



18 March 2016

For immediate release

Media Release: And the winners of this year's Young Songwriters Competition are...

The 2016 Young Songwriters Competition run in partnership with **headspace** Lismore and the Northern Rivers Social Development Council, supported by Lismore City Council, has once again revealed the incredible talent of young songwriters in the Northern Rivers region. Spectators watched 12 performances by this year's finalists at SCU's The Deck as they eagerly awaited the announcements of this year's winners. And the winners are...

2016 Young Songwriter of the Year Award Winners

Female Young Songwriter of the Year - Hannah Parrington

Male Young Songwriter of the Year - AKA Lui

Rock Indie Winner - The Tripps

Runner Up - Schmochsky & Oscy

Highly Commended - Melted Couch

Urban/Electronic Winner - AKA Lui

Runner Up - Cloudsmith

Highly Commended - Moscri\$ & The Wrecking Crue (Jackson Reid)

Folk Winner - Jade Rushwood

Runner Up - Mez Batterham

Highly Commended - Sam Handford

Punk/Metal Winner - Ethan Reilly



Runner Up - The Tripps

Pop Winner - Hannah Parrington

Runner Up - Ooga Steam

Highly Commended - Tamra Degotardi

“This competition has incredible local support from organisations who every year are generous with their sponsorship, and who make this competition possible” says NRSDC Organiser, Deb Hall. “Our amazing judges who donate their time each year, Darren Bridge, Teddy Rhodes, Luke Vassella and Sarah Jane Loxton, give the competition participants their professional expertise and support a great platform from which to launch a musical career” says Deb.

This year a mentoring workshop was held for all finalists to learn techniques for stage, performance, set up and sound check. The YWCA Youth Leadership team and Ben Wilson, Male Young Songwriter winner 2013, provided support and mentoring to the finalists at the workshop and during the event.

“We are hoping to continually expand the competition to become an event over a week, with lead in workshops on performance, stage management and sound engineering. This provides so much more opportunity for young people to be involved in all aspects of event planning” says Deb.

“This year our male and female songwriters of the year, Hannah Parrington and AKA Lui, were given the opportunity of playing at CRANKFEST at the weekend which by all accounts was sensational. This competition can only get more exciting!” says Deb.

“The talent of local young people is inspiring and we're humbled by the support the community provides in order to make the Young Songwriters Competition a success. The opportunity young people have to win prizes such as studio recording time is made possible by the generosity of SAE Byron Bay, Southern Cross University Lismore, and LoveStreet Studios in Currumbin. The competition is only going to grow in the years to come and we'd encourage any young musician/songwriter to submit an entry in 2017. Previous winners have included Grace Hughes and Ben Wilson, both of whom have gone on to achieve success in the music industry” says **headspace** Lismore organiser Tanya Jackson

Images please source: Paul Tuthill Photography.

Female Young Songwriter of the Year - Hannah Parrington with Mayor Jenny Dowell.

Male Young Songwriter of the Year - AKA Lui with Mayor Jenny Dowell.



For more information phone Deb Hall on P. (02) 6620 1800 or like us on Facebook at Lismore Young Songwriters or go to <http://nrsrc.org.au/lismore-young-songwriters-awards/>

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Northern Rivers Social Development Council (NRSDC)

A community-based not-for-profit organisation that promotes fairness and social inclusion in the Northern Rivers region of NSW.

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