



# Media Release

11 April 2018

## **Shimmering skies theme for Cockburn Youth Festival**

An ancient Nyungar creation story about the origins of our clear, shimmering skies has inspired the theme for the City of Cockburn's home grown Youth Week WA 2018 festival.

The Illuminate Festival – Djoondal Djoomba (Nyungar for shimmering skies) will be held at Coogee Beach Surf Life Saving Club 12pm-4pm on Saturday, 21 April.

Organised and delivered by several young people from Cockburn with support from Cockburn Youth Services, the free festive event will shine a positive light on the bright future of our youth, including mental and physical health.

Youth Development Officer Gemma McDonald said the youth event had been organised by a diverse group of about seven local teenagers, giving an authentic Cockburn flavour.

Volunteer organiser Alyson Godden said she jumped on board the project because she was keen to get more involved in community events.

"I really wanted to step up my leadership and have better teamwork skills, and this was the perfect opportunity," Alyson said.

Murdoch University Hospitality and Tourism Management student Breeanna Ross is volunteer Event Manager for Illuminate.

"I have been volunteering since I was in high school," Breeanna said.

"This experience has shown me the work required for a job that is similar to what I hope to do in the future. It's been really rewarding."

Djoondal Djoomba will kick off with an Acknowledgment of Country by well-known young Nyungar didgeridoo musician Tim Kelly, followed by a full program of active, artistic, musical and creative pursuits.



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Creative workshops will include tie-dye t-shirts, Dreamtime animal sculpting, decorating a bunting installation, performances by Lakelands SHS music students, Aboriginal dancers, Cockburn's Got Talent finalists, and the Burundi Peace Choir, plus live DJ sets, three-on-three streetball comps and beach volleyball.

Information stalls will feature local support services and sports clubs including Coogee Beach SLSC, a local water polo team, AIME, YEP crew, Youthreach South and Headspace Fremantle.

Food trucks, including Mexican and Middle Eastern options, plus ice cream, will be available to purchase snacks and refreshments.

This free Youth Week WA 2018 event is a partnership between the City, Coogee Beach SLSC and Alcoa.

To find out more, visit [Cockburn.wa.gov.au/youthservices](http://Cockburn.wa.gov.au/youthservices) or call 08 9411 3882.

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