



WELCOME to the first issue of the Darwin Festival e-newsletter this is where you will hear the latest news and highlights throughout the festival. We invite you to join in the experience and immerse yourself in one of the most unique Festivals in one of the great tropical cities in the world!

NEW CHAIRMAN

The team at Darwin Festival is pleased to announce the appointment of a new Chairman: Mr Ian Prince. Mr Prince has replaced Mr Peter McQueen, who has completed a long and successful period as Chairman. We thank Mr McQueen for his magnificent work for the Darwin Festival.

NEW GENERAL MANAGER

We welcome Anne Dunn to the position of Festival General Manager. Anne brings a wealth of expertise and creativity to the Festival. She was with the UWA Perth International Arts Festival for three years as Program Manager and prior to that as Artistic Administrator. Previous to that Anne was Assistant Producer at the Sydney Opera House.

PROGRAM LAUNCH – July 11- 7.15pm George Brown Botanic Gardens

We launch this year's program in the evening at the Botanic Gardens and we can promise you a SPECTACULAR entrée into what is on offer this year. Artistic Director Malcolm Blaylock has put together a program that reflects the unique cultural mix that is Darwin as well as presenting the very best in national and international acts. We would love you to attend this launch if you can. If not, then check out the 2006 Darwin Festival program on the website July 12th.

OPENING NIGHT

The Festival's first major event is the FREE Santos Concert on the Esplanade and is set to be another fantastic night of top Indigenous music from around Australia. This event is one of the many FREE events and is a great start to the 2006 Darwin Festival. **Thursday 10th August 6pm.**

GROOVIN' THE MOO 10 BANDS 10 HOURS 26th August Amphitheatre Botanic Gardens

Early bird tickets for this event featuring Gomez, Youth Group, Augie March. The Drones, True Live, Ash Grunwald, The Mess Hall + DJ's and more are now on sale. Early Bird tickets \$53.50 includes booking fee. Contact: (08) 8980 3333 or www.groovinthemoo

UNIQUE INDIGENOUS PERFORMERS

For a matchless experience of Indigenous culture, the Festival will be featuring "Nine Nights of Indigenous Traditional Dance" held at the **Star Shell** in the Botanic Gardens. Embark on a spiritual journey with traditional dancers from the Tiwi Islands and the Arnhem Land coastal communities of Maningrida and Numbulwar who share their spiritual, cultural and artistic identity.

VOLUNTEER TO HELP

2006 Darwin Festival is calling for enthusiastic volunteers to ensure the smooth running of this year's amazing and diverse program of events, and a fantastic time for all – especially for volunteers, who'll receive free entry to the now - legendary Star Shell, outdoor performance venue, discounts in the Starlight Dining and a 2006 Darwin Festival t-shirt!

This is the biggest arts show in town, be a part of it, become a volunteer. Call Sean Kavanagh on 8981 0083 or email sean@darwinfestival.org.au to register now or register on line www.darwinfestival.org.au

Thank you again for your support and interest in the Festival and we hope to see you there!

The Darwin Festival Team

