

MEDIA RELEASE  
Monday 25 March 2019



## The “happiest day in Swan Hill”



Image by Amanda Gibson. Swan Hill Harmony Day.

**Swan Hill** celebrates ten years of the multicultural celebration **Harmony Day** on **30 March 2019**.

Swan Hill Harmony Day is an event bringing together the huge diversity of migrants in the region through cultural demonstrations, food tastings, and creative practices, speaking volumes to the growth of community led festivals as a trend in regional and remote in Victoria.

*“A little bit of passion goes a long way when it comes to our communities!”* says Kim Bennett, Regional Arts Victoria’s Creative Arts Facilitator for the region.

*“This event began as a brief comment at the end of a meeting, ten years ago. An idea that gained momentum and volunteers along the way. Since our first event in 2010 Harmony Day has charted the ebb and flow of our cultural communities arriving in Swan Hill and provides a place to learn about each other.”*

In 2010, the event celebrated new migrants to the region, and in 2019 is still led by migrants in a powerful demonstration of self-determination.

*“We look to our Creative Arts Facilitators as experts in their regions to help inform, reflect and advocate for the needs of regional Victoria. Our support in helping these events happen is a response to a thriving creative practice, and is an example of our partnership with Swan Hill and Gannawarra shires at work”* says Director of Partnerships, Liz Zito.

The day commences from 4pm, Saturday 30 March, at Riverside Park, Swan Hill and features a significant **Welcome to Country**, the **Swan Hill Aboriginal Dance Group**, African dance troupe **ASANTI Dance Theatre**, and the Indigenous hip-hop artist **MC Philly**, from Mildura, alongside a program of local Indian, Filipino and Afghan performers.

## EVENT DETAIL

### Swan Hill Harmony Day

Saturday 30 March 2019

4pm – 9pm

Riverside Park

Monash Drive, Swan Hill

Free

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**Regional Arts Victoria** is the peak body for regional artists and arts organisations in Victoria and the leading organisation for regional creative practice in Victoria. We are inspired by arts across the state, and through partnerships, programming and projects, we develop creative practice all over Victoria.

Based in regional locations across the state, Regional Arts Victoria's **Creative Arts Facilitators** work closely with artists, communities and local government to facilitate new work, keep their communities informed of key arts opportunities and support arts policy development.

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*Kim Bennett and Liz Zito are available for interview upon request.*

### MEDIA CONTACT

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