



Little Unity celebrates children

The [Unity FESTIVAL](#) on 22 October, at the historic Murwillumbah Showground is a rich, colourful and culturally engaging experience for adults and children. Within the festival, **Little Unity**, a dedicated children's space, is offering a range of engaging and interactive FREE art and music workshops culminating in a main performance activity.

Children are being invited to make and decorate their own colourful Vietnamese hat using a range of recycled materials and help with final decorations of a seven meter Chinese Dragon. The dragon, made by the Trashformers will then enter the main festival arena at 5.30pm, accompanied by the children. Parents are encouraged to stay to witness the dragon parade and celebrate their children's contribution to the festival.

Little Unity is an integral part of the Unity FESTIVAL program. According to project manager, Kerry Turner, "A goal of this festival is to be family focused and affordable to all. **Little Unity** is designed to stimulate the minds of our younger audience in an interactive and engaging way. We show children how to transform everyday things that we toss in the bin". To help them, they have employed Puma and Maya more commonly known as the Trashformers, who design and create art forms made entirely with recycled materials.

Children will be guided in art workshops as well as participate in an interactive performance with the Curly Cousins, witness the bendy bodies from Hoopla circus, have their face painted and join in a musical montage with Mira and her accordion, bells and whistles. Little Unity is sponsored by YWCA Murwillumbah Communities for Children and all activities are free of charge. In addition, children under 16 are free to enter the festival if accompanied by an adult. "Little Unity acknowledges and celebrates our children," said Ms Turner.

Unity FESTIVAL is a celebration of Tweed and Byron's creative culturally infused arts and food industries. The festival kicks off at 12noon with a special opening ceremony and culminates at 10pm after headline act, 7 piece Middle Eastern organic dance band, Ali Baba. From world music and dance to global food, stores and wares, Unity has something for every age. Tickets are \$20 online or \$25 at the gate, concession \$10. Tickets are also available at selected outlets. See www.unityfestival.com.au for details.

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