Barunga Festival celebrates 30 years of Indigenous culture

4 June 2015

The annual Barunga Festival is set to celebrate 30 years of art and music this weekend with performances by Paul Kelly, Gurrumul, Sammy Butcher and Neil Murray.

“The Barunga Festival has been an important celebration of Indigenous culture in the Northern Territory for 30 years and the Government is proud to support the event with funding of $120,000,” Chief Minister Adam Giles said.

“The festival draws in different communities and visitors from all walks of life and is an opportunity to see and share the joy of music, sport and culture – which are so important to life in our communities.”

Held over the Queen’s Birthday long weekend, the Barunga Festival will provide an opportunity to see some of the best bands and artists from the bush.

“The famous bush bands featured on Saturday night include the Lonely Boys, Mambali Band and Manuel Dhurrkay from Saltwater Band, while Sunday night’s headline acts Paul Kelly, Gurrumul, Sammy Butcher and Neil Murray.”

The Barunga culture program includes storytelling, weaving workshops, didgeridoo making and spear throwing. The sport program draws teams from across the Territory to battle it out in football, basketball and softball.

“This year’s event will also include the inaugural Road Safety Short Film competition with the best films up for $4000 in prize money,” Mr Giles said.

Tickets are available from moshtix.com.au until 5pm Thursday 4 June. Tickets cover the entire three-day festival. Adults are $40, Children (12–17) are $10 and children under 12 are free.

Gates open 10am Friday 5 June with final visitors to depart lunchtime Monday 8 June.

The Barunga Festival is part of the Government’s FestivalsNT calendar of arts, cultural, sporting and business events for all Territorians to enjoy.

The FestivalsNT Calendar of events can be found at: http://www.travelnt.com/en/events

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