

**COORDINATORS REPORT**  
**HOMESTEAD YOUTH TALENT EXPO 2011**

**A BIG CONGRATULATIONS TO THE HOMESTEAD COUNTRY MUSIC CLUB MEMBERS, VOLUNTEERS AND THE 2011 EXPO COMMITTEE FOR ANOTHER SPECTACULAR JUNIOR MUSIC FESTIVAL.**

What a wonderful display of Junior Talent there was to help us celebrate the 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Homestead Youth Talent Expo.

Each year the organizers are amazed at the quality of the performances. We were again blown away with the talent on stage by juniors 17 years and under.

Each year the Judges have an extremely hard job determining the winners. The acts this year were so close that in most cases the difference between the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup>, place was so tight that 8 or more contestants deserved to win Juvenile and Junior Champion award. Thanks to the Judges for a hard job done well.

The 2011 Overall Champion Becc Holdorf stood out with her professional performances. This young lady has so much talent she is assured of becoming a star in Country Music, If she keeps working as hard as she is now it won't take her long. Becc has extra talents on keyboard, guitar and is also a mean fiddle player, not to mention her extraordinary vocal ability.

Becc also took out the title of 2011 Junior Champion.

Part of the Overall Champions prize is a paid ½ hour guest spot on the main stage at the 2012 Urban Country Music Festival where she will be listed on the Programme with all the Professional Artist who perform on that stage. She told me she is very excited to be part of Urban and is looking forward to her performance. This award was Sponsored by the Moreton Bay Regional Council and The Urban Country Music Festival.

We wish Becc all the very best in her music career.

The 2010 Overall Champion Brodie Holmes, is great ambassador for team spirit he believes in giving back to the young performers the kind of help he has been given in getting to where he is now. Brodie arrived at the venue early in the morning and worked as a volunteer as a stage hand and with the 'Young Guns' band throughout out the day. He is a great role model for all the up and coming performers.

Congratulations to Brodie for an outstanding performance as our special guest artist, the audience would not let him off the stage.

Good luck Brodie in your future career as a country artist.

Congratulations to the 2011 Juvenile Champion Kelsie Sweetman. Kelsie is a little firecracker just waiting to explode into a terrific entertainer. I will be following her career with interest through the coming years.

I gave this year's Coordinators Choice Award (a Shure microphone valued at \$200 and Sponsored by Guitar Exchange) to 10 year old Brigette O'Shannessy who performed in her first Festival and managed to take out a 1<sup>st</sup> and a 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Watch out for Brigette in the next 12 months.

A Festival like ours could not happen without the generosity of our Sponsors. There are too many to mention individually, so to all much valued Sponsors a huge thank you. We hope to see you all back with us again next year.

The Homestead family of volunteers and the Youth Talent Expo Committee members again excelled themselves in organizing the Festival and keeping the day running smoothly. Thank you all so much for all the help you gave me as Coordinator.

To all the competitors, Well Done!! You all performed to the best of your ability and gave the Audience an excellent display of all genres of Country Music. You are all cordially invited back to next years Expo which will be held on Saturday the 4<sup>th</sup> of August 2012. Make sure you bring your friends.

Thank you to wonderful Queenie Lodge who as usual did a splendid job selling the raffle tickets for the \$500 Accoustic/Electric Guitar Sponsored by Guitar Exchange Morayfield. Queenie also took care of the rolling raffle held on the day with prizes donated from local store owners and Homestead member Marion Boetje. It was a huge success.

Thanks to Brad Potter, the Sound Engineer, who worked without a break all day on the mixer and to Guitar Exchange who also sponsored the sound equipment.

As usual the 'Homestead Band' and the 'Young Guns' mixed together to back the contestants. These musicians all gave their time free and I thank them and sincerely welcome them back for the 2012 Youth Talent Expo. Thanks to all the comperes who as usual kept the show moving along. They do such a great job every year.

Someone I really need to thank is the backstage manager, Peta-Maree Thornton. Peta-Maree has worked the backstage with her mum for the last couple of years and has now taken the job on her own. Well done Peta-Maree, you handled it like a professional so you now have a permanent job !!!! (Money ????? - Sorry No Pay)

Thanks to Michael Smith and the crew who set the whole show up on Friday afternoon and pulled it all down again on Sunday morning.

Thanks to Charmayne Robinson, the official photographer, for an outstanding job providing me with hundreds of photos of the Expo which I will put together in a scrapbook (as I have done each year since the first event in 2007 ), for Homestead to keep as an annual record of all the Youth Talent Expos.

Boppa's crew, The Old Skool Muscle Car Club, once again did a superb job in keeping us all fed and watered throughout the day. Well done Boppa. !!!

To everyone who had anything to do with the running of this year's Youth Talent Expo, from the door to the canteen, I would like to give you all my heartfelt thanks and congratulations on another job well done!!!!!!

Laurie Sterling  
Coordinator