

PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



PLAYGROUP NSW & RIVERSIDE THEATRES JOIN FORCES FOR A JOINT BIRTHDAY PARTY THIS SCHOOL HOLIDAYS – JOIN IN ON THE FAMILY FUN AND WIN SOME EXCITING PRIZES!

This September, Playgroup NSW celebrates 50 years of connecting communities. To mark the occasion, Playgroup NSW has partnered with Riverside Theatres *Spot-On Children's Festival* and together they will transform the theatre's courtyard into The PlayYard – an inclusive children's entertainment and activity hub – this spring school holidays.

The PlayYard sits at the heart of Parramatta's Riverside Theatres and is the side attraction to the daily theatre shows on offer as a part of the *Spot-On Children's Festival*, a much-loved calendar event returning to the shores of the Parramatta River for the first time since 2019. Running over five jam-packed days in September and October, this year's festival is a week-long celebration of play, theatre, musical performances, physical comedy and circus acts, all guaranteed to keep your children entertained throughout the school holidays.

The PlayYard is open to all families and offers free entertainment, activities and exciting giveaways including a free PlayBag for everyone who becomes a Playgroup NSW member. Visitors are welcome to join in on daily Playgroups, test their building skills at the LEGO Duplo' Connect and Build Corner' and add their self-portrait to the 'Crayola Community Wallpaper'.

There will also be LEGO Duplo door prizes each day and everyone who visits The PlayYard has the opportunity to go in the draw to win The Gruffalo's height in LEGO Duplo, a nod to the festival's stage show, *The Gruffalo*, which returns to Riverside after sell-out seasons across the world including London's West-End and Broadway.



Playgroup NSW is a not-for-profit organisation that has been delivering collective impact for families across the state for over five decades and now engages with over 52,000 member families who reside in over 90% NSW postcodes. This partnership with Riverside Theatres Parramatta is built on a shared vision, with both parties committed to engaging with families from diverse backgrounds, including those that are culturally and linguistic diverse, as well as those experiencing a range of inequalities. Together, there is a commitment to creating equitable play experiences for all children.

“The *Spot-On Children’s Festival* PlayYard is a wonderful opportunity to connect with our communities and create valuable play experiences families can re-create in their own homes,” says Nadene Lee, CEO of Playgroup NSW. “We welcome families to come and experience a Playgroup and see first-hand just how valuable and rewarding learning through play, as well as connecting with your community, can be.”

The PlayYard will feature a range of activities and stations designed to foster learning through play. Each activity has been curated by the Playgroup NSW Educators to ensure children of all abilities have a space where they feel included, considered and safe.

The full festival line-up of events and activities is available for viewing [here](#).

Notes

Images: Photos and videos of participants during the Playgroup event will be available on request

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About Playgroup NSW: Playgroup NSW leads play-based programs and services for NSW families with children from birth to school age, offering development, shared experiences, and family support that results in active citizens and inclusive communities. In the first 2,000 days of life, Playgroup NSW’s vision is to positively impact every NSW child, their family, and community. Our cross-platform audiences allow us to connect with families and community to share information and link them with services that support development, wellbeing and health.

Website: <https://www.playgroupnsw.org.au>

Instagram: [@playgroupnsw](https://www.instagram.com/playgroupnsw)

Facebook: [@playgroupnsw](https://www.facebook.com/playgroupnsw)

About Riverside Theatres: Riverside Theatres is the premier performing arts venue in Western Sydney. Well-established and highly respected both by the local community and the national arts industry, Riverside is a successful cultural and community asset of City of Parramatta Council.

The 2022 *Spot On Children’s Festival* program is available here:

<https://riversideparramatta.com.au/category/spoton22/>



Dates: 27th September to 1st October 2022

Tickets: From the Box Office (02) 8839 3399 or www.riversideparramatta.com.au. *Discounts available for Riverside Theatres' Members. Transaction fees: phone \$4.60, web \$3.60, counter \$2.60 and screen \$1.65.*

Venue: Riverside Theatres – Corner of Church and Market Streets, Parramatta

COVID Safety Information:

Riverside Theatres is a registered COVID Safe venue with the NSW Government. The health and safety of all Riverside patrons and staff is at the forefront of all operations. Vaccination is critical in helping to protect our community from COVID-19 and is an important part of our COVID-safe plan. For this reason, we strongly recommend that all patrons are fully vaccinated from COVID-19. We strongly encourage the wearing of face masks inside our theatres when 1.5m of social distancing is not possible. Please check the [conditions of entry and patron safety page](#) prior to attending Riverside Theatres for the most up-to-date information.

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