Lantern Festival showcases Chinese culture

Hobart will usher in its first Chinese Lantern Festival tonight, showcasing a huge array of unique cultural traditions.

The University of Tasmania is one of the major sponsors for the event which will host a full program of festivities, including traditional Chinese opera singing and face changing.

The festival will be held in Salamanca Square, Hobart, and features a line-up of attractions on Sunday, February 16.

“We are extremely proud to be a part of Hobart’s first Chinese Lantern Festival,” University Pro Vice-Chancellor (Global Engagement) Professor Peter Frappell said.

“We have a number of our students assisting with the event which aims to celebrate and showcase traditional Chinese culture through performances and demonstrations.”

As part of the festivities, Salamanca Square will be decorated with hundreds of Chinese lanterns.

There will also be a lion dance, tea ceremony and paper cutting and folding artwork.

“It’s a fantastic opportunity for the community to experience first-hand traditional Chinese performances and exhibits including live calligraphy and bookmarks,” Professor Frappell said.

The festival is a community event and held in conjunction with the Salamanca Square Management Committee.

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