



Department of
Education and Training

Media Statement

31/8/09

Students to prove rock credentials

Nearly 50 bands from schools across the State will plug in their amplifiers and rock out to win thousands of dollars in prizes during the My Big Gig heats this fortnight.

My Big Gig organiser and Canning Vale College music teacher Rebecca Harrison said this year's competition would be bigger and more competitive than ever before.

"We have more regional schools this year which I think will prove very interesting, plus our new Encouragement Award, with one lucky school set to win \$2,750 of equipment from Fender, will really heat up the competition," Ms Harrison said.

The My Big Gig heats for public and private schools will take place between 15 and 18 September at Canning Vale College. The top 10 bands will then compete in the finals at the Fly By Night Musicians Club in Fremantle on 24 September.

Also playing at the finals will be headline act *The Scotch of Saint James*, a Perth-based four-piece recently unearthed by Triple J and nominated for this year's Most Promising New Act WAMi (West Australian Music Industry) award.

The band that wins My Big Gig will be in for a treat with \$5,000 of equipment for their school and two invaluable guest performer opportunities.

This includes a chance to play alongside some incredible musicians to a huge live audience at popular festival Gozzy Rock 2010, and an opportunity to play and be interviewed on air by radio station RTR FM at one of its exclusive public events.

Other prizes, judged by representatives of the WA music industry, include:

- Second Prize – equipment to the retail value of \$3,000 donated by Roland;
- Third Prize – equipment to the retail value of \$2,000 donated by Roland;
- Fender Encouragement Award for the band that has shown the most potential throughout the competition, at either heats or the finals – \$2,750 of equipment from Fender;
- Most Original Song – use of facilities at audio recording studios ProCopy in Morley, to the value of \$1000.

Ms Harrison said My Big Gig gave student bands a valuable live performance experience and a chance to meet other students from rock bands across the state.

"At My Big Gig, competitors have state of the art equipment to use, professional sound and lighting to make them look and sound fantastic, and the experience of a professional rock concert to help them hone their music performance skills," she said.

"My Big Gig offers students a window into the music industry and develops important life skills."

[ENDS]

Note: a list of participating schools follows. Photographs and interviews can be arranged on request.

Media Contact: Carmen Carter (08) 9264 5723.

List of schools participating in My Big Gig

Tuesday Heats – 15 September 2009

Aquinas College
Carey Baptist College
Cecil Andrews Senior High School
Clarkson Community High School
Comet Bay Community College
Hampton Senior High School
La Salle College
Lockridge Senior High School
Murdoch College
Narrogin Senior High School
St Hilda's School for Girls
Yulebrook College

Wednesday Heats – 16 September 2009

Balcatta Senior High School
Christian Brothers' College Fremantle
Coodanup Community College
Governor Stirling Senior High School
Living Waters Lutheran College
MacKillop Catholic College
Mandurah Senior College
Methodist Ladies College
Mirrabooka Senior High School
Perth Modern School
Thornlie Senior High School
Winthrop Baptist College

Thursday Heats – 17 September 2009

Albany Senior High School
Canning Vale College
Gilmore College
Ellenbrook Secondary College
Lakeland Senior High School
John Septimus Roe Anglican Community School
Kingsway Christian College
Mandurah Baptist College
St Stephen's School Carramar
Seton Catholic College
Southern River College
Wanneroo Senior High School

Friday Heats – 18 September 2009

All Saint's College
Applecross Senior High School
Ballajura Community College
Como Secondary College
Jurien Bay District High School
Kent Street High School
Lake Joondalup Baptist College
Lesmurdie Senior High School
Lynwood Senior High School
Mt Lawley Senior High School
Quinns Baptist College
St Brigid's College