

UKI'S CREATIVE 'OPEN HOUSE' WEEKEND

HOSTED BY UKITOPIA ARTS COLLECTIVE
SEPTEMBER 17- 20, 2015

In September, Uki is opening its doors and showing its creative heart to the big wide world. Over four days we will be expressing ourselves through ceremony, music, dance, film, poetry, craft, photography, visual arts, and more. We are a community full of imaginative, inspired and artistic souls, and Uki's Creative 'Open House' Weekend is our chance to showcase who we are and what we do.

At the recent 'community soiree' (no-one likes a meeting) held at the Uki Café, ideas were discussed and generated. This event is an adaptation of the Ukitopia Festival. Instead of having one director producing an event, Ukitopia Arts Collective in-

invites all people who identify as part of the Uki community, to produce their own events. Make an offering in the form of: an activity; a performance; an art installation; a workshop, a discussion. You might use: the park; the market; the café; the pub; the hall; the school; the street...

Ukitopia will organize posters, flyers, program, media and social media coverage, insurance and website. All you need to do is express yourself.



"Find the 'you' in ukitopia"

There are a number of ways you can make an 'offering' and be included on the Uki Creative 'Open House' Weekend program.

Firstly, choose to organize an activity or event you would like to see happen, fill out an 'Offering Form' from the Saturday Community Table or email: ukitopia@gmail.com; become a member of Ukitopia Arts Collective.

How you manage your activity or event is completely up to you; whether you charge a fee or not, where you hold the activity, choose your 'make it happen' team or whether you serve refreshments, etc. This is an opportunity to create it. We only ask that

you have a Ukitopia Arts Collective donations box and membership forms at your event, encouraging people to sign up and support our community's art collective.

The deadline for sending in your 'Offering Form' is August 12th. When all 'offerings' are received, the program will be finalized and advertised.

Event + Activity Ideas

Opening Ceremony

Ceremony, dance and music being

organised by Shae and Keeta.

Contact Shae

Instagram competition

Become a photo journalist and enter your photos in our Instagram competition. Win \$100 prize. Contact Natascha on 0412980063

Jazz on the green

A community picnic with a stage for live jazz performances. Want to perform? Contact Marlena 0404 486 712

Youth music

Are you a talented young musician or band? Would you like to perform at a youth event? Contact Natascha on 0412980063

Images of Uki

Uki's wonderful annual exhibition of local artists and musicians, with the theme 'At the End of the Rainbow'. Opening Night is Thursday 17th at 6.30pm in the Uki Hall. A free glass of wine or soft drink and finger food will be followed by some of our fabulous local musicians. An important part of the community exhibition is of course our children's art. Local schools have been invited to exhibit to a special section devoted to their work. The popular 'People's Choice' will be once again be conducted, with 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes. The Community Gardens are also holding a T-shirt design for exhibition visitors to vote on. The winners of these competitions will be announced on Sunday at the Uki Café 'after party'.

Crafternoon

A Saturday afternoon of crafting on the green. Would you like to offer a craft/art session e.g. beading, crochet, felting, collage... You can charge a fee and share your favourite craft. Contact Marlena on 0404 486 712

Street Art

Would you like to offer a street art activity or installation? Contact Marlena on 0404 486 712.

Word weavers

Words as an art form, using only words, some word art poetry, a story, haiku, thoughts...words as art, woven to share. Theme 'reflections on connection.' Contact Michele on 0411 483 177

Community Gardens T-shirt design

Create an inspirational image for the new Uki Community Gardens T-Shirt. The designs will be exhibited in the hall and the winners announced on Sunday at the Uki Café. More details www.facebook.com/UkiCommunityGardens

Remember, this weekend will be as rich, diverse and exciting as we make it... as a community. So please consider sharing this with others from our community who don't attend 'meetings' but might like to make an offering and spread the word.

'Festivals promote diversity, they bring neighbors into dialogue, they increase creativity, they offer opportunities for civic pride, they improve our general psychological well-being. In short, they make cities better places to live.' David Binder, a major Broadway producer, presents his experience of community art in Minto, Sydney, on the following ted talk. https://www.ted.com/talks/david_binder_the_arts_

INSIDE CONNECTION

MICHELE BEVIS

Inside connection is made up of the idea that besides food, water and shelter, humans thrive on connection. Connection takes on many forms, and many connections make a web of links, maybe even catching us when we need support. It is the cohesive glue that makes our community and is specific to our location and to us who inhabit it. It varies for each of us and might include any of the following:

The Saturday market, our hub for all sorts of connection, whether it be home-baked cakes, curries and bread; local vegetables – fresh or fermented; drinks to talk over while sitting at tables and chairs or on the village green, a place where the children play and the musicians jam.



Ukitopia Arts Collective has magicked up wonderful community events – Honour Our Elders, Youthki, Images of Uki. UACs web continues to support and assist local creatives to take ideas through to production.

UKIRA, the residents' association, is a strong web in our village with the Buttery Markets and shops, this newsletter and their links with

Tweed Council; dealing with the issues we are interested in – a community garden, table tennis and the beautiful rainbow bridge are some of the recent activities. A wide variety of groups meet, for tennis, yoga, meditation, soccer, rugby, tai chi, carpet bowls and dance. Uki has a garden club, tree planting days, the Uki Refugee Project, the Red Cross, our two churches, our voluntary Fire Brigade. We have an active village hub, our village hall. Uki services locals and tourists in our 2 great cafés, a post office where we are known personally, a supermarket, a laundromat, gift shops, as well as a community-minded public school and a garage.

Sometimes our light goes out, but is blown again into instant flame by an encounter with another human being.

- albert schweitzer

This story is not complete, the connections are numerous and layered, you are a part of this magnificent place that we call home, you are one of the links in the many community webs.

If you have a story or an article to contribute to Inside Connection please send to michele@fantasy.org

