

Wednesday 29 June 2011

Fancy yourself in Hollywood?

Do you prefer to be behind the camera rather than in front of it? Indigo Shire Council is running series of daily film making workshops from 11 July to 15 July at the Beechworth Youth Centre.

From 10am to 4pm each day, participants will learn the art of film making at free community workshops, run by Amadeo Marquez-Perez, Co-Chair of the Asian Australian Film Festival, Artistic Director of the Bayside Film Festival and Managing Director of the 15/15 Film Festival.

Indigo Shire Council Bushfire Youth Development Officer Annie Middleton said that there is no limit on what participants can do. "Participants can choose to come for one workshop or can attend them all. The workshops will look at making different types of films from documentaries to short films. They give young people the chance to create their own films with professional guidance, which they can exhibit or use as a folio piece for film and art schools," Ms Middleton said.

"Opportunities to work with a renowned film maker like Amadeo Marquez-Perez don't come along very often. He will be focussing on camera use, editing, storyboards, production and how to use technology when film making. We encourage people involved to bring their own lap top and camera if they have one, or there will be some equipment available for everyone to use."

"Although the workshops will have a youth focus and are aimed at people between 11 and 25, older members of the community are welcome to attend. The workshops are run during the school holidays, and so are a great way for young people to learn new things and do something productive during the holidays," Ms Middleton said.

The workshops are a partnership between Indigo and Alpine Shires, and are part of the Bushfire Response Gift Program, that is funded by public donations to the Bushfire Appeal, and managed by the Office of Youth, along with the Department of Human Services. It was set up after the 2009 Black Saturday bushfires, to encourage young people to participate and be active members in their community.

The film festival *7hours and 7minutes* will be held in all communities across Indigo during August. "This is an exciting opportunity after the workshops for participants to take the skills they have learnt and make a film for our short film festival. The festival gives budding and experienced film makers the opportunity to create locally made short films of up to 7minutes in length, to be screened in local communities," Ms Middleton said.

Bookings are preferred. Please contact Indigo Shire Council Bushfire Youth Development Officer Annie Middleton on 0457 929 338 to make a booking or for more information.

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