## **News Release**

## Minister Zoe Bettison

Minister for Communities and Social Inclusion

Minister for Social Housing

Minister for Multicultural Affairs

Minister for Ageing

Minister for Youth

Minister for Volunteers

Minister for Veterans' Affairs



## Minister Geoff Brock

Minister for Regional Development Minister for Local Government

Friday, 4 April, 2014

## National Youth Week set to rock regional South Australia

Today's launch of National Youth Week 2014 marks the start of seven days of performances and activities organised by young people from across South Australia.

Youth Minister Zoe Bettison says regional South Australia will again play a major part in Youth Week with dozens of events planned in the Riverland, Mid North, Eyre Peninsula and throughout the state.

"From exotic cooking classes in Streaky Bay to footy clinics in Oodnadatta and a battle of the bands in Murray Bridge – there is a lot on offer in regional South Australia," Ms Bettison said.

"Every year young people from country towns across the state really get behind this event and this year is no different."

Ms Bettison said this year's Youth Week theme, *Our Voice, Our Impact*, is designed to inspire young South Australians.

"Youth Week provides a great opportunity for young people to share ideas, attend live events and celebrate their contribution to the community," Ms Bettison said.

"We want as many young people as possible to take part in one of the many events that have been organised for them by their peers.

"In all, 50 agencies have received a total of \$144,000 in funding to run almost 100 events and activities throughout metropolitan and regional South Australia.

"Most importantly, Youth Week provides young people an opportunity to showcase their talents, contributions and achievements, as well as providing a medium to share ideas and have their voices heard."

Minister for Regional Development Geoff Brock says Youth Week events help connect young people from isolated parts of the state.

"While young people everywhere enjoy this great event it is particularly welcomed in our regions where there is not always the variety of entertainment that is on offer in the city," Mr Brock said.

"And judging by the range of activities on offer, it really shows kids in regional South Australia are an eclectic and creative bunch."

More than 1000 young people are expected to attend tonight's official National Youth Week 2014 launch at the Northern Sound System in Elizabeth.

As part of the launch, this year's National Youth Week young member, Beau Brug, will open nominations for next year's young member. This person will act as a media spokesperson and help to plan and promote events for National Youth Week in 2015.

National Youth Week celebrates the contributions, diversity, achievements and views of young Australians. It also supports their participation in a range of activities and events, including:

- SLAM (Sound, Light, Art and Music) the National Youth Week state launch at Northern Sound System in Elizabeth will feature live music, aerosol art battles, food vans, a 'mega skate comp' and a silent disco
- **Sprout Cooking Classes** with Callum Hann from Masterchef and Themis Chryssidis hosting cooking classes at Booleroo Centre and Karoonda
- Light It Up! -- late night shopping at Glenelg will take on a new life with animated artworks created by young people projected onto buildings on Jetty Road
- **GumaROCKa!** the Adelaide Hills' biggest annual Youth Festival, featuring regional youth bands, hip-hop dancing, skating and spray-painting workshops
- Youth Week Xtreme at the Elliston foreshore which will include Xtreme kites, paddle boarding, sumo suit wrestling, kiteboard training and electric skateboards
- Port Adelaide Power Football Clinics at Leigh Creek, Marree and Oodnadatta, as well as barbeques, trophy presentations and player talks on health and wellbeing
- Battle of the Beats at Port Augusta where local bands, dance groups and solo artists aged 12-25 years will compete for prizes
- Colour, Dash and Dance -- an afternoon of messy fun at Jamestown as local young people dressed in white dash along a course full of explosive colour, followed by a barbeque and performances by local DJs
- Fun in the Park which involves young people taking over the centre of Gawler to host a celebration featuring diverse performances, arts and activities and an outdoor cinema screening short films by local young film makers.

For the full National Youth Week program visit www.officeforyouth.sa.gov.au/programs/national-youth-week

Media contact: Jason Gillick 0417 152 137