

# Outspoken Festival launched in Wanaka

10 December 2013



"The word is your oyster" . . . that is the catch-cry of the organisers of Wanaka's new Outspoken Festival.

The festival starts on January 12 – just over a month's time – and will unleash the magic of words.

Over six weeks, some of the nation's best wordsmiths will take to the stage, with budding talents invited to share it at a special Wanaka Showcase.

Poetic Justice founder Liz Breslin of Hawea Flat is the artist liaison for the non-profit initiative and says the event needs community support to fulfil the ambition of becoming a yearly event.

Liz says the organisers are seeking funding and there are many ways people can help, from becoming patrons to simply buying tickets early.

Several sponsors and supporters have already come on board, including the BNZ, Oakridge, Bistro Gentil, Amigos Mexican Grill and Cinema Paradiso.

The king of bards Sam Hunt will open the festival with his 'Songs for the tone-deaf'.

The programme also includes rap artist Tourettes, Mark Raffills, Ali Jacs, John Carr, and Sue Wootton.

Two collectives are coming to Wanaka - Catalyst from Christchurch and the South Auckland Poets, and there will be a programme for schools.

For additional information about OUTSPOKEN and how to support the festival, visit [www.outspokenfestival.co.nz](http://www.outspokenfestival.co.nz).

(CAPTION: Sam Hunt. PHOTO: Outspoken Festival)

[wanakalive.com](http://wanakalive.com)