

24 June 2021

## Ekka showdown for rising country music stars

The search for Queensland's next country music star is on, with entries opening today for the Royal Queensland Show's (Ekka) Country Music Showdown Competition presented by Ringers Western.

Now in its eighth year, the competition offers rising country music stars the chance to battle it out for career-boosting prizes worth more than \$15,000.

Musicians aged 12 years and over will compete in the ultimate music experience, performing two songs to Ekka crowds on stage at the XXXX Stockmen's Bar and Grill.

A win in this competition means a boost to an artist's music career, with previous winner Blake O'Conner touring Australia with country music couple Brooke McClymont and Adam Eckersley and releasing an album in 2019.

Competitors have the chance to win a variety of prizes, including recording sessions at Airlock Studios and Taramalin Sound, a scholarship to The Academy - which is Australia's premier music program for emerging artists, a photoshoot package and a cash prize courtesy of Ringers Western.

Head of Entertainment Tony Laffan said the Ekka is proud to hold a competition that showcases emerging country music talents.

"It's time for artists to warm up their vocal cord and tune their guitars as once again the music industry has shown their support for the competition by offering up some fantastic prizes," he said.

"Ekka is all about celebrating the best of Queensland and encouraging emerging talents across all industries, including the arts."

Think you have what it takes? Then submit your video applications now at [www.ekka.com.au/competitions/entertainment/country-music-showdown/](http://www.ekka.com.au/competitions/entertainment/country-music-showdown/)

Ekka visitors can check out the competition on the last Saturday of the show - 14 August.

Don't forget to follow us on social media @TheEkka



---

#### MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

Veronica Carew  
General Manager Communications  
Ph: 07 3253 3930/ 0408 323 631  
Email: [vcarew@rna.org.au](mailto:vcarew@rna.org.au)

Nicole Clifton  
Media and Communications Officer  
Ph: 07 3253 3931/ 0417 451 775  
Email: [nclifton@rna.org.au](mailto:nclifton@rna.org.au)