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Media Release

BARKAA TO HEADLINE BLAK NITE 2026 IN POWERFUL ONE-NIGHT CELEBRATION OF FIRST NATIONS MUSIC AND CULTURE

27 April 2026: One of Australia’s most uncompromising and influential First Nations artists, BARKAA, will headline BLAK NITE 2026 at Carclew this Friday night, anchoring a one-night festival that brings together music, culture and community in a bold, multi-artform celebration.

At a time when First Nations voices are shaping the national cultural agenda, BLAK NITE returns as a defining platform for both established and emerging artists — creating space for storytelling, connection and creative expression across generations.

Carclew’s First Nations Programs Manager Thomas Readett said the event is grounded in both celebration and opportunity.

“BLAK NITE celebrates the strength and diversity of First Nations creativity while developing meaningful opportunities for young artists to step onto major stages, connect with community and build pathways into the future.”

BARKAA said the opportunity to headline BLAK NITE was about more than performance — it was about representation, truth-telling and community connection.

“Everything I do is for my people. It’s about telling our stories the way they’re meant to be told — unapologetic, honest and powerful.

“To be part of something like BLAK NITE, where the community comes together and young mob can see themselves on stage, that’s what matters. That’s where the real change happens.”

Fresh from a string of major national performances and accolades, BARKAA continues to redefine Australian hip hop with a voice that is fearless, politically charged and deeply personal. Since breaking through in 2020, the Malyangapa, Barkindji artist has built a formidable reputation through releases including *For My Tittas* and *Our Lives Matter*, alongside her ARIA-nominated debut EP *Blak Matriarchy*.

Her trajectory has accelerated rapidly, with a sold-out performance at Sydney Opera House during VIVID, national touring success, and performances to crowds of up to 90,000 — cementing her status as one of the country’s most powerful live performers.

Beyond the headline performance, BLAK NITE 2026 will also feature a dynamic lineup including Nathan May & Band, Cringetrender, Katie Aspel, Sandy Abbott, DJ SVVLO, WAYIN:THI Dance Collective, and Gig Rig Tracks Youth performers — showcasing the depth and diversity of First Nations talent across music, dance and performance.

Designed as a full-site cultural experience, Carclew’s historic North Adelaide grounds will transform into an immersive festival environment, featuring live performances, hands-on workshops, art-making, market stalls and food trucks. Audiences can move through activations including Patch Theatre’s Light n’ Glow tents, jewellery making with [Haus of Dizzy](#), a collaborative Posca art wall with [Shane Cook](#) who has also developed all the merchandise and branding for the night, roaming native animals and live broadcasting from Port Augusta’s Umeewarra Radio.

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Central to the event is Carclew's ongoing commitment to nurturing emerging First Nations creatives through its Gig Rig Tracks program, delivered across regional South Australia including Whyalla, Port Augusta, APY Lands and Ceduna. The initiative provides real pathways into live performance and industry engagement, with young artists sharing the stage alongside nationally recognised acts.

BLAK NITE is produced by Carclew in partnership with Indigenous Languages and Arts Australia and Create SA, supported by Balya Productions. More information at www.carclew.com.au. **ENDS**

FACT SHEET

MEDIA ASSETS - [HERE](#)

TALENT FOR INTERVIEWS

- BARKAA
- Carclew First Nations Programs Manager, Thomas Readett
- Carclew Acting CEO, Robyn Jones

EVENT DETAILS

WHAT: BLAK NITE 2026

WHEN: Friday 1 May 2026, 4:30pm – 9:30pm

WHERE: Carclew, North Adelaide

COST:

- General Admission – \$10
- Family of 4 – \$35

BOOK: <https://events.humanitix.com/blak-nite>

ACCESSIBILITY

This event will occur across multiple indoor and outdoor spaces at Carclew. Ramp entrance available at the rear of the building. Further information about accessibility for this venue is available on Carclew's website.