

RELEASED: SUNDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2017

Isabella Clarke selected to represent Australia at the Junior Eurovision Song Contest 2017 on Monday 27 November

ABC is excited to announce that talented young singer Isabella Clarke will represent Australia at the **Junior Eurovision Song Contest 2017** (JESC) held on Sunday 26 November at the Tbilisi Sports Palace, Georgia.

From Victoria, Isabella is a 13-year-old singing sensation who made her debut on the Melbourne singing scene four years ago. Since then she's received many accolades performing at various singing competitions and, at present, holds a coveted principal vocalist role in the Victorian State Schools Spectacular.

Isabella is self-confessed foodie who enjoys spending time with her family and friends and credits megastars Beyoncé and Mary J. Blige as her inspiration for singing. She loves Australian comedy television shows, knows how to laugh at herself, and is focused and determined both at school and in performing. Tipped for a bright future, Isabella hopes to join her idols and become an international recording artist. ABC and production partner Blink TV selected Isabella in consultation with leading Australian record companies.

Isabella Clarke said: "I'm so honoured to be given the opportunity to represent Australia at such an amazing event. I can't wait to start rehearsals and film the music video! I'm also looking forward to visiting Georgia for the first time and meeting all the other performers. It's a dream come true and I hope I do my family and Australia proud."

"Isabella displayed all the qualities we were looking for in this year's Australian representative," says Michael Carrington, Head of ABC Children's Television. "She has an incredible voice and stage presence and we believe she'll do exceptionally well at *JESC 2017*. We look forward to her song debut and following her journey as she embarks on this once-in-a-lifetime adventure."

Director of Blink TV, Paul Clarke said: "Isabella will do us all proud. She has a terrific voice and we are looking forward to her performance in Tbilisi, Georgia. With 16 countries competing it's also a wonderful opportunity to connect with other young performers and enjoy the celebration which is the *Junior Eurovision Song Contest*".

ABC and Blink TV, in consultation with professional music writers, have begun workshoping a fun and catchy song for Isabella that will enable her to shine bright on the *JESC 2017* stage. The song and Isabella's music video will be released soon.

Adding to the excitement of this year's event, for the first time Australians will be able to vote online for their favourite *JESC 2017* performer. ABC ME is calling on all Australians to get behind *JESC 2017* and celebrate not only Isabella, but all of the young performers competing. Information on how to vote will be available shortly on the ABC ME website.

The *Junior Eurovision Song Contest 2017* will be broadcast on ABC ME, the ABC ME app and ABC iview on Monday 27 November at the family friendly time of 7.30pm.

For further information contact:

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