

Melanie: OK so, next up on this morning's show – Dan Johnson's going to tell us what's on in the city this weekend. Dan.

Dan: Well thanks Melanie and there's certainly a great program of entertainment this weekend – something for everyone. So first, it's the Writers' Festival again, and just like last year the Festival has attracted more than 250 writers from around the world. The writers will be talking about their latest books and there's always an opportunity for audience members to ask the writers about their work. In the past the Festival has been ¹⁾ at the Victoria Theatre, which ²⁾ really ³⁾ . So this year they're going to be using a number of other venues as well. More information and tickets are available from the website.

Now something I'm really looking forward to is Wearable Art on Saturday evening. This fashion show's always been held in the capital, so it's very exciting that it's ⁴⁾ for the first time and I've already got my ticket. And they've just announced a 20% discount on all tickets, to encourage a good turnout. Tickets can be bought online, or at the door.

Something slightly different is Ocean Times – that's on Sunday morning at Bright's Beach. Now you might be thinking it's the ⁵⁾ of year to go to the beach for a swim or build sandcastles with the kids, and you'd be ⁶⁾ . But what's happening is, there's going to be a number of large ⁷⁾ put up on the beach, for workshops, displays and presentations. It's a chance for the whole family to learn about the science of the ocean and marine eco-systems and how to protect them. Sounds like a good way to spend your Sunday.

Now, you may already have seen the advertising for the Artscape Exhibition. This is an ⁸⁾ exhibition of sculptures and installation art that officially opens this evening and you can go along whenever suits you over the weekend. It's being held up at the Sanctuary Reserve and the idea is, you wander wherever you want around the Reserve, enjoying the artworks in a natural environment. I'd recommend you take a warm ⁹⁾ . though, because it can get quite windy up there.

Now, the Civil Theatre is open for tours this weekend, too. This is a great chance to go ¹⁰⁾ at the city's largest theatre and see all its secrets. This event is only held once a year so these opportunities to tour the Civil aren't too frequent. I went last time and can tell you it's well worth it.

Now listen and answer questions 16 to 20.

Dan: OK, so what I'll do now is just run through a few more events that are on over the weekend. So every Friday night, of course, is the Night Market – a great place to eat delicious street food from around the world. If you haven't been before, it's in the old Smith Street ¹¹⁾ just a short walk from Central Station. This is often really popular so get there in good time to be sure you beat the rush.

There's also the local Buskers' Festival, on Saturday and Sunday afternoons. This is a chance for buskers and street performers from across the city to perform at an organised event. If you're interested in going along please note – it ¹²⁾ going to be in King's Square, but actually it's now going to be held down on the waterfront, where there'll be plenty of space for everyone.

Now later this afternoon it's Stand Up For Kids. This is a stand-up comedy show aimed particularly at children aged from 5 to 10. This is being held in the hall at Swanson College at 4 p.m. today. Just bear in mind that the roads around the college can get pretty⁽¹³⁾ at that time on a Friday, so allow plenty of time to get there. But it's bound to be a great show and the hall at Swanson is huge so you ⁽¹⁴⁾ to get a ⁽¹⁵⁾

Then it's Sunday Unplugged on Sunday afternoon, with a number of local bands playing at the old post office building in Morningside. There's a great range of acts this week – check online for details. Though it's the usual issue with the old post office venue – no parking at all in that part of the central city. And the train service is ⁽¹⁶⁾ on Sunday for repairs, so if you're taking the bus, leave early.

And on Saturday evening it's the Ignite Dance Finals. This is the final of the inter-school dance competition so I know there'll be a huge ⁽¹⁷⁾ If you haven't already got your ticket I'd do so without delay to avoid disappointment. It's being held in the Ridgeway Theatre, same as last year, so there'll be a great atmosphere.