

ASSESSMENT MEETING REPORT



ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER ARTS BOARD

APPLICATION CLOSING DATE
15 December 2004

AUSTRALIA COUNCIL
372 ELIZABETH STREET SURRY HILLS NSW 2010
PO BOX 788 STRAWBERRY HILLS NSW 2012

Phone (02) 9215 9000
Toll-free (1800) 226 912
Fax (02) 9215 9111
www.ozco.gov.au

THE INFORMATION IN THIS REPORT IS EMBARGOED FROM PUBLIC
DISCUSSION UNTIL 15 April 2005

ABOUT THIS REPORT

This report provides a context to the assessment of the applications submitted to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts Board on 15 December 2004. It provides information on the results of the grant round and general comments made by the committee.

ATTENDANCE

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts Board members in attendance were:

Ms Brenda L. Croft (Meeting Chair) – Since 2002 Brenda has been the Senior curator of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts at the National Gallery of Australia. Prior to this she was Curator of Indigenous Art at the Art Gallery of Western Australia (1999 - 2002). Founding member of Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-operative (1987) and later General Manager (1990 - 96). Brenda is a practicing visual artist and has been awarded a Master of Art Administration from the College of Fine Arts, UNSW (1995).

Mr Lafe Charlton – actor, director, project manager and youth arts co-ordinator. He is currently Director of the Aboriginal Centre for Performing Arts in Queensland.

Jennifer Martinello – an award winning writer, poet, academic and teacher who lives in Canberra. She has facilitated many cross-cultural arts projects bringing Indigenous and multicultural Australia together such as *Voices and Spaces: Indigenous and Multicultural Voices in Dialogue*, through the first national conference of the ACT Indigenous Writers Group.

Janina Harding – an arts programmer, writer, broadcaster and audiovisual worker. Janina has worked with festivals, oral history projects, community and public broadcasters and local government.

Gina Rings – dancer, choreographer and director. Gina has danced with various companies including Bangarra Dance Theatre and is now completing a Degree in Screen studies at the Flinders University of South Australia.

Participating Advisers/Peer Assessors.

Carol Innes - Carol is a Noongar woman from Narrogin in Western Australia. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Applied Science for Aboriginal Community Management & Development. Carol has nine years experience in arts administration at state and national levels, and with other government agencies at various levels and is currently employed as the Manager Regional Development & Indigenous Networks for ArtSource the Artist Foundation of Western Australia and is the Chair of the Healthway Arts Advisory Committee. She is a presenter on RTR FM 92.1. Carol has chosen to stay in the arts sector as she believes that it is the tool that can make changes and is working with artists to achieve their dreams. Carol strongly believe that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists need to be more aware of their legal rights and have an understanding of copyright and intellectual property issues.

The ATSIAB staff in attendance at the meeting were:

Mark Stapleton – Manager
Kerri McIlvenny – Senior Policy Officer
Darrell Sibosado – Program Officer
Skye O’Meara – Assistant Program/Policy Officer
Catherine Timbrell – Administrator
Lisa O’Hara – Administrative Assistant (Scribe)

MEETING CHAIR’S COMMENTS

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts Board met to assess thirty three applications to the New Work category, forty two to Presentation and Promotion and twenty three to the Skills and Arts Development categories. The Board approved forty three applications.

Although the majority of the applications were of a high standard, the Board is concerned by the number of applications that were ineligible for assessment because they did not include the required support material or address the relevant selection criteria. The Board would like to remind applicants to contact the staff of the ATSIAB Division when preparing an application and to provide the required material and project details as outlined in both the application form and the Support for the Arts Handbook under the relevant category.

In keeping with the Board's visions and strategies we are pleased to have been able to contribute to the development, creation and presentation of work by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists and arts workers.

However, it is also increasingly obvious that the demand for funds is far greater than the amount available. This is an issue that will require further discussion, particularly in light of ATSIAB’s dissolution as that organisation was responsible for the provision of considerable funding, eg, arts/cultural centres.

I would like to assure all applicants that in assessing their applications, the Board adheres to a set of guidelines and criteria endorsed by the Australia Council.

I wish all applicants every success with their projects and look forward to very favourable reports on their progress.

Brenda L. Croft
Meeting Chair

OUTCOMES

PROGRAM TITLE	ELIGIBLE APPLICATIONS (Number)		SUCCESS %	APPLICATIONS (Amounts - \$)	
	RECEIVED	APPROVED		REQUESTED	APPROVED
Skills & Art Development (Individuals and Groups)	12	5	41,66%	538,327	103,024
Skills & Art Development (Organisations)	11	7	63.63%	299,933	100,164
Presentation & Promotion	42	17	40.47%	1,260,291	273,948
New Work	33	14	42.42%	1,164,659	204,328
TOTAL	98	43	43.87%	3,263,210	681,464

FEEDBACK

All applicants should ensure that they complete the application form in **BLACK INK** if they are handwriting their application forms.

