



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**THURSDAY 12 AUGUST 2004**

For immediate release

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### **Over 40 local community & school groups to perform at Kultura on Sunday August 15**

Following the success of last year, Kultura returns to the Darwin Festival with over 40 stellar performances and workshops by local schools and community groups. This is a chance for locals to join in, participate or simply sit back and enjoy the performances, music, dance and displays in the beautiful Botanic Gardens.

As part of Kultura, local group Pesona Indonesia, will present a colourful combination of music and dance showcasing traditional Indonesian culture. Numerous other community groups will also be participating and these include the Indian, Pacific and Torres Strait Islander, Bosnian, Cyprus, Brazilian, Mediterranean, Scottish, Irish, African, and Maori communities, along with local Indigenous group Larrakia Nation who will be performing and conducting workshops on the day.

Other workshops will include circus apparatus poi by First Light entertainment, Belly dance with Midnight Oasis and Jamelah Dancers, Sari tying with the Indian community and traditional artwork by Injalak Arts from the Gunbalanya region in Arnhem Land

“This unique gathering of emerging and established artisans from the Darwin community – along with the incredible music and food – is crucial to our effort to offer a complete presentation of the culture of Darwin,” said Festival Artistic Director Malcolm Blaylock

A number of local Darwin schools have also been involved in the Darwin Festival Kultura event through the Artists in Schools program, whereby local artists are engaged to work with schools towards creating something special to be presented at Kultura. This is a chance for school children to gain and enhance their artistic skills.

Local schools participating at this year’s Kultura include Sanderson High School, Parap Primary School, Alawa Primary School and Malak Primary School which recently won an award for their performance at ‘Wakakirri Story-Dance’, the performing arts event for primary and secondary schools.

Kultura is a free annual community and schools event of the Darwin Festival, and is being held in the Darwin Botanic Gardens on Sunday August 15, from 2pm.

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### **DARWIN FESTIVAL 2004 – 18 DAYS OF ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT**

For 18 days the Darwin Festival will light up the city and the Botanic Gardens in a colourful and powerful celebration of talent that will offer a feast of over 50 performances including music, dance, theatre, opera, ballet, film, interactive workshops and visual arts that incorporate the diverse culture of Darwin.

From the 12th to the 29th of August, locals and visitors will be able to enjoy activities and events from the Australian Central Teddy Bears’ Picnic, Kultura, and the Santos Concert on the Esplanade, to Sing Your Own Opera, the Xavier Rudd concert at the Gardens Amphitheatre, and Ross Wilson and the Urban Legends at the Star Shell - there really is something for everyone.

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The Festival is a celebration of Darwin and its unique lifestyle and multicultural population, with events chosen to focus on the unique traditions and cultures of the region. The Darwin Festival has something for everyone. It presents Darwin to the world and brings the world to Darwin.

**WHAT:** Darwin Festival 2004

**DATES:** Thursday 12 August – Sunday 29 August 2004

**VENUES:** The Star Shell and Amphitheatre at George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens, Darwin Entertainment Centre, Bicentennial Park and various other venues throughout Darwin.

**TICKETS:** Tickets are now on sale and can be purchased direct by phoning Darwin Entertainment Centre Booking Office on 08 8980 3333

**WEBSITE:** [www.darwinfestival.org.au](http://www.darwinfestival.org.au)

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