



MEDIA RELEASE
Monday, 6 March, 2017

Twilight party has families dancing in the street

Families will be dancing in the street when the curtain goes up on the city's biggest community festival at the Marion Cultural Centre plaza at 4pm on Saturday, March 25.

Marion Celebrates has been revamped as a free twilight street party featuring multicultural music and dance, food trucks, a community art project, open air market, and entertainment for kids.

The newly released program shows the sound of Latin rhythms, Flamenco guitar, traditional Indonesian dance, choirs and a brass band will be the highlights of a five-hour stage show.

Festival goers will get a close up view of unicycle tricks, eye popping contortions and magic.

Mayor Kris Hanna said the new look festival would bring people of all ages and cultures together.

"*Marion Celebrates* combines multicultural music, art and entertainment to create an exciting and unique experience for families," Mr Hanna said.

"People will be able to dance, sing, buy locally made artworks and crafts, and enjoy food from around the world.

"I invite the community to join in the party."

Activities will be held in and around the Marion Cultural Centre plaza and the adjacent Warracowie Way, which will be closed to traffic.

Headline act, *The Wholias*, are a seven-piece band that blend Latin, funk and rock while performing a mix of original songs and covers in Spanish, Portuguese and English.

The group, who have played in front of crowds of up to 15,000 and were a hit at last year's Adelaide Fringe, are looking forward to their *Marion Celebrates* debut, singer Roberto Garcia said.

"We can't wait to bring our music, which is about energy, people and the integration of cultures, to *Marion Celebrates*," Mr Garcia said.

"Adults and kids should get ready for lots of out of control dancing."

The Wholias will perform on the main stage in the Marion Cultural Centre plaza from 7.30pm.

Visitors will also see street performers, including internationally-renowned magician, escapologist and contortionist Malachi Frost who will attempt to beat Harry Houdini's 100-year-old record for the straightjacket and chain escape.

Contact: Craig Clarke, Unit Manager Communications, City of Marion, 0434 600 637



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There will be a pop up bar selling boutique beers and wines

Free parking is available at Westfield Marion.

This will be the 10th *Marion Celebrates*, and the first time it has been held at the Marion Cultural Centre since 2007.

The biennial festival was last held at Warriparinga and has been relocated to accommodate for the \$620 million Darlington Upgrade Project.

Marion Celebrates will be held at the Marion Cultural Centre plaza, 287 Diagonal Rd, Oaklands Park, from 4pm to 9pm on Saturday, March 25.

Marion Celebrates is an initiative of the City of Marion and is sponsored by Messenger Community Newspapers and SOLO Resource Recovery.

More information is available at marion.sa.gov.au/marion-celebrates

Photo opportunity: Performers in costumes at the Marion Cultural Centre.

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