



## ASSESSMENT MEETING REPORT



# ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER ARTS BOARD

APPLICATION CLOSING DATE  
15 July 2002

AUSTRALIA COUNCIL  
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THE INFORMATION IN THIS REPORT IS EMBARGOED FROM PUBLIC  
DISCUSSION UNTIL 1 NOVEMBER 2002

## ABOUT THIS REPORT

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*September 2002*

This report provides a context to the assessment of the applications submitted to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts Board Grants Committee on 15 July 2002. It provides some statistical analysis of the results of the grant round and more general comments made by the Committee during the assessment of the applications.

The Assessment Meeting was held on 26 - 27 September 2002. Applications were assessed in the New Work, Presentation and Promotion, and Skills and Arts Development categories.

The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts Policy (NATSIAP) is now integral to the Australia Council's policy and program delivery implementation. Within Council all applications with creative content and/or stated outcomes relating to Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander artists, communities or their activities are to provide letters of support from the relevant artists or communities.

The Council expects all applicants to familiarise themselves with the requirements and principles of NATSIAP and to make clear their application how issues of ownership, protocol and cultural appropriateness are to be addressed.

## ATTENDANCE

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The membership of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts Board Grants Committee in attendance was as follows:

Ray Kelly (Chair) is based in Newcastle and is the Director of the Awabakal Newcastle Aboriginal Co-op. He has a background in theatre and writing.

Leo Akee is based in the Torres Strait Islands and is a manager in the Queensland Dept. of Employment, Training and Industrial Relations. Leo occupies the Community Interest Representative.

Lenore Dembski (NT) Manager at ATSIC Darwin and small business operator, specialising in the use of designs by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists.

Rayma Johnson is a Sydney based freelance dancer from Griffith NSW.

Maroochy Barambah is based in Brisbane and is an opera singer, dancer, actor and storyteller.

Kylie Belling is a freelance actor based in Melbourne.

Ricky Maynard is an established documentary photographer from Launceston in Tasmania.

The following ATSIAB Staff attended this meeting:

Cathy Craigie	Director
Darrell Sibosado	Program Officer
Gina Azurin	Administrator
Katherine Stevenson	Administrative Assistant
Fleur Laurence	Administrative Assistant

## CHAIR'S COMMENTS

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The Grants Assessment Committee of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts Board met to assess seventy six applications to the New Work, Presentation and Promotion, Skills and Arts Development and Fellowships categories. The Committee approved thirty five applications.

Although the number of applications for this round was much smaller than the previous round it was noted that the standard of application submitted was much higher and therefore very competitive. The pressure on all grant categories increases from year to year as the calibre and practices within Indigenous arts develops and refines. It was also noted that the number of recipients from certain regions has increased which is seen as a direct response to the ATSIAB advocacy program.

I would like to assure all applicants that in assessing their applications the Committee adheres to a set of guidelines and criteria as directed by the Board.

I wish all applicants every success with their projects and look forward to regular updates on their progress.

Ray Kelly  
Chair

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## OUTCOMES

PROGRAM TITLE	APPLICATIONS (Number)		SUCCESS %	APPLICATIONS (Amounts - \$)	
	RECEIVED	APPROVED		REQUESTED	APPROVED
NEW WORK	25	15	60%	612,804	200,000
PRESENTATION AND PROMOTION	26	11	42%	810,031	181,029
SKILLS AND ARTS DEVELOPMENT	17	7	41%	567,153	150,000
FELLOWSHIPS	8	2	25%	640,000	160,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>2,629,988</b>	<b>691,029</b>

It is also important to note the following:

**Organisations currently in receipt of Triennial Funding:  
(for period 2003 to 2005)**

Central Australian Aboriginal Media Association Music (NT)	\$225,000
Gadigal Information Service Aboriginal Corporation (NSW)	\$135,000
Ngaanyatjarra Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjat Womens Council (SA)	\$150,000
Yothu Yindi Foundation (NT)	\$150,000

**Organisations currently in receipt of Program Funding:**

Ananguku Arts and Cultural Committee (SA)	\$76,560
East Gippsland Aboriginal Arts Corporation (VIC)	\$13,440
Magabala Books Aboriginal Corporation (WA)	\$60,000
Port Youth Theatre Workshop (SA)	\$50,000

**The 2003 Red Ochre Award recipient:**

Dorothy Peters. (VIC)	\$50,000
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*A full list of approved grants is attached.*

