



Garma

29 July - 1 August 2022

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YOUTH SET TO TAKE CENTRE STAGE AT GARMA 2022

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The Yothu Yindi Foundation is inviting schools across Australia to participate in the Youth Forum at this year's Garma Festival, as the spotlight focusses on the next generation of young Indigenous people.

YYF CEO Denise Bowden said the theme for the 22nd annual Garma - 'Nhangá Ngathilyurra', a Yolngu phrase which means to 'look ahead', or 'look toward the future' – reflected the Foundation's work to improve educational and other outcomes for Yolngu youth.

"There is an incredible movement for change among our young people which is gaining momentum in our region and throughout the nation," Mrs Bowden said.

"They are proud, capable, and bold in their thinking, and carry within them a burning desire to change the status quo.

"The Youth Forum taps into that enthusiasm and positivity, and encourages them to dream big and realise there are no limits to what they can achieve."

The 22nd annual Garma Festival will take place between Friday 29 July – Monday 1 August at the Gulkula ceremonial grounds in northeast Arnhem Land, on the Gove peninsula in the NT.

Mrs Bowden said the Youth Forum – sponsored by CSIRO - was a like a mini-Garma within the main festival, with students of all ages from schools across Australia coming together with students from local and regional schools.

"The Youth Forums opens with a Yolngu Rapirri Rom smoking ceremony which acts to cleanse the spirit and create a safe and welcoming passage for all our participants," Mrs Bowden said.

“What follows is four days of fun and activities, and a program that is jam-packed with diverse workshops aimed at developing their leadership skills and introducing them to the beauty and sophistication of Yolngu culture.

“The Youth Forum will facilitate a deep dive into the Garma theme while touching on digital journalism, science, song, language, dance and more. It’s a forum for sharing ideas and knowledge, and a place where life-long friendships are formed.”

Tickets for this year’s Garma are selling fast, and can be purchased on the Sticky Tickets website by searching for Garma Festival.

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