

Lauren Moss

Minister for Tourism and Culture



Media Release

## Revitalising Darwin CBD and Creating Jobs: Street Art Festival returns bigger and bolder

8 August 2018

Darwin streetscapes will transform in September as national and international artists collaborate with local artists for the second annual Darwin Street Art Festival.

It's part of the Territory Labor Government's plan to transform and revitalise the Darwin CBD, to create jobs, retail opportunities and increase visitation.

Funding for the 2018 Darwin Street Art Festival is through the Territory Labor Government's record \$103 million *Turbocharging Tourism* stimulus package to attract more holiday visitors, create local jobs and put more money into the pockets of Territorians.

The inaugural Darwin Street Art Festival was held in October 2017 when eight walls were transformed into artworks that captured the interest and imagination of Territorians and visitors alike.

The 2018 Darwin Street Art Festival will expand on the success of last year's event with 14 walls to be completed across the CBD, with a focus on Austin and West Lanes.

Held from 6 to 16 September, celebrating the theme 'Territory Stories', the Festival will again provide opportunities for local street artists to work with national artists and collaborate on creative designs with a unique Territorian perspective.

Over the ten day festival, activities including children's workshops will be held to encourage people into the CBD to watch the artwork evolve and explore the retail and hospitality options available.

This year's festival will be delivered by Proper Creative and Apparition Media.

Local artists are encouraged to participate in the program and partner with visiting artists.

Expressions of interest from local artists will be open from 8 to 17 August 2018 through the festival website <https://www.darwinstreetartfestival.com.au/apply-now>.

Submissions must include a sketch and 100 word explanation of how their artwork relates to the festival theme – Territory Stories.

### Quotes from Minister for Tourism and Culture, Lauren Moss

"Through the *Turbocharging Tourism* stimulus package, the Territory Labor Government is activating and transforming the Darwin CBD into a world-class tourist and cultural destination.

"The festival will create a sense of vibrancy and purpose within the Darwin CBD that in turn creates business opportunities and local jobs, and increases visitation.

"We are very excited to see the work of the talented artists taking part in the program.

“It’s a great opportunity for local artists to increase their skills and experience working on a Festival of this scale, as it’s important to build our capability and showcase the amazing artists that live in the Territory.”

**Quotes from David Collins, Proper Creative, Darwin**

“The public can expect the festival to be bigger and better this year.

“The response to last year’s festival was incredibly positive – it created a new level of energy and vibrancy in the CBD.

“This year we’re taking it to the next level – it will be amazing.”

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