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Winning team and design sought for city's cultural heart

Teams keen to take up the opportunity to produce a winning design for a world-class cultural precinct that will transform the Gold Coast's cultural heart will be invited to participate in a global design competition early in 2013.

Gold Coast Mayor, Councillor Tom Tate, today unveiled Council's plan to develop Evandale as the epicentre of culture for Australia's 6th largest city.

Cr Tate today (11/12) issued a call to leading national and international design teams to be 'on their marks' and ready for a major global design competition in the New Year.

"This is a signal to begin assembling multi-disciplinary teams capable of delivering outstanding contemporary design that is quintessentially Gold Coast," Cr Tate said.

He said the competition should be an exciting opportunity for designers to work within a magnificent 17-hectare site.

"Evandale will become the hub of artistic occupation for the city, a place that showcases the Gold Coast's unique cultural and creative life and a place where the community will come together to engage with arts and culture."

Council's vision for the cultural precinct encompasses state-of-the-art facilities in the performing arts, visual arts and new media, set in creatively landscaped surroundings.

It will become a destination for residents and visitors wanting to connect with the essence of the Gold Coast and be part of the unique cultural buzz of the city.

The competition will be launched in March 2013. Design teams will have six weeks to submit entries.

Following this initial submission process, an independent expert jury will select up to three teams to be offered \$250,000 each to develop detailed proposals for the cultural precinct.

It is expected that final designs will be exhibited for the public to view and the winner selected by the jury in late 2013.

"The winning team will play a part in changing the face of our city. And they will enjoy global attention, with the Gold Coast hosting the Commonwealth Games in 2018."

For more information, designers are encouraged to visit: www.goldcoastculturalprecinct.info

