

March 13, 2015

## News release > Arts events to boost economy

MACKAY'S City Centre will be alive with arts and culture next week with a trio of major events taking place.

From the Anywhere Festival to the Queensland Touring Showcase, Festival, Events and The Arts portfolio councillor Chris Bonanno said the events would inject an estimated \$225,000 into the local economy.

The Mackay Entertainment and Convention Centre will also host the Queensland and Northern Territory Theatre Manager's Conference on Wednesday, March 18.

"These events will bring around 200 performers and delegates to our region with many staying for at least three days."

"Many local businesses will benefit from this exciting week of activity from accommodation and restaurants to taxis and retailers."

Manager MECC and Events Mark Fawcett said he felt proud that the Mackay region had attracted such high-profile events.'

"It's wonderful to see Mackay as a destination being so well supported – delegates for both the Queensland Touring Showcase and Wednesday's conference are at all-time high."

Tickets are selling fast for the first weekend of Anywhere Festival with some shows including the Jazz Age Cabaret at The Dispensary already sold out.

The Anywhere Festival, which is supported by Isaac and Mackay Regional Councils, will feature more than 20 shows over the next 10 days (March 13-22).

Mr Fawcett said more than fourteen local businesses would host performances from Hair Asylum to the Mackay Grand Suites.

"The festival has attracted national media attention with SBS travelling out to Moranbah to film one of the unique shows."

For further information or tickets visit [www.anywherifest.com](http://www.anywherifest.com).

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