

MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
CANBERRA, ACT

Handmade Canberra shines the light on slow, sustainable fashion this spring

Handmade Canberra's spring market is coming, September 7 & 8 at Exhibition Park in Canberra. Open from 10am until 4pm both days, the halls will be packed with stunning design and wonderful food & drink, all selected carefully by the style-savvy team at Handmade Canberra. With the coming of warmer weather, market organisers have chosen to shine a light on fashion, particularly the abundance and quality of slow, sustainable fashion options at the market.

Managing director Julie Nichols says "when we hear stories of the fashion designers that come to the market, we are both amazed and proud of what they do. The media is full of stories about unethical practices in fashion, and so many of our designers are committed to more ethical and sustainable production methods. Many of them design and print their own fabrics and source recycled materials". In addition, Handmade traders must sell only Australian-made goods, further ensuring the quality and ethics of production of fashion sold at the market.

Besides the spotlight on fashion, the handmade team is particularly excited about the number of new and interesting traders appearing at the September market. Julie Nichols says "news is spreading across the land about how great our market is. As a result, we've had an unprecedented number of Australian small businesses applying for the September market. It was a tough job selecting the best of the best, but we're thrilled with the September lineup".

The Handmade community is invited to get creative at the September market too, with a series of watercolour workshops being held by market trader Stephanie Elizabeth. Stephanie invites you to "unleash your creativity and all the inspiration you soak in at the market with a watercolour class". There are classes for adults and teens with a spring florals theme, as well as a kids workshop focusing on painting animals.

Handmade Canberra again will be supporting several charities at the September market. Collecting donations at the entries in September will be GIVIT, a national not-for-profit organisation matching various charities' requests for donations with items donated by the community. The Newborn Intensive Care Foundation (NICF) will again hold their annual Bake for Babies fundraising stall at the September market, supporting the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at Canberra's Centenary Hospital for Women and Children. Market organisers are also calling for donations of plastic bottle caps to donate to Lids 4 Kids – a charity who collects otherwise un-recyclable plastic lids to be recycled into mobility aids for child amputees. Bring along plastic lids to donate and leave them at reception in the Conference Centre at EPIC.

The Handmade Canberra spring market promises to be a great day out in Canberra. All indoors, with free parking and entry. Join the fun, September 7 & 8 at EPIC.

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ABOUT HANDMADE CANBERRA

Handmade Canberra is Canberra's largest indoor market. It's held 4 times a year at Exhibition Park in Canberra (EPIC), with 270 stallholders selling handmade products and produce ranging from homewares, fashion, jewellery, art, design, food and beverages. Attracting 120,000 visitors a year, the market is a large contributor to the Canberra economy. The market also supports local charities through market entry donations.

MARKET INFORMATION

What: The Handmade Market - Canberra
When: 10am - 4pm Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th September, 2019
Where: Exhibition Park in Canberra (EPIC)
Entry: Free but donations to charity collectors are encouraged
Web: <http://www.handmadecanberra.com.au/>

For information and media opportunities, please contact Julie Nichols via email at market@handmadecanberra.com.au or call 0402 247 532.