toe tapping to ensure you will get up and boogie.

The line-up includes The Hussy Hicks, Hayley Grace & the Bay Collective, The Re-Mains, Human Dinosaur Machine, The Hoochers,

Juman & the Soulcentrix, k'Flunk, Boss Stomp, Skyeater, Ladi Abundance, Choosedays, Vital Mess, Shivam Rath, Jimmy Willing & the Real Gone Hick Ups and many, many more.

There will be films in another venue including environmental films, comedy shorts, dance shorts, First Nations films and Jasper Sharpe's second prize-winner at this year's Trop Fest.

After dark we go from film club to comedy club, hosted by Marty Bright and featuring Grace Hogan, Odette, Scott Fowler, Lucy Downey and more.

We will also have dance

performances ranging from cabaret to belly dance to contemporary dance. As well as theatre from the Nimbin Theatre Troupe and poetry and spoken word events.

There will also be an Arts Trail guiding you to visual artists on display at various businesses around the village, including a guide to non-street frontage murals to peruse.

And the Spirit Burrow down at the Bush Theatre will also be hosting live painting and workshops to unleash your creativity.

The annual Weave & Mend gathering is also being folded into the Fringe Festival, and will be located at the Community Centre

grounds, giving you a chance to explore and perhaps participate in this ancient art form and its continuing contemporary uses.

This festival is a volunteer community-led festival supporting the local Northern Rivers arts scene; and in keeping with Nimbin's commitment to environmental sustainability the nimBIN Chickens will be looking after waste management, and also showcasing some of their amazing recycled plastic products.

Being Nimbin, you can also expect the streets to be alive with roaming performers, buskers and some impromptu fun on the street.

A festival in a village is always so much fun. As well as the venue performances, the street surrounds will be full of colourful creativity and joy to get amongst as you move around the festival.

We have endeavoured to make this festival as affordable as possible, with full weekend, daily, and youth passes available; under 12's are free. You can volunteer too if things are a bit tight at the moment.

Camping is available at the Showgrounds, no bookings required. See our website for more info and cost.

Mark your calendars, bring your family, bring your friends and come on out and support this vibrant grassroots festival so it can become a yearly fixture on the spring calendar, because "There's so much more to Nimbin".

For tickets, artist profiles, full program, and volunteer applications, head to our website: nimbinfringe.com.au You can also find us on facebook and Instagram.

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