## FEEDBACK

- All applicants should ensure that they complete the application form in **BLACK INK** if they are handwriting their application forms.
- All applicants ensure that their budget request has been totalled correctly and the funds requested are easily identified.
- Applicants should check the start date coincides with the stated date on all ATSIAB application forms.
- Please note that **all individual** applicants to the ATSIAB must provide their Confirmation of Identity provided by an organisations registered under the Aboriginal Councils and Associationis Act 1976. This letter is to be on a letterhead and stamped with the organisation of identity when applicants submit their application
- Applicant should check how many times that they have applied to the Australia Council before submitting their application, and check the eligibility guidelines.
- Successful applicant to ensure that you contact ATSIAB staff before you consider any significant changes to the project. This includes budget changes and personnel changes. Your requests are to be made in writing to the Director of ATSIAB.
- The Committee was impressed with the high standard of applications received this round

- The Board has been actively undertaking advocacy visits to various states. There has been a noticeable increase in the number of applications from Victoria and Tasmania, which were the two states identified by the Board as target areas as there were a limited number of applications from these states.
- If you intend to apply to the ATSIAB please make sure you read the relevant sections of the 2002 Support for the Arts Handbook, as there have been a number of changes.

### NATSIAP INITIATIVES

#### **At Risk- Storytelling Project- Western Australia -\$23,575.00**

The project is targeted to simulate interest in the Aboriginal community with scope to include a non-indigenous element and will be aiming at attracting audiences from all sectors of the community.

#### **At Risk- Woodcarving Project- Torres Strait Islands -\$12,463**

The 'Woodcarving' project aims to stimulate interest in the traditional practice of woodcarving. The program will commence with the launch of the Woodcarving Project, a traditional welcome by the Kaurareg People and performances by the Orchid Dancers.

#### **At Risk- Shellworking Project- Tasmania -\$10,000**

The aim of this project was to stimulate and invigorate the traditional shell working craft. The project involved residencies at Cape Barren and Flinders Island. ATSIAB supported this project in partnership with Arts Tasmania. The finished work was exhibited at Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery.

## INITIATIVES AND PARTNERSHIPS

### **State Initiatives**

The Board identified Tasmania and Victoria as the two focus states for 2001/02. The state focus initiative assisted the development of partnerships with the State arts agencies and Aboriginal and Torres Strait arts organisations in their respective states.

Arts Tasmania held the "Tasmanian Talkabout" conference which was organised by Lola Greeno, Indigenous Arts Officer and held at Launceston in April 2002. (\$16,342)

Arts Victoria in partnership with Koori Business Network organised the 'Arts Business' conference held in Melbourne in September 2002. (\$40,000)

In 2002/2003 Western Australia and Torres Strait Islands will be the focus for partnership initiatives.

Western Australia  
Arts WA and ATSIAB will support an Indigenous position to be based with the Artists Foundation of Western Australia and Artsource. (\$30,000)

Torres Strait Islands  
ATSIAB and Arts Queensland partnership will provide support for Indigenous arts development projects and activities. (\$30,000)

### **Artform Initiatives**

ATSIAB identified literature and new media as the artforms for strategic initiatives. This initiatives provide opportunities to stimulate and invigorate activities and projects in those artforms.

### Literature \$15,000

ATSIAB and the Literature Board supported a 5 day writers residency at Bundanon followed by an Indigenous Publishers Forum.

### New Media \$30,000

ATSIAB, in partnership with the New Media Arts Board provided support for an Indigenous organisation and non-indigenous organisation to undertake collaborative new media arts project.

Tandanya, from South Australia successful application will see Adelaide based artists Stephen Kadlibarti Goldsmith and Francesca di Rimini explore intercultural resonances between Kurna and non-Indigenous societies resulting in the development of a interactive, internet based artwork.

### **Special Projects**

- **ATSIC Many Rivers & ATSIAB Partnership \$50,000**

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts Board and ATSIC Many Rivers Regional Council have commenced a partnership to support arts development projects within the Many Rivers Region. The partnership was formally launched on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2002 at Forster Tuncurry.

### **Partnership**

Sydney Dreaming \$50,000  
'Garrabadu, 'a ceremony that sings the water alive'. A festival celebrating Indigenous culture on November 16 & 17 2002, at the Sydney Olympic Parklands, Lake Belvedere, Bicentennial Park.

