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**MEDIA RELEASE**



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For immediate release

## **Beautiful local tale at Broome Civic Centre**

Billed as a magical puppet show for all ages, Staircase to the Moon is based on the children's book by Broome author Bronwyn Houston and published by Magabala Books, and comes to the Broome Civic Centre on Thursday 14 April.

It tells the story of a girl and her grandfather who sneak out at night to climb the Staircase to the Moon, a natural phenomenon in Broome where as the full moon rises it reflects across the mudflats of Roebuck Bay and creates the illusion of a staircase.

The characters brave bloodthirsty mosquitoes, dive-bombing bats, giant boab trees and sinking mangrove mud before making it to the foot of the staircase where they climb the steps and leap like acrobats on the moon's surface.

Produced by Theatre Kimberley, it features music by Broome's Lorrae Coffin, and Gwendolyn Knox as writer/director and creator of the three main puppet characters.

One of the key elements to the success of Staircase to the Moon is the way that it includes local kids in the production.

Up to 20 children over the age of eight are invited to participate in a free puppetry and choreography workshop at the Broome Civic Centre and then perform in the show.

The children will be introduced to the book, puppets and the music during the workshop, make mud creature puppets and learn manipulation, choreography for group dance sequences and perform other puppets such as the blood sucking mozzies and scary flying foxes.

No experience is needed and any children interested in taking part should contact Theatre Kimberley on (08) 9193 5658 to reserve a place.

The performance on 14 April is presented by the Shire of Broome and starts at 6.30pm with doors open from 5.30pm, and tickets available from the Broome Civic Centre website at [www.broomeciviccentre.com.au](http://www.broomeciviccentre.com.au).

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