



VOUCHERS UP FOR GRABS IN COVIDSAFE SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

While the DREAM Festival has been put on hold for another year, the Regional Events Team from Dubbo Regional Council (DRC) have busily been working behind-the-scenes to come up with some other COVIDSafe activities that families and the community can enjoy in the coming weeks. Kicking off just in time for the school holidays is the *How does your garden glow* competition, which aims to get people out into their front gardens decorating them and making them pretty for passers-by.

"Spring is here, and so are some beautiful gardens, so we want to see your imagination run wild! You can choose to make your front garden 'glow' in any way you want," said Dubbo Region Mayor Stephen Lawrence. "There are a number of categories and you can choose whether your garden can glow at night or during the day, so you could use your lanterns that would have been used in the DREAM Festival lantern parade to decorate the windows of your home, or maybe you're a bit of a green thumb and would rather show off your colourful flowers and

plants as part of the glowing display.”

There are multiple categories to enter, with \$2,000 worth of My Dubbo Region shopping cards up for grabs. The competition runs from 18 September – 4 October, and entry is simple: upload a pic to Facebook or Instagram, tag @DubboRegionEvents and include the hashtag #GardenGlow. Your entry must include 30 words explaining why it’s great to live and visit the Dubbo Region.

“This is a great way to get out and enjoy the fresh air, while also creating a bit of excitement for kids on school holidays and their parents who have been doing so well in their learn-from-home set up. Now the school holidays are here, and while we might be in lockdown, you can still go for a walk down the street for some exercise, while still following the NSW Public Health Orders, so how nice would it be to see all the beautifully decorated gardens?” said Councillor Lawrence.

In addition to the *How does your garden glow* competition, DRC is launching an initiative to help support local artists. The music industry has significantly been affected by the pandemic, with many artists losing their income due to the cancellation of events. The *Streaming Sets* initiative is being delivered in collaboration with Dubbo Regional Council, SOMAD, and the SPARC Cultural Development Plan. Artists from the Dubbo Region Local Government Area are eligible to apply for the opportunity, which pays artists \$120 for a 15-20 minute set. Artists can choose whether they would like to perform original music or cover songs.

“Streaming Sets is an excellent initiative from Dubbo Regional Council that not only provides a gigging opportunity to our local musicians who

have been unable to perform to an audience during lockdown, but also a chance for them to reach new listeners via Council's online channels and promotional support. Folks that are at home looking for fresh entertainment options can tune in and discover what our local music scene has to offer,” said President of SOMAD Fred Randell.

Expressions of interest are open now, and will launch on Friday 24 September. For full terms and conditions, and to apply, visit the Dubbo Region Events Hub.

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