



Media release
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Win a ‘meet and greet’ with the Queen of Pop **Go backstage with disco diva Marcia Hines in Airlie Beach**

Are you looking for some fire and rain – or maybe you just don’t know what to do with yourself?

Why not meet the woman behind these songs at the Airlie Beach Festival of Music 2018.

One lucky fan will be offered the chance to go backstage with Marcia Hines half an hour after her performance on Saturday, November 10.

Anyone who buys a three-day pass from October 1-14 will go into a draw to meet the queen of pop, have a professional photograph taken and receive signed merchandise.

Festival founder Gavin Butlin said this was a first for the iconic Whitsunday event, now in its sixth year.

“Coming to the Airlie Beach Festival of Music is an experience like no other, but we are constantly working on ways to take that up a notch,” he said.

“Marcia is so well known – from the people who remember her in the Australian production of ‘Hair’ to the younger generation who loved her in Australian Idol.

“Meeting Marcia is going to be the icing on the cake for one lucky festival fan and I am thrilled we can offer this experience.”

The woman behind a whopping 22 albums and 2.6 million sales says she cannot wait to perform at the Airlie Beach Festival of Music in the beautiful Whitsundays.

“A stunning landscape, wonderful weather and beautiful people – mix that with an array of fabulous music from Australia’s most talented artists and it is going to be the festival of the year,” she said.

“I’m also looking forward to meeting the winners of the competition – it’s always a treat to meet and greet fans who love my music.



“It will be a spectacular event not to be missed and I am thrilled to be part of it.”

Tourism Whitsundays Chief Executive Officer Natassia Wheeler said the opportunity to meet the Queen of Pop was very exciting.

“The Airlie Beach Festival of Music has grown in popularity in recent years, with the event continuing to attract big-name artists from around the world,” she said.

“I couldn’t think of a better destination to meet the talented Marcia Hines than in the Whitsundays and I’m sure the encounter will be one of the highlights of the festival for the lucky winner.”

Mrs Wheeler said anticipation was building for the epic-three-day festival, with a large number of top acts set to play at a variety of venues on the mainland.

“With performances from Smash Mouth, Kasey Chambers, Dave Dobbyn, The Church, Killing Heidi and much, much more, the Airlie Beach Festival of Music is emerging as one of the most popular music events in our state,” she said.

Festival tickets cost \$270 for a three-day pass and \$130 for a one-day pass, and can be bought through Tourism Whitsundays, Whitsunday Tickets, The MECC, OzTix, Bigtix or direct from www.airliebeachfestivalofmusic.com.au.

The competition applies only to purchases of three-day passes.

Terms and conditions apply and are available to view on the festival website.

For the full line-up and to stay up to date with all the Airlie Beach Festival of Music news, follow the festival on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Ends

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Notes for editors

- *Only at the Airlie Beach Festival of Music can you see 74 bands alongside 74 islands in the heart of the Great Barrier Reef.*
- *With jaw-dropping views from the main tent almost surrounded by the Coral Sea, it's a party in a tropical paradise.*
- *Watch big name acts and discover new talent - there is something for every musical taste.*
- *Experience a town coming alive to the sound of music. With the music spread throughout 18 venues, the atmosphere is electric. Everything is easy to get to and fully equipped – no need to bring camping chairs.*

The Queensland Government, via Tourism and Events Queensland's Destination Events Program, is proud to support Airlie Beach Festival of Music, which features on the It's Live! in Queensland events calendar.