

Exciting line up unveiled for FUSION BOTANICAL 2024

From culture to cuisine, there is so much to enjoy at the city's sprawling Botanic Gardens Precinct on Saturday 19 October.

Headlining FUSION BOTANICAL multicultural festival are *MOWGLI (DJ SET)* (Perth/Boorloo), *Packing Dhaka* (Sydney/Eora), *Chikchika* (Melbourne/Naarm).

These unique Australian artists will bring an eclectic mix of beats and genres to the Brolga Pond stage on Saturday 19 October, kicking off at 4pm.

Wagga Wagga City Council's Director Community Janice Summerhayes said FUSION BOTANICAL has grown to be one of the city's biggest outdoor events, with thousands of residents and visitors from across the region and beyond soaking up the sights and sounds on offer.

"We've curated an exciting and eclectic line-up with some of the country's most creative and talented artists," Ms Summerhayes said.

"Along with our headline and support acts, there will be a mix of other entertainment including our amazing community performers, Mending People: Cross-cultural Textile Project, giant lawn games, Bike Canteen DIY bike repair workshops, and a large-scale temporary public art installation."

Multicultural Council of Wagga Wagga's CEO Belinda Crain says there will be plenty of tasty treats on offer to tempt the taste buds of festivalgoers.

"You will want to arrive hungry at FUSION BOTANICAL, with more than 20 traditional street food and drink vendors operating in the much-loved World Food Village," Ms Crain said.

"The full details will be announced in coming weeks."

Try authentic street food, soak up the festival atmosphere and dance to upbeat culturally diverse live music and a DJ set at FUSION BOTANICAL in the Wagga Wagga Botanic Gardens Precinct, Macleay Street on Wiradyuri Ngurambang (Country) from 4pm to 9pm on Saturday 19 October.

To discover more about this year's festival, visit www.wagga.nsw.gov.au/fusion or follow FUSION Multicultural Festival on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

FUSION BOTANICAL is presented and funded by Wagga Wagga City Council and supported by cultural partner the Multicultural Council of Wagga Wagga.

FUSION BOTANICAL HEADLINE ACT

MOWGLI (DJ SET)

GRIME | BASS | BAILE FUNK

Piloted by his genre versatility and faultless track selection, it has become clear that MOWGLI has solidified his status as a dancefloor powerhouse.

His ability to fuse his cultural influences with global club sounds has allowed him to cross over from a regular club DJ to a recognised name nationally and beyond.

In 2023, MOWGLI completed his debut Australian tour, where he took his sounds to the iconic Splendour In The Grass Festival, as well as headline sets at Section 8 in Melbourne and One22 in Canberra. His sets also took him across the oceans with shows at Club HYPE in Argentina, Boxout in India and Rumble in Bali.

IN 2024, MOWGLI jetted overseas for his first Asia Tour, playing nine shows across India, Malaysia and Indonesia.

As a co-founder of KERFEW, he actively promotes and uplifts South Asian creatives throughout Australia. MOWGLI's leadership extends to HIVE, an event brand renowned for its high energy shows featuring global club selectors like Jyoty, Jael and DJ Habibeats.

Moreover, MOWGLI shares his exceptional music taste on his own online radio show, MASHD*UP on AREA3000. He is now gearing up to announce another Australian Tour, while staying busy with his projects, as well as releasing a collection of original music and edits.

Triple J: <https://www.abc.net.au/triplej/programs/mix-up/mowgli-djset/103223044>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/mowglithedj/>

Soundcloud: <https://soundcloud.com/mowglithedj>

SUPPORT ACTS

Packing Dhaka

FUNK | JAZZ | INDIE ROCK

Packing Dhaka is an Australian/Bangladeshi band consisting of five musicians from Sydney blending funk grooves, psych rock, catchy hooks and a pinch of jazz harmony to deliver a unique package of indie/rock.

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/packingdhaka/?hl=en>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ijS38npeoag>

Chikchika

SPELLBINDING | TRANSFIXING | HYPNOTIC

Chikchika features renowned Oromo singer-songwriter Muluu Baqqalaa with Tigrinya vocalists Anbessa Gebrehiwot and Haftu Reda. Accompanied by traditional Eritrean and Ethiopian stringed instruments, the krar and masinko, Chikchika weave important stories of culture, love and peace into percussion-heavy and up-tempo tunes. Multi-instrumentalist Dale Gorfinkel, and Michael McNab on the drum kit round out this new voice in Australian music.

In recent years Chikchika have been captivating crowds at prominent music festivals, such as Dark Mofo, WOMADelaide, Leaps & Bounds, and Brunswick Music Festival, while also performing at iconic Melbourne venues including Forum Melbourne, Howler and Tramway Hotel.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/chikchikaband/>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ol8FOU8YxnA>

Bandcamp: <https://chikchikaband.bandcamp.com>

ENTERTAINMENT

Giant Loose Parts Play

MAGIC | INSPIRATION | ADVENTURE

What happens when you lay out an eclectic range of versatile reuse materials such as cardboard drums, banners and cones for kids to play with? Magic, inspiration and problem solving!

Welcome to Reverse Garbage's Giant Loose Parts Play - an outdoor exploration of creativity and adventure.

Children are presented with a kit of open-ended items which can be moved, carried, combined, redesigned, lined up, and taken apart and put back together in countless ways. No prescribed play and limited rules mean that imaginations can run wild in the ultimate kid's creative play experience.

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/reversegarbage/>

Web: <https://reversegarbage.org.au/>

ABOUT REVERSE GARBAGE

Reverse Garbage is Australia's largest creative reuse centre, established in 1975 by a group of teachers and community workers determined to ease pressure on the environment.

Every year we save over 260 tonnes of valuable resources from languishing in landfill and educate over 16,000 people on the important of reuse, and we achieve all this as a self-funded not-for-profit charity.

Bike Canteen DIY Repair Workshops

CHECK | ADJUST | REPAIR

Jumping on your bike can be an easy way to factor out paying for petrol, parking, or public transport, but sometimes it needs a little DIY love to keep it in tip-top order.

Tom Lemerle established the Bike Canteen, a Wagga-based volunteer run not-for-profit community group which promotes bicycle riding. He says knowing how to do simple repairs yourself can be empowering, and help you get even more joy out of your bike.

Community members of all ages, abilities and backgrounds can take part in the following hands-on Bike Canteen DIY repair workshops:

- How to keep bike chains clean and rust free
- How to check, adjust and repair brakes
- How to fix a flat punctured tyre
- How-to pump-up bike tyres

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/the_bike_canteen/

Web: <https://www.thebikecanteen.au/>

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Contact 6926 9190 or media@wagga.nsw.gov.au

About Wagga Wagga City Council

Wagga Wagga City Council serves more than 68,000 residents across an area of 4825 square kilometres with an overall budget of \$240 million.

The organisation manages more than \$2.48 billion in assets, including a 2300km road network, Wagga Wagga Airport, Livestock Marketing Centre, and the Oasis Aquatic Centre.

Council also provides important community facilities such as Wagga Wagga Art Gallery, Wagga Wagga City Library, Museum of the Riverina, and Civic Theatre, as well as maintaining countless parks, playgrounds, and sporting facilities to ensure Wagga maintains its reputation as 'the City of Good Sports'.

Keep updated on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).