



Marion Scrymgour
MINISTER FOR ARTS AND MUSEUMS

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FREE BUSES FOR SENIORS AT BALLET

Darwin's senior citizens will have access to a free bus service when the Australian Ballet performs in the Top End for the first time in 25 years, Arts Minister Marion Scrymgour announced today.

Ms Scrymgour announced last month that a free performance of one of the world's best loved ballets—*Giselle*—will be performed at the Darwin Ampitheatre on July 19.

“To see *Giselle* under the Dry Season stars at the Amphitheatre will be an experience unmatched anywhere else in Australia,” Ms Scrymgour said.

“The fact that the internationally renowned Australian Ballet will be backed by the local Darwin Symphony Orchestra will make it an even greater thrill.”

Ms Scrymgour said the NT Government would run a free bus service on the night of the performance for Darwin's senior citizens.

“Some of our senior citizens have difficulties getting to events in the evening, and we see this as a gesture to support such an important part of our community.

“We will be co-ordinating this service through the Office of Senior Territorians.”

The Northern Territory Government will be contributing \$45,000 to stage *Telstra Ballet in the Gardens* to be held at Gardens Amphitheatre at 7pm on Wednesday 19 July. Assistance will also be given by the Darwin City Council which is providing cash and in-kind support; the Federal Government through Playing Australia and the Darwin Symphony Orchestra.

Giselle is recognised as the world's first fully conceived ballet production, and was first performed in Paris on 28 June 1841.

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