



Emerging Artist Series: Festival of Sails 2026

Terms & Conditions

Get Ready to Hit the Stage!

Calling all aspiring artists! Join us at the Emerging Artist Series, nestled within the lively atmosphere of Tipi on the Bay at Fairnie Park!

We're thrilled to welcome back Forte and K rock 95.5 as partners for this fantastic competition, taking place on **Saturday, January 24, and Sunday, January 25, 2026**. This is your chance to shine!

Local singer-songwriters and duos will showcase their original music in an idyllic outdoor setting. Picture yourself grabbing a cool drink, settling into a sun chair, and enjoying the laid-back tunes throughout the afternoon, all while surrounded by food vendors and the scenic backdrop of yachts gliding across the bay.

Prizes

From Forte:

- **1st Prize:** Feature editorial on Fortemag.com.au, full-page feature in Forte Magazine, lead item in eDM, Instagram post + story.
- **2x Runners Up:** News editorial on Fortemag.com.au, half-page feature in Forte Magazine, eDM feature, Instagram story.

From K rock 95.5:

- **1st Prize:** Interview and song feature on Great Ocean Odes (K rock 95.5)
- **2x Runners Up:** Produced song played on Great Ocean Odes (K rock 95.5)

From Festival of Sails:

- **1st Prize:** \$500 cash prize and a gig on the main stage at Festival of Sails 2027.
- **2x Runners Up:** \$250 cash prize.

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Eligibility:

- The **Emerging Artist Competition** (Saturday & Sunday, January 24-25, 2026) is open to participants aged 16 years and older. Please note: parental or legal guardian consent needs to be obtained for competitors under the age of 18.

Participation by Minors (aged 16-17 years)

- Entrants aged 16 or 17 years must have the consent of a parent or legal guardian to enter and participate in the Emerging Artist Series as part of the Festival of Sails.
- A parent or guardian must:
 - Complete and sign the required consent section of the entry form, confirming their approval for the entrant to participate;
 - Be responsible for the entrant's attendance, transport, and supervision during all performances, and associated activities; and
 - Be contactable at all times while the entrant is on-site.
- By providing consent, the parent or guardian acknowledges and agrees that:
 - The event is open to the general public and may be recorded, photographed, or otherwise captured for promotional or archival purposes;
 - The entrant's name, image, voice, and performance may be broadcast, published, or otherwise used by the Festival of Sails, the Royal Geelong Yacht Club, or associated media partners including but not limited to Forte Magazine and K rock 95.5, without further permission or payment; and
 - Such use may appear in media including (but not limited to) social media channels, websites, print publications, and event marketing materials.
- Failure to provide appropriate parental or guardian consent will result in the entrant being ineligible to participate.

Competition Format:

- The competition is a game of skill, judged on the quality of original music performed by participants. Judges will evaluate performances based on creativity, musicality, and overall presentation.

Performance Details:

- Each performance will consist of a set lasting 20 minutes, with a 10-15 minute changeover between acts. Participants are responsible for bringing

their own instruments and any necessary equipment.

- No backline will be provided, however, a PA system is available.

Registration:

- Entries will be open from November 3, 2025 to January 10, 2026. All participants must complete the online registration form by 11:59pm (AEDT), January 10, 2026.

Judging:

- Judges will be appointed by the organisers and their decisions are final. Participants will be informed of the results at the end of the competition.

Prizes:

- Prizes will be awarded as outlined on the Festival of Sails website. Each winner will also have the opportunity to perform on the main stage at the next year's Festival of Sails.
- Presentations will be made on Monday, January 26 following the conclusion of the competition.

Promotion:

- By entering the competition, participants grant the organisers permission to use their names, likenesses, and recordings for promotional purposes related to the event.
- **Entrants may be photographed by Royal Geelong Yacht Club / Festival of Sails, and their images shared on the Club's Facebook and Instagram accounts, and/or the Club's website, as well as on marketing channels for Forte and K rock.**

Conduct:

- Participants are expected to conduct themselves professionally and respectfully at all times. Any behaviour deemed inappropriate may result in disqualification from the competition.

Changes to Terms:

- The organisers reserve the right to modify these terms and conditions as necessary, with prior notice provided to participants.