



📷 Karl Smith, aka The Lyrical, will speak at a TEDx event at Helensvale Library. Picture: Glenn Hampson

Entertainment

Gold Coast TEDx talk to see Karl Smith, aka The Lyrical, swap rapping for public speaking

Suzanne Simonot, Gold Coast Bulletin

June 2, 2017 12:00am

BRISBANE roots rapper The Lyrical's message of empathy through self awareness has earned him an invitation to speak to a global audience from the Gold Coast tonight in a TEDx talk.

Karl Smith, aka [The Lyrical](#), takes an introspective look at his place in the world and the state of affairs on his new EP King of Me, due out on June 16.

“There is a world full of important issues, and powerful stories to tell,” he said.

“Sometimes we get so wrapped up in the entertainment side of things, that we forget about the message ... which, in my humble opinion, is just as important.”



 The Lyrical will be speaking and performing for a TEDx event at Helensvale Library. Picture Glenn Hampson

Smith’s music’s politically charged and socially conscious message has earned him an invitation to speak at a [TEDx event at Helensvale Library](#) tonight (Friday) from 6pm.

“Dani Watson, one of the organisers of the evening and part of the Helensvale Library team, is a fan of my music and comes to a lot of the shows,” he said.

“She randomly contacted me one day and asked if I wanted to be involved in an evening of TEDx Talks about “Making It” — and I jumped on the chance.”

Based on the ‘ideas worth spreading’ format of TED Talks, TEDx events are designed to spark conversation and connections at a local level.



TEDx — Daniel Ware

Smith, who topped Triple J Unearthed with his single F*** It All, said he won't be using his TedX talk to showcase his music.

“I perform songs two to three nights a week at all different places and have dozens of videos online of me performing songs and have even more recordings available,” he said.

“What I don't have, is a chance to actually speak. To actually talk to people and share my thoughts and ideas about how to be happy.

“And I will be using the time I have to do just that — and maybe a sneaky bit of beat boxing at the start.”

Almost 15,000 TEDx events have been held around the world since the program launched in 2009, clocking up a combined total of more than one billion views online at TED.com.

The TEDx events are planned and co-ordinated independently under a free license granted by TED, with the Gold Coast event co-ordinated by 'brainstormer' Dani Watson from Helensvale Library.

“TED videos have the ability to snap you out of the lull of life,” she said.

“Whether they inspire you, teach you something, ignite a passion in you or spark a conversation, I love the fact they are free, easy to access and available to anyone.”

TEDx plays Helensvale Library tonight from 6pm. Watch online at TED.com

King of Me is released on iTunes and Spotify on June 16.

HELENSVALE 'MAKING IT' TEDx TALKERS



 Karl Smith, aka The Lyrical. Picture Glenn Hampson

Karl Smith, musician

Smith, aka The Lyrical, is a roots rapper, singer and songwriter interested in using his music as a force for good.



 Astronomer Noeleen Lowndes. Picture: Tim Marsden

Noeleen Lowndes, astrophotographer, astronomy and space educator

The former amateur astronomer turned her passion for all things space into a career. She is now the president of the SAS and NASA's Saturn Observation Campaign member in Australia.



 Architect Barry Lee.

Barry Lee, architect

Designed the Wave Tower and Q1, he has a passion for modern architectural design and how changing technologies will shape the future of our cities.



📷 Georgia Canning (left).

Georgia Canning, dancer, entrepreneur

The GC Dance Studio tutor, blogger and entrepreneur is passionate about making dance accessible to everyone.



 Jordyn de Boer. Picture: Brendan Radke.

Jordyn de Boer, conservationist

The Boomerang Bags founder has a degree in Environmental Science and a passion for keeping the world clean.



 Kristy Seymour. Picture: David Clark

Kristy Seymour, circus performer

Founder of Circus Stars, a circus school aimed at children on the Autism Spectrum and their families, Seymour is passionate about circus performance art, its history and its place in the modern world.



 Nicolle Edwards. Picture Glenn Hampson

Nicolle Edwards, Family violence support

Founder and managing director RizeUp, a community-driven organisation dedicated to supporting women and families affected by domestic and family violence.