

DANCENORTH'S *DANCE TROPICS DANCE* RETURNS FOR FOURTH ANNUAL EVENT



Townsville's favourite dance party under the stars, *Dance Tropics Dance*, is back for a fourth edition in an epic celebration of dance, music, and community.

Image: Amber Haines

With live music from the 1RAR Rock Band, the event will showcase performances from the Dancenorth Community Experience program and award-winning Dancenorth Ensemble.

Audiences are invited to get into the groove and join the Dancenorth team on Townsville's most inclusive dancefloor as they lead everyone in fun, easy, feel-good movement.

Dancenorth Community Experience Manager **Alice Lee Holland** said the event is about engaging the local community through the universal language of dance in an accessible, fun, and family friendly way.

"As well as Dancenorth's professional ensemble, performances at *Dance Tropics Dance* showcase Dancenorth's wide range of community open classes. Groups include people of all ages and ability levels, showcasing that dance is truly accessible to any and all bodies. In 2021, the program features performers from our Vital Dance program – who are people affected by Parkinson's Disease, as well as performers from our regular classes at local disability service organisation Kith and Kin."

FOR ALL MEDIA ENQUIRIES

Matthew Higgins

Dancenorth

P: +61 408 880 436

E:

matthew@dancenorth.com.au

"We are thrilled to be partnering once again with the 1RAR Band, who we've worked together to pull together an epic set list of classic party starters, covering the likes of James Brown, Nina Simone, Amy Winehouse, Queen and Spandau Ballet."

The first *Dance Tropics Dance* took place in 2017 and has evolved to incorporate the element of participation that brings the local community and the world-class Dancenorth ensemble together, to dance in the most joyful, liberating way.

"After the performances it's time to bust a move with new friends and lost yourself to dance, as Dancenorth leads you in some fun, easy, feel-good movement. Don't fret if you think you've got two left feet - there are no wrong moves. It's about experiencing the freedom and joy of movement, rather than getting steps right."

Attendees are encouraged to bring a chair and picnic blanket, enjoy food from the Blak Arts Markets and grab a drink from the bar.

Dancenorth Company Producer Eloise Grace said the celebration of dance is held at the perfect time of year, inviting Townsville to gather under the stars and take advantage of North Queensland's unique winter weather.

"There is a lovely picnic-style feel to the event, making it a comfortable evening to spend out with family and friends."

"For the first time in its four year history, *Dance Tropics Dance* is free to attend, thanks to the generous support from Townsville City Council. Over 1000 people attended in 2019, and we hope they all come again and bring a friend to make this dance party go off!"

Townsville City Council Community and Cultural Development committee chairperson Ann-Maree Greaney said the event not only showcased the city's vibrant arts and culture community, but demonstrated how the arts connect and uplift people, build social cohesion, promote inclusion, and stimulate the economy.

"Council has worked hard to establish Townsville as the arts and culture capital of northern Australia, and helping foster and enhance Dancenorth's exceptional national and international artistic reputation is part of our strategy. Townsville City Council is proud to support local community arts projects such as *Dance Tropics Dance* that connect and uplift community through innovative and exciting arts experiences."

The fourth annual *Dance Tropics Dance* event will be held on Saturday 28 August at the Jezzine Barracks Precinct, with gates opening at 5pm. Tickets are free via dancenorth.com.au/dance-tropics-dance

// ENDS

ABOUT DANCENORTH AUSTRALIA

As a major champion of the arts in regional North Queensland, Dancenorth Australia balances a dynamic regional presence with a commitment to creating compelling contemporary dance that tours the globe.

Dancenorth is one of Australia's leading contemporary dance companies having presented work in over 40 International Arts Festivals and venues around Australia and the world and is an integral part of the Australian dance ecology making a significant contribution to the dance sector and building literacy around contemporary dance nationally.

Dancenorth empowers and supports artists by providing a creative hub for many artistic voices including a diverse range of choreographers, guest collaborators, artists in residence and dancers.

Alongside the professional ensemble and touring productions sits an equally vital pillar of focus: Community Experience. Driven by a dedicated team, Dancenorth works with diverse and minority communities across Queensland using dance to support, enhance, inspire and heal - bringing communities together.

FOR ALL MEDIA ENQUIRIES

Matthew Higgins

Dancenorth

P: +61 408 880 436

E: matthew@dancenorth.com.au

Website www.dancenorth.com.au

Facebook [@dancenorthaus](https://www.facebook.com/dancenorthaus)

Instagram [@dancenorthaustralia](https://www.instagram.com/dancenorthaustralia)
