



MAGICAL MULTI ARTS EVENING PLANNED FOR 2021 SONGS FOR PEACE

The 2021 **Songs for Peace** event will raise Roebourne up with a magical, multi-arts evening on September 18, celebrating joy, peace, living culture and the deep creative talent of the Roebourne community.

This year's Songs for Peace, now in its fourth annual iteration, will see the return of high profile artists who have developed long-lasting friendships with the community over the years, alongside some impressive newcomers. Performing for the first time in the Pilbara is young Indigenous soul/funk artist **Jay Jarome** who is flying in from Tasmania, and outstanding blues artist **Kankawa Nagarra** (Olive Knight) who hails from Wangkatjangka Community in the Kimberley and has performed alongside Hugh Jackman. **Lucky Oceans**, **Vikki Thorn (The Waifs)**, **Naomi Pigram**, **Aaron Hopper** and **David Hyams** return to Roebourne to share their artistry and knowledge and will perform with local artists **Tyson Mowarin**, **Dakota Tahi Tahi** and **Fred Ryan**, with more community artists joining in the coming days. All the music featuring on the evening is written and composed by Roebourne's talented local songwriters. This year's Songs for Peace will be an in-person event and also livestreamed, thanks to the support of Ngaarda Media.

Alongside Songs for Peace audiences can explore **Red Air Project**, a colourful, bold, light installation which pays homage to the spirit of the land. These large inflatables will create much intrigue in Roebourne, delighting all ages through blending of the old and the new. Red Air Project is a collaboration with Goldberg Aberline Studio and Yindjibarndi Artists Sharon and Kaye Warrie, and is supported by Ngarluma Yindjibarndi Foundation Limited.

This month in the lead up to Songs for Peace, Roebourne will be a hive of arts making activity and cultural exchange. **Bangarra Dance Theatre's** Rekindling program will be dancing up a storm, providing after school dance workshops for kids and working with young people to create a dance work in the lead up to Songs for Peace. Bangarra's Rekindling initiative inspires pride, kinship and a sense of strength in young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders through dance residencies. Songwriting and music workshops are a buzz for all ages. Young people are participating in lyric, beat making, recording and dance workshops, and very week new artists arrive in the Pilbara to share their music knowledge and craft with all members of the community. On Thursday evenings at sunset, community members will gather at the John Pat Peace Place for fire, music, stories and food from 6:30pm.

Music and songwriting workshops will also be at the Roebourne Regional Prison for male and female inmates. As part of the continuing 10 year inclusive community initiative, this year's program sees Kankawa Nagarra as the lead female artist running workshops with female inmates.

Songs for Peace builds on an incredible year of creativity, innovation and exchange for the Roebourne community. 2021 has seen young people mount an acclaimed photography exhibition at Cossack, the community wow a 3,000+ audience at Songs for Freedom in Perth, and in August launch NEO-Learning, a new learning platform for schools across Australia.

Songs for Peace is proudly supported by Ngarluma Yindjibarndi Foundation Limited, Mawarnkarra Health Service, Wirlu-murra Yindjibarndi Aboriginal Corporation, Roebourne District High School, Bangarra Dance Theatre, Ngaarda Media, PCYC, Yaandina Aged Care Services, the West Australian Police, Fortescue Metals Group, LotteryWest, the National Indigenous Australians Agency, Restore Hope Foundation, the Australian Government RISE Fund, the Government of Western Australia, The Tony Foundation, Telstra Foundation, and Ngarluma Aboriginal Corporation. Big hART also would like to acknowledge the generous support of the Blacket Family and Mr Paul Barnett.

Don't miss the 2021 Songs For Peace, a powerful and uplifting festive celebration of our local First Nations community whose talent is being recognised at a national level. All are welcome at this family-friendly event on Saturday 18th September, with food from 4:30pm and music from 5pm. Bring your family and friends and a picnic rug for an unforgettable night under the stars. You can also watch it from your home via the live stream on the Ngaarda Media Facebook page.

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Big hART focuses on what is strong, working with communities to make art, build community and drive change. Founded in 1992, Big hART is a charity which has worked in over 50 communities in urban, rural, regional and remote Australia and won over 45 awards.



All Media Enquiries to Big hART Media and Communications Manager Bettina Richter

E: bettina@bighart.org

M: 0414 441 860

W: bighart.org

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