

MEDIA RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 12.12.16

JOIN THE ABC AS WE COUNT DOWN THE BIGGEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR ON NEW YEAR'S EVE!

Join hosts Ella Hooper and Jeremy Fernandez as they count down the biggest night of the year with the *New Year's Eve 2016* spectacular event broadcast, available this year for the first time in brilliant HD on ABC TV and ABC iView with the fireworks also streamed live on ABC TV Facebook.

Presented from outside the Sydney Opera House and inside the Lord Mayor's Party at Bennelong Point in Sydney Harbour, the pair will take us through an evening jam packed full of unmissable entertainment, comedy, and music, the Family Fireworks at 9pm and culminating in the world-famous Sydney Midnight Fireworks.

The evening events will commence with a Welcome to Country. Then under the direction of *Play School's* Jemima and *Little Lunch's* Debra Jo, *Giggle & Hoot's* Jimmy Giggle and his sidekick Hoot will attempt to put on the Best Show Ever for our younger viewers. What could possibly go wrong with this team at the helm?! They're joined by ABC ME's Tim Matthews and Grace Koh live from Sydney Harbour, as well as some very special guests including, Justine Clarke, The Wiggles, Dan Sultan and the Bananas in Pajamas.

At 9pm, the winner of ABC ME's Design your own Firework competition, 10-year-old Georgia from Perth, will pull a giant lever that will set the Sydney sky alight with the Family Fireworks display featuring her own unique firework design.

Then, live from the Lord Mayor's Party, Ella and Jeremy will take us through to midnight with an extravaganza of entertainment, including the comedy panel show *The 2016 Pub Quiz*, hosted by Lawrence Mooney and featuring panelists and special guests including Rhys Nicholson, Denise Scott, Miranda Tapsell, Peter Helliar, Anne Edmonds and Tom Tilley who will look back at the year that was. This will be interspersed with specials from David Stratton, *The Katering Show's* Kates and Sammy J who will share their cultural, comic and candid perspectives on the year.

We'll give you front row seats to the best musical event in the country when we cross live to The Falls Festival in Lorne, Victoria throughout the evening, to bring you the best of its bill, including Bernard Fanning, Violent Soho, Broods, Catfish & The Bottlemen and Alison Wonderland. In the climatic lead up to the midnight pyrotechnics, The Hoodoo Gurus will perform live. It's guaranteed to provide the best countdown soundtrack to celebrations everywhere.

RUN DOWN HIGHLIGHTS (exact times subject to change):

7:30pm: *The Yearly*

8:35pm: New Year's Eve 2016 commences

8:38pm: Welcome to Country

8:41pm: ABC Children's NYE commences

9.00pm: Family Fireworks

9.16pm: Jeremy and Ella take us through until midnight with entertainment including The Pub Quiz, live crosses to the Falls Festival in Lorne and much more

11:44pm: Live cross to the Lord Mayor's Party for The Hoodoo Gurus performance

12:00am Sydney Midnight Fireworks

Hashtag: #NYEABC, #my2016moment

Handle: @abctv

Facebook: facebook.com/ABCTV

Twitter: twitter.com/abctv

Instagram: #NYEABC instagram.com/ABCTV

What's your #my2016moment? Send us a video, photo or a few sentences about your 2016 highlight and you might see yourself on TV during ABC's New Year's Eve broadcast. Share your video or photo on ABC TV's Facebook page www.facebook.com/abctv, or upload it to Twitter or Instagram using the hashtag #my2016moment

For further information and images contact:

Safia van der Zwan, ABC TV Publicity

02 8333 3846 | 0432732887 | email.vanderzwan.safia@abc.net.au