

## **Ben Franklin**

Minister for Aboriginal Affairs
Minister for the Arts
Minister for Regional Youth
Minister for Tourism

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## FREE FUN IN THE REGIONS THESE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

A travelling science exhibition, adventure activities and creative workshops are among the many activities available for regional youth to enjoy during the Summer school holidays, thanks to the NSW Government's Holiday Break Program.

Minister for Regional Youth Ben Franklin said young people can expand their horizons over the break with more than 60 programs covering everything from science and art to sport and cultural connections.

"The NSW Government invests in this program because we know it is important to provide opportunities for young people to connect, socialise and have fun during the school holidays," Mr Franklin said.

"We also know that keeping the kids entertained over the holidays can be costly for families, so these free activities will help to relieve the financial pressure on family budgets these Summer holidays.

"The programs on offer will provide social and recreational outlets to help regional youth become more involved in their local communities, and to show that living in a regional location is not a barrier for young people to try new things.

"Our continued program partnerships mean we're able to deliver an assortment of activities that allow youth to hone their artistic skills, explore a completely new area of interest or get moving with a fun physical activity over the school holidays."

Byron Shire Council is among the recipients of Holiday Break funding, with the Byron Bay Library set to host a travelling Questacon exhibition during the summer break.

Library spokeswoman Stacey Shepherd says it will allow them to introduce young people to the exciting world of science and mathematics

"This is an opportunity for young people to visit Byron Bay Library and explore the challenging world of mathematics and computer science under topics such as logic and problem solving," Ms Shepherd said.

"The STEM exhibits are bright, interactive and hands on to encourage engagement in code breaking puzzle logic but also an opportunity to connect and have fun in our community. The 24 exhibitions will be in Byron Bay Library until the end of January."

To find out more about activities near you, visit www.nsw.gov.au/HolidayBreak.

MEDIA: Emma Dunn | 0427 292 170