Alice Springs’ Vibrant Cultural Centre Celebrates 25 Years

Alice Springs’ Araluen Arts Centre will mark 25 years of showcasing artistic expression and performance on Friday, June 19, and with celebrations continuing throughout the weekend.

To mark a quarter of a century of engaging Central Australians in arts activities across a broad spectrum, Araluen will this weekend host a Back to the Eighties series of events that will recall the music, dance and performances of the era in which the centre opened.

Araluen Arts Centre was opened to the public for the first time on June 19, 1984, by the then Governor General of Australia, the Right Honourable Sir Ninian Stephen.

Minister for Arts and Museums Alison Anderson congratulated the centre on its milestone, saying the facility had a proud record of putting on display for Central Australians high quality local and global dance, drama, art and film.

“This centre began as a community initiative by the Alice Springs people and has since grown and thrived to become a fantastic artistic and cultural heart for Central Australia,” Ms Anderson said.

“The precinct now boasts the Albert Namatjira Gallery, the Museum of Central Australia, Strehlow Research Centre, Central Australian Aviation Museum, Alice Springs Memorial Cemetery, Central Craft and Yeperenye Sculpture.

“It has hosted some amazing acts, shows and displays from around the world, as well as showing the community the talents of our own artists and performers, and allowing us to reflect on our culture and history.”

The program of events on the birthday weekend will include the cinema celebration Every Film Ever Made, showing in the Friday night, then on Saturday evening comedian Fiona Scott-Norman will take the audience through ten of the worst records of all time in The Needle and the Damage Done.

Alice Springs’ own The Chanflooizes will perform late into Saturday night, while Sunday will see the film Every Child is Special and a craft market.

For bookings, contact the Araluen Arts Centre on 8951 1122.

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