



MEDIA RELEASE

Arts North West on Tour brings Spike the Echidna to Tenterfield this August

A tale of belonging, courage and one very lost baby echidna comes to the Sir Henry Parkes Memorial School of Arts Museum and Theatre on Saturday 8 August, as part of the Arts North West on Tour programme.

EVENT DETAILS

- **What:** *Spike the Echidna* — Arts North West on Tour family show, plus post-show shadow puppetry demonstration
- **When:** Saturday 8 August, 10:30am (running time approx. 40 minutes)
- **Where:** Sir Henry Parkes Memorial School of Arts Museum and Theatre, Tenterfield
- **Tickets:**
 - Children (2–16): \$10
 - Adults: \$15
 - Family (2 adults + 2 children): \$40
 - Family (1 adult + 3 children): \$40
 - Infants under 2: Free
- **Bookings:** <https://events.humanitix.com/spike-the-echidna-tenterfield-school-of-arts>

TENTERFIELD, NSW — Families in Tenterfield are invited to a heartfelt and funny new show this winter, as Arts North West on Tour brings *Spike the Echidna* to the Sir Henry Parkes Memorial School of Arts Museum and Theatre on Saturday 8 August at 10:30am.

Spike the Echidna follows a baby echidna stolen as an egg from his mother's nest by a sneaky rat, who hatches far from home with no idea who he is or where he belongs. He's found by a

young girl playing alone in the bush — hiding from a group of kids who won't leave her alone. Because the echidna hasn't grown his spikes yet, she has no idea what kind of creature he is, and her attempts to find him a home land him in the nest of a crocodile, then an emu, then a turtle.

As the story unfolds, the pair help each other: she helps him find where he belongs, and he helps her find her own "spikes" — the courage to stand up to the bullies.

Brought to life with original music by Mal Webb and hand-crafted puppetry, the show is an interactive experience for family audiences that's entertaining and funny, while offering a gentle way into bigger conversations about difference, belonging and standing up for yourself and others. Along the way, audiences get a delightful dip into the biology of one of Australia's most curious animals, the egg-laying echidna.

Following the performance, audiences are invited to stay for a shadow puppetry demonstration — a hands-on introduction to a beautifully accessible storytelling medium, perfect for curious young hands.

ABOUT SCHOOL OF ARTS TENTERFIELD INCORPORATED (SOATI) School of Arts Tenterfield Incorporated is a community arts organisation based in Tenterfield, NSW, delivering theatre, museum and cultural programming for the local community.

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Image provided by Arts North West

