
Folkbiz 2008 – 30 to 31 August 2008

Conference publicist Geoff Sirmai has created this excellent description of the conference: **The Business of Folk Music – Fun & Games... plus serious biz**

Sydney hosts Australia's first ever folk music conference next month, promising a weekend of both musical treats and business tips for those who keep the folk industry's wheels turning. The two day conference from Saturday 30 to Sunday 31 August at the Sydney Mechanics' Schools of Arts in Pitt Street, will gather together the cream of the music world from icons like **Judy Small** and **Warren Fahey** to bright young stars like **Kate Fagan** and **Francesca Sidoti**.

Following an opening keynote address by **Judy Small**, participants will rub shoulders with everyone from enthusiastic amateurs to experienced industry professionals. But more than that, they will learn how to get ahead as a musician with sessions on publishing, recording, broadcasting, PR & promotion, touring nationally and internationally and even how to secure government grants. Other specialist presenters will cover topics such as folk future.

An example was the initiative of offering delegates individual

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Folk icon Judy Small will share her wisdom in her keynote speech and by talking on publishing and record labels. Kate Fagan will speak in the final conference session on the state and future of folk music in Australia.

FOLK ALLIANCE AWARDS – YOUR VOTE COUNTS!

Winners be announced at the Saturday night conference dinner ...

Youth Encouragement Award "to encourage our youth through the recognition of talent & promise" (Nominated at the FAA Youth Initiative Concert held at National Folk Festival).

Presenters Choice - Best Album of the Year (nominated by folk radio presenters). Email your vote to colinfielding@bigpond.com

Members Choice - Best Live Act (Nominated by Folk Alliance Members to reflect their preferences.) Email your vote to chris@wheelersanddealers.com.au

Community Choice (Nominated by the folk community) "Any individual, group or organization who has shown a history of long-time contribution/commitment to the folk community. Someone or some organization who has inspired us, taught us and marked us with their presence." Email your vote to chris@wheelersanddealers.com.au

*The conference dinner will be followed by a concert featuring Chloe and Jason Roweth and The Mothers of Intention and friends presenting Karafolkie.
Strut your stuff – beard optional!*