All applicants must ensure that their budget request has been totalled correctly and the funds requested are easily identified.

Applicants should check that 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 Associations Act 1976. This letter is to be on letterhead and stamped with the organisation's Common Seal.

All applicants must address the selection criteria and ensure that the proposed project provides quality assurance of project implementation.

Applicants should check how many times they have applied to the Australia Council before submitting their application and check the eligibility guidelines.

All applicants are to ensure that relevant support materials, as stated in the Handbook, must be submitted with their application.

Successful applicants should ensure that they contact ATSIAB staff before you consider any significant changes to the project. This includes budget changes and personnel changes. These requests are to be made in writing to the Director of ATSIAB.

If you intend to apply to the ATSIAB please make sure you read the relevant sections of the 2004 Support for the Arts Handbook, as there have been a number of changes.

The Board noted in this round that there may be circumstances where artists or other project personnel cannot be confirmed in applications. If this is really the case applicants should be able to explain how they will select and confirm artists and artswokers.

The Board members noted their strong interest in knowing applicants' country and language group and encourages applicants to provide this information as well as where they are currently based.

The Board asks that all applicants make sure that they follow appropriate cultural protocols in their proposed projects.

ATSIAB – INITIATIVES AND PARTNERSHIPS				
CLIENT NAME	APPLICATION TITLE/SHORT DESCRIPTION	STATE	AMOUNT	
NSW Sorry Day Committee	Performance fees for the Sorry Day - Day of Healing on the 26th May 2005.	NSW	\$10,000	
Streetwise Communications Ltd	StreeTalk 2005 - Indigenous young people arts development workshops from Campbelltown, Bowraville, Brewarrina, Broken Hill and Redfern/Waterloo	NSW	\$25,400	
Kari Telfer and Waiata Telfer	Travel and accommodation costs for Waiata and Karl Telfer to attend LIFT program in London, UK	SA	\$6,080	
“Our Place” Indigenous Australia Now Exhibition	Artists traveling to Beijing, China to performance at the “Our Place” Indigenous Australia Now exhibition	National	\$50,000	
Sydney Country Music Club - Aboriginal Corporation	Artists Fees and operational costs	NSW	\$40,453	
Coalition of People Inc.	2005 Survival Concert, Perth WA	WA	12,000	
Arts Law Centre of Australia	Artists in the Black	National	\$100,000	
Music Managers Forum (Australia) Ltd	Support 3 Indigenous music Co-ordinators to attend Midem 2005. WA, NT & NSW	National	\$19,900	
Gadigal Information Service Aboriginal Corporation	Gadigal Information Service Aboriginal Corporation for Yabun concert in Sydney	NSW	\$35,000	
Mark Bin Baker	To further enhance and develop skills as an actor/performer/entertainer/creative development	WA	\$45,000	
Department of Culture and the Arts	Indigenous Co-ordinator position for Artists Mob Project with Artsource WA	WA	\$30,000	
		TOTAL	\$373,833	

STEPS IN THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS

BEFORE THE MEETING

Staff check 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

All applicants will be notified of the Board's decision by mail 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 of agreement offering you a grant. This letter 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.*

CATEGORY: NEW WORK		ATSIAB - APPROVED GRANTS LIST CLOSING DATE: 15TH DECEMBER 2004		
CLIENT NAME	APPLICATION TITLE/SHORT DESCRIPTION	STATE	AMOUNT	
Albury Wodonga Aboriginal Corporation	Multi Arts - Tenth Anniversary of the Ngan Girra festival	NSW	\$11,320.00	
Warren Allen	Visual Arts - 'Wandering Spirit'	NSW	\$2,500.00	
Blackface Productions	Drama/Theatre - 'Wrong Meat Beautiful Lies'	QLD	\$12,800.00	
Lance Chadd	Visual Arts - 'Bibulmon Budja'	WA	\$16,915.00	
Christine Christophersen	Visual Arts - 'Blue Print: The history of the World - A Murrumbidgee Perspective'	VIC	\$24,000.00	
Golden Seahorse Productions	Music - 'Meeting Two - The Charcoal Club'	VIC	\$8,720.00	
John Huckle	Music - 'Covering My Tracks'	ACT	\$10,000.00	
Kooemba Jdarra Aboriginal Corporation	Drama/Theatre - 'Bitin Back' by Vivienne Cleven	QLD	\$40,450.00	
Lewis Langton	Visual Arts - Creation of new work for exhibition	ACT	\$4,945.00	
Albert Moran	Visual Arts - 'Memories of the Island'	NSW	\$10,165.00	
Laurel Nannup	Visual Arts - 'My Beautiful Country'	WA	\$10,400.00	
Seaman Dan	Music - CD 'Seaman Dan presents traditional & contemporary Torres