# STEPS IN THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS

## BEFORE THE MEETING

Staff checks eligibility and register applications on Council's computer database. You will receive a letter acknowledging your application with an application number and staff contact for your reference. Staff analyse the statistical information provided by applicants to help Council measure the effectiveness of its grant programs. Staff prepare applications and support material for the Board assessment meeting. Applications are made into booklets and sent to Board members. Peers are invited to participate as advisers to the Board at the meeting bringing additional expertise and perspectives to the assessment process. Staff also check and manage any conflicts of interest that Board members and peers have with applications and study the applications in order to provide information to the Board as required (see below \*).

## AT THE MEETING

### ASSESSMENT

Board members assess your application against the published selection criteria. Board members may examine support material at the meeting or by prior arrangement.

Board members may also take into account information from other sources such as:

- their attendance at performances and other events;
- reports from members of the Register of Peers who may be asked to provide formal assessments of designated works;
- reviews, videos and recordings, referee reports and other material;
- any previous Australia Council grant acquittal reports and performance agreements you may have had; and
- communication with State and Territory agencies.

Boards may decide not to fund the application at the level requested. While your application may meet the stated selection criteria, this does not guarantee you a grant. The Australia Council receives many more applications than it can support. The success of your application must rest ultimately on the merits of your proposal against published criteria and in competition with all the other applications considered for funding.

## NOTIFICATION OF DECISION

A letter notifying you of the decision will be posted to you during the month indicated in the Handbook and the application forms. Information about grant decisions will not be released over the phone.

## IF YOUR APPLICATION IS SUCCESSFUL

If your application is successful, you will receive a letter offering you a grant. This letter of agreement outlines the terms and conditions of the offer. Payment of a grant will not be made until you have accepted the conditions by signing and returning the letter of agreement.

## ACQUITTAL OF GRANTS

Acquittals are the artistic and financial reports that you must provide after completing your project. Acquittal reports enable the Council to fulfill its obligations of accountability as well as allowing us to learn about the success or otherwise of your project. These reports are a valuable way for you to contribute to the policy development work at the Australia Council.

*\*Staff do not make funding decisions. Staff provide information and advice to Council, Boards and advisory bodies to assist their determination of policy and assessment of grant applications. Staff also provide information to potential grant applicants and administer the Australia Council's grant programs to enable a simple, fair and efficient assessment of applications.*



# GRANTS LIST

NEW WORK Applicant		Artform	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	STATE
<b>ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAITS ISLANDER ARTS BOARD APPROVED GRANTS LIST CLOSING DATE 15 JULY 2002</b>					
Art gallery of NSW Trust	Literature	Collaborative publication of a book of essays canvassing the diversity of Indigenous art.	\$15,000	NSW	
Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-op	Visual Arts	The production and presentation of all exhibitions in the 2003 exhibitions calendar.	\$10,000	NSW	
Peter Brandy	Music	Record and promote a music CD and to present music workshops.	\$20,000	NT	
Tony Briggs	Theatre	A musical theatre work based on the true story of 4 young Aboriginal women who performed for the troops in Vietnam.	\$7,470	VIC	
Albert Brown	Music	Record and produce a master CD of 10 songs.	\$14,500	QLD	
Selwyn Burns	Music	Record and produce and CD album.	\$14,780	VIC	
David Carriage	Visual Arts	Create and exhibit new art works as well as works by Aboriginal elders.	\$13,700	NSW	
Theona Councillor	Music	Record and produce a music CD of original songs.	\$7,464	WA	
Flinders University Arts Museum	Visual Arts	Commission and document new work by Indigenous artists and to employ an Indigenous consultant.	\$12,900	SA	
Tjanara Goreng Goreng	Literature	Complete a novel, 'Red Earth' for publication.	\$13,786	ACT	
Irinytju Community Inc	Visual Arts	Facilitate the creation of new paintings on canvas by senior artists for cultural heritage and education purposes.	\$10,000	NT	
Gavin Ivey	Music	Record 6 track EP for national distribution	\$10,000	NSW	

<b>NEW WORK Applicant</b>	<b>Artform</b>	<b>PROJECT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>STATE</b>
Susan Marawarr	Visual Arts	Develop a new collection of prints for first solo exhibition.	\$10,000	NT
Ngkarte Mikwekenhe Community Inc	Literature	Create a multi media display involving painting and sculpture which promotes respect and understanding of Arrernte Culture	\$20,000	NT
Yirra Yaakin Noongar Theatre Aboriginal Corp	Performing Arts	Development and coordination of the Opening event for the 2003 Perth International Festival	\$20,400	WA
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$200,000</b>	

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# GRANTS LIST

PRESENTATION & PROMOTION Applicant		Artform	ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAITS ISLANDER ARTS BOARD APPROVED GRANTS LIST CLOSING DATE 15 JULY 2002		
			PROJECT DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	STATE
Art Gallery of NSW Trust	Visual Arts	An exhibition of contemporary Indigenous art from the East Kimberley region of Western Australia	\$15,000	NSW	
Association of Northern Kimberley and Arnhem Aboriginal Artists	Literature	Production of an educational and promotional resource publication showcasing the diversity of the 26 ANKAA Art Centres.	\$15,000	WA	
Lori (Lorraine Brown) Bailey	Music	Produce and promote a music CD	\$4,125	QLD	
Elizabeth Cavanagh	Music	Record and promote a music CD	\$16,610	QLD	
Centre for Contemporary Culture Barcelona	Literature	Kosmopolis – International Literature Festival	\$5,280	O/SEAS	
Nathan Chariton	Music	To record a CD and tour nationally	\$7,000	NSW	
Coalition of Peoples Inc	Performing Arts	Produce and present the 'Survival' concert in 2003	\$17,780	WA	
Dept of Education QLD (Kite Theatre)	Theatre	Redevelop and remount the Kooemba Jdarra co-production, 'Binnis Backyard'.	\$18,900	QLD	
Jennifer Fraser	Visual Arts	Curate three online exhibitions, commission writers and print catalogues for distribution.	\$3,500	QLD	

<b>PRESENTATION &amp; PROMOTION Applicant</b>	<b>Artform</b>	<b>PROJECT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>STATE</b>
Indigenous Arts Showcase Management Committee	Festival	Develop and present an Indigenous arts showcase at Perth International Arts Festival	\$27,500	WA
Melbourne Workers Theatre	Theatre	Contemporary theatre piece reflecting the judgement by the federal court in 1998 which determined that the Yorta Yorta could not prove sufficient traditional connection to their land.	\$20,000	VIC
Jimmy Pike	Visual Arts	To participate in the 'Dream Traces' art exhibition and activity week with new work, books, cultural demonstrations and slide show.	\$9,070	WA
Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre Inc	Music	To record and produce a promotional album of Cape Barren Island music with established and emerging Aboriginal artists.	\$9,061	TAS
Tiwi Designs Aboriginal Corporation	Theatre	To produce and present traditional dance performances at the Woodford Folk Festival.	\$12,203	NT
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$181,029</b>	

# GRANTS LIST

SKILLS & ARTS DEVELOPMENT Applicant	Artform	ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAITS ISLANDER ARTS BOARD APPROVED GRANTS LIST CLOSING DATE 15 JULY 2002  PROJECT DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	STATE
<b>ORGANISATIONS</b>				
Dubbo Community Services and Information Centre	Multi	To develop traditional art workshops in various communities in the region.	\$20,000	NSW
Kurna Aboriginal Community & Heritage Association	Multi	To develop training for a cultural re-newal program with an artist-in-residence program.	\$18,500	SA
Lajamanu Community Govt Council	Performing Arts	To develop traditional teaching of dance and ceremony.	\$7,006	SA
Yalga-binbi Institute for Community Development ATSI Corp	Literature	To provide support and development programs for Indigenous writers and illustrators in North Queensland.	\$30,000	QLD
Yarrabah Community Council	Visual Arts	Empoyment of an arts coordinator who will implement and coordinate programs to develop arts practice in the region.	\$42,492	QLD
<b>INDIVIDUAL</b>				
William McPherson	Theatre	To create a draft script for theatre and to develop a theatre piece through a rehearsal/workshop program of 5 weeks.	\$20,000	NSW
Dalisa, Pigram	Dance	Research and development of choreographic techniques.	\$12,000	WA
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$150,000</b>	

# GRANTS LIST

FELLOWSHIPS		ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAITS ISLANDER ARTS BOARD APPROVED GRANTS LIST CLOSING DATE 15 JULY 2002	
Applicant	Artform	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT STATE
Lionel Fogarty	Literature	Production of two book manuscripts, two short film scripts, a CD and a CD Rom.	\$80,000 QLD
Pantjiti Mary McLean	Visual Arts	Create a series of paintings to be exhibited as a major work.	\$80,000 WA
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$160,000</b>