

INNER SOUTH

Talented line-up announced for Lakeside Carols at Albert Park

After enjoying success in its first year, a popular Albert Park Christmas carols event is back, bigger and better — with a musical theatre star and a reality TV singing sensation among performers.

Jordy Atkinson, Port Phillip Leader

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Nina Buchler, 11, will perform at Lakeside Carols on December 5. Picture: Ellen Smith

It's the most wonderful time of the year and following the success of last year's inaugural event, Lakeside Carols is back to spread Christmas cheer in Port Phillip.

The event at Gasworks Arts Park on December 5 will be headlined by “the high priestess of Melbourne soul” Kylie Auldish and musical theatre star Bobby Fox, supported by the Baker Boys Band.

The South of the River Choir and Hunger For Dance will also perform at the event, along with *The Voice* and *The Voice Kids* star Bella Paige and MC Emmylou MacCarthy.

For a special treat, Port Melbourne Primary Grade 5 student Nina Buchler will take to the stage to sing *Silent Night*.

The event was co-founded by Liv Downing last year to honour her mother Jennifer, who passed away at Christmas time five years ago.

“My mum loved Christmas and I had planned carol singers to perform for her but she sadly passed away the day they were due to come,” Ms Downing said.

“After her passing, I set out to organise Christmas carols for my community in memory of her — the carols she never got to have could be enjoyed by others.”

The event is free to attend, with donations to St Kilda Mums encouraged.

St Kilda Mums chief executive Jessie Macpherson said the organisation was thrilled to again be the charity of choice for Lakeside Carols.

“Thanks to the generous support ... St Kilda Mums will be able to support more Victorian families with everything they need for babies and children,” she said.

“Funds will allow us to recycle more nursery equipment including cots, prams and car seats, as well as clothes and other baby essentials.”

For more information, visit lakesidecarols.com.au