

Brisbane, QLD  
18 June 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## SONGWRITING WORKSHOPS FOR YOUNG MUSICIANS IN MORETON BAY

Local musician, captivating songwriter and lyricist Mark Lowndes will be bringing his talent to Moreton Bay for the last of the AMPLIFY workshop series running from Tuesday, 22 June to Thursday, 24 June in Lawnton, Caboolture and Redcliffe.

Over the three days, Lowndes will be teaching young aspiring songwriters in the Moreton Bay region a thing or two about the magic of good lyrics.

Lowndes is well placed to share his song-writing skills having been a music singer-songwriter for a number of years. He first picked up a guitar at the age of 16 and moulded his own musical style of rootsy acoustic with reggae and RnB influences since. His evocative and clever lyrics speak to the audience and cannot fail to leave an impression on those who hear him.

Over the past two years, Mark's profile has grown locally, and some key achievements to date include performances at Woodford Folk Festival, Brisbane Festival, Stylin Up and the Zillmere and Roma Street multi-cultural festivals. Mark won Acoustic in the Park '06, and was one of the headline acts for ICON Creative Summit '06, '07 and '08.

The song-writing workshop series with Lowndes will be the last in the hugely popular AMPLIFY music workshop series, hosted by Youth Arts Queensland's Transit Lounge Caboolture program and A-Venue Moreton Bay. Having covered topics such as 'How to Get a Gig' and 'What is this thing they call the music industry?' AMPLIFY will be going out on a bang with Lowndes bringing a star performance to your local town hall.

Workshops run from 6:00pm – 7:30pm nightly in Lawnton (Tuesday, 22 June), Caboolture (Wednesday, 23 June) and Redcliffe (Thursday, 24 June), followed by jam sessions until 9pm.

Workshops are free but bookings are essential. Gold coin donations on the night are appreciated.

For more information and to book, contact Transit Lounge Caboolture on 5433 2444 or visit [www.myspace.com/avenuemoretonbay](http://www.myspace.com/avenuemoretonbay).

A-Venue Moreton Bay is a Queensland Government initiative funded through Arts Queensland and delivered by Youth Arts Queensland's Transit Lounge Caboolture program in partnership with Moreton Bay Regional Council and the support of QUT Caboolture Campus and QMusic.

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**What:** Songwriting workshop with Mark Lowndes  
**When**  
**& Where:** Tuesday 22 June at Lions Hall, Lawnton; Wednesday 23 June at Caboolture Memorial Hall; Thursday 24 June at Redcliffe Youth Space. 6pm – 7:30pm with jam sessions until 9pm.  
**To book:** call Transit Lounge Caboolture on 5433 2444  
**For more info:** email [transit.lounge@moretonbay.qld.gov.au](mailto:transit.lounge@moretonbay.qld.gov.au) or visit [www.myspace.com/avenuemoretonbay](http://www.myspace.com/avenuemoretonbay)

**For further information, images and interview opportunities please contact**

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## Artist Profile – Mark Lowndes

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Born and bred in Brisbane, with a Samoan/French background, Mark grew up surrounded by music. He first picked up a guitar at 16 and unlocked a creativity and passion that has been the root of his expression. It is this creativity and compulsion for pure musical expression and a heart-felt desire to impact people lives with his music that drives Mark. Mark launched his debut EP at UBER in Brisbane to a crowd of over 350 and quickly followed that with successful shows in Melbourne and around South East Queensland. He recently finished filming the music video for his debut single, Butterfly. 2009 has shaped up to be a big year with shows in Auckland and performances at Parachute in Hamilton, New Zealand and EasterFest in Toowoomba, Pasifika and regular shows in Sydney, Melbourne and more across south east Qld, with a far north Qld and South Pacific tour, including New Zealand, PNG, Fiji, Samoa, Tonga and culminating at Fest Napuan, Vanuatu in November. Over the past two years, Mark's profile has grown locally, and some key achievements to date include regular performances at Brisbane Festival, Stylin Up and the Zillmere and Roma Street multi-cultural festivals. Mark won Acoustic in the Park '06, and was one of the headline acts for ICON Creative Summit '06, '07 and '08. More recently Mark has performed at a number of Brisbane's live music festivals and venues, including Fortitude Rising, Pasifika, Ric's Bar, The Fringe Bar and The Zoo, The Globe and SolBar in Coolumb. He regularly gigs at The Beachhouse in Brisbane and The Oxford Hotel in Sydney. The age finalist for the 2007 FretFest Find Of The Year, Mark has also performed at a number of venues at the Woodford Folk Festival and is a major supporting artist for the Hope for Homeless cause. Describing his sound as good acoustic, rootsy soul music; Mark conveys his influences as many and changing, but of particular note are Stevie Wonder, Bob Dylan, Ruthie Foster, Ben Harper, Erik Badu, Bob Marley and John Mayer.