



Media Release

Tuesday 8 November 2016

Join Selwyn's new Performing Arts Network

Selwyn residents interested in performing are being invited to join a new performing arts network.

The network will be made up of community members who are passionate about the performing arts, whether it be singing, dancing, drama, comedy or other areas of performance art.

The group will focus on creating more performing arts opportunities and events for Selwyn.

Selwyn District Council recently carried out a survey to identify the community's views and aspirations for the arts, how artists would like to be supported and areas where the arts could be improved and developed. 81% of survey respondents said they wanted to see more opportunities to participate and engage in the performing arts around the Selwyn district.

"Selwyn is a growing, diverse community and there is a strong need for development of programs and opportunities. It was clear from the Arts in Selwyn survey that performing arts was high on the list of key focus areas for the community," says Rachael Inch, Selwyn District Council Arts Advisor.

"This network will allow community members who are passionate about the performing arts to come together and meet like-minded people from across Selwyn and be involved in the planning process for the district. We welcome people of all ages, genders and ethnicities."

The first network meeting will be held on Monday 5 December at the Rolleston Community Centre Lounge at 6.30pm. It includes dynamic guest speaker Roanna Dalziel. Roanna has appeared on Shortland Street, written and self-produced a play, *Lost in Thought*, worked at Creative New Zealand for two years as the Senior Arts Adviser for Theatre and is now working as Literary Manager at the Court Theatre.

To register your interest in attending the meeting please email arts@selwyn.govt.nz by Friday 25 November.

For media enquiries, please contact:

Allanah Jarman
Selwyn District Council
03 347 2807
allanah.jarman@selwyn.govt.nz