

## MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday 10 March 2015

## HARMONY DAY FESTIVAL WITH A LATINO TWIST

From maraca making to Macapella, from Spanish opera to Salsa dancing, the City of Ryde will sway to a Latino beat to celebrate Harmony Day in a festival of inclusiveness, respect and belonging.

This year Harmony Day celebrate its 15<sup>th</sup> birthday ... and everyone is invited to the party at Top Ryde City Piazza dining area between 10.00am - 4.00pm to enjoy music and cultural performances and thank the people in our community who make our diverse city so amazing.

You are also invited to leave a message on our 'Everybody Belongs Thank You' wall and drop into Ryde Library where there will be free activities and festivities from 11.00am.

Mayor, Bill Pickering, said Ryde's population diversity makes it an exceptional international city: "Forty-two percent of residents here speak a language other than English at home. This makes the City of Ryde one of the most diverse communities in our State.

"Our commitment to ensure that everyone who lives here 'feels like a local' is expressed in every day life and in special community celebrations like Harmony Day."

## Top Ryde City Piazza Main Stage Program

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10.00am	Dance Generation – Local Hip Hop / Breakdancing
10.15am	City of Ryde Official Welcome
10.30am	Spanish Opera – performed by local Korean opera duo
10.45am	Ben & Katia – Local duo
11.15am	Differently Abled Peoples Association – group singing
11.35am	J Dance
11.45am	Macapella – Macquarie University a capella singers
12noon	Havana Dance Salsa Workshop
1.15pm	Victor Valdes Cuban Music Duo – Harp & Percussion
2.15pm	Lonja - Afro-Uruguayan Carnival performance
3.15pm	Band OMBE – 14 piece Latin American ensemble

## **Ryde Library Program**

11 45am	Ren & Katia –	local dua
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12.15pm Ryde Hunters Hill Symphony Orchestra (tbc)

1.00-4.00pm Free Maraca Making Kids Craft

1.20pm Lonja – Afro-Uruguayan Drumming workshop

2.30pm Victor Valdes – Harp and Percussion

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