



# MEDIA RELEASE

## ULTIMATE ELVIS TRIBUTE ARTIST CHAMPION TO HEADLINE IN 2021

For the first time in Festival history, the reigning International Ultimate Elvis Tribute Artist Champion Taylor Rodriguez has been announced as the 2021 Feature Artist for the 29th annual Parkes Elvis Festival to be held from 6-10 January 2021 in Parkes, NSW.

Taylor Rodriguez will have fans speeding their way to Parkes for four high-energy concerts celebrating the music of Elvis Presley at the Parkes Leagues Club from Wednesday 6 to Sunday 10 January 2021. The Festival's 2021 theme is Elvis' 1968 movie *Speedway*.

Taylor was named the Ultimate Elvis Tribute Artist Champion by Elvis Presley Enterprises (EPE) in Memphis in August 2019. This competition is held worldwide to look for the best representation of the legacy of Elvis Presley. The 2021 Festival will be his first time performing in Australia.

21-year-old Taylor hails from Lynchburg, Virginia, USA. Taylor fell in love with Elvis' music at the age of six listening to 'Blue Suede Shoes' and started performing at nine. He was one of the top five tribute artists at the age of 19, and then went on to be crowned the 2019 Tupelo Elvis Festival Champion before taking out number one at Memphis! Taylor's portrayal of The King has landed him in many musical productions including the Million Dollar Quartet where he starred as Elvis Presley.

"I am beyond excited to attend Parkes Elvis Festival! This will be my first time to Australia and I can't wait to celebrate the life, legacy, and music of Elvis Presley!! Let's get ready to Rock 'n' Roll Australia! ⚡", Taylor said.

Parkes Elvis Festival Director, Cathy Treasure, said "We are so excited to be able to host Taylor's first ever shows on Australian soil. His incredible showmanship and youthful energy will create a dynamic feature concert series that is not to be missed."

Taylor Rodriguez will perform four shows at Parkes Elvis Festival backed by a dynamic eight-piece Elvis band.

In addition to the Feature Concert series, Taylor will appear in the Northparkes Mines Street Parade, Gospel Service and Renewal of Vows Ceremony. Tickets for the 2021 Feature Concert Series will be on sale following the 2021 program launch on Monday, 7 September 2020.

**END RELEASE**

Summary: Reigning International Ultimate Elvis Tribute Artist Champion Taylor Rodriguez has been announced as the 2021 Feature Artist for the 29th annual Parkes Elvis Festival from 6-10 January 2021		
Authorised By: <b>Kent Boyd</b> <b>General Manager</b>	Contact: Tiffany Steel 02 6862 6000 <a href="mailto:tiffany.steel@parkes.nsw.gov.au">tiffany.steel@parkes.nsw.gov.au</a>	Distribution: National

