



Media Release

Monday 17 July 2023

Students Set to Shine at the 18th Annual Mulkadee Youth Arts Festival

More than 850 talented Catholic school students from across North Queensland converged at the Townsville Entertainment and Convention Centre this morning to kick off the highly anticipated Mulkadee Youth Arts Festival.

Now in its 18th year, this event stands as the pinnacle of artistic expression for young artists in Australia, offering a week-long program of immersive workshops led by local industry professionals.

Spanning various disciplines, the Mulkadee program boasts intensive workshops in Choir, led by the renowned Rachel Cairns; captivating dance choreography by the talented Jane Pirani; riveting Drama under the expert guidance of Arminelle Fleming and Theatre iNQ; enchanting strings conducted by Stephen Frewen-Lord; captivating Guitar sessions led by Andrew Veivers; dynamic Band performances conducted by Rianta Belford, and innovative Audiovisual Media workshops spearheaded by the creative minds of Kevin Whelan from Limitless Films and Luke Taylor from Taylor Creative.

Jacqui Francis, the Executive Director of Townsville Catholic Education, emphasised the profound impact of the Mulkadee Youth Arts Festival on students across the Diocese.

"Mulkadee is a unique learning experience for all involved, providing our students and teaching staff who have a passion for in arts to come together to collaborate, develop their skills, and create unforgettable opportunities.

"For many of the students from our rural and remote locations, the opportunity to workshop, rehearse and perform at a venue such as the Townsville Entertainment and Convention Centre is a unique experience in itself," said Jacqui.

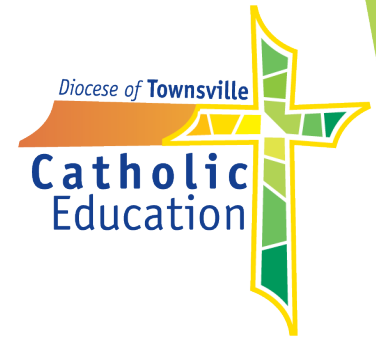
The weeklong festival will culminate in a performance on Friday night, when the students take the stage to perform a retelling of the beloved classic, Robin Hood.

Originally stemming from annual music camps held on Magnetic Island, the Mulkadee Youth Arts Festival has evolved to become an all-encompassing celebration of the arts. Recognising the need to enhance and expand the artistic offerings, Townsville Catholic Education transformed the event into a concert-style extravaganza, debuting in 2006 at the Riverway Arts Centre.

This year's Mulkadee Youth Arts Festival promises to be an unforgettable experience for all involved. The event has generated an overwhelming response, with tickets selling out within a week of their release, and almost 10 weeks before the festival. Townsville Catholic Education is livestreaming the event for the first time to ensure those who missed out can experience the performance. For more information and to purchase your ticket, visit: tsv.catholic.edu.au/mulkadee

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About Mulkadee Youth Arts Festival:

The Mulkadee Youth Arts Festival is an annual event organised by Townsville Catholic Education. It offers a week-long program of artistic workshops led by industry professionals, providing students from Catholic schools across North Queensland with a unique platform to develop their artistic talents and collaborate with peers. The festival culminates in a spectacular performance showcasing the students' creativity and skills.

Images:

Group photo of all the staff and students involved in Mulkadee 2023, taken by Cathy Friel. More than 850+ students and 100 staff – see attached.

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