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## The 15<sup>th</sup> annual Fairfax Festival is rapidly taking shape!

The Fairfax festival is proud to be making two important announcements concerning the 15<sup>th</sup> birthday of this one-of-a-kind youth festival.

Returning for the second year as Festival Director is Ms Claire Glenn who was instrumental in redeveloping the Fairfax Festival to its current format.

Ms Glenn brings a wealth of experience and drive to the Fairfax Festival; and as an artist and animateur who, having worked extensively on everything from community arts projects to international productions and tours, is delighted to be once again be returning to the reigns of this amazing festival.

"It's so rewarding giving young people from regional and remote regions of our country opportunities which are so easily accessible to those in metropolitan areas," Ms Glenn said.

"When you see groups returning year after year and the number of new groups wanting to attend increasing, it reinforces the importance of the Fairfax Festival and its significance in the lives of young people."

Ms Glenn is already instigating a number of changes, including extending the length of the festival to four days and inviting youth groups to attend; which means that the 15<sup>th</sup> festival is guaranteed to be the biggest and most challenging yet!

Along with the Festival Director, the Festival Committee is also proud to announce the first ever Fairfax Family - Young Artist in Residence.

This is an opportunity extended to an ex-participant of the festival, who having completed Year 12 in 2009 or 2010, aims to pursue a career in the Arts.

Ms. Caitlyn Barclay is excited to be awarded all the opportunities afforded by this residency, including \$3,000 to help support her career development, plus the opportunity to work with professional artists of international renown.

"The opportunity to give something back to the festival that first kindled my love of the Arts is an amazing gift especially as it's the 15<sup>th</sup> year," Ms Barclay said.

The Fairfax Festival provides young people from regional and remote communities throughout Australia the opportunity to engage in the creative process of making new theatre by being involved and trained in the process of theatre creation and performance in a non-competitive and supportive environment by professionals of the highest standard.

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*\*Interviews with either Ms Glenn or Ms Barclay concerning the 15<sup>th</sup> annual Fairfax Festival are available through the contact details below.*

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### Media contacts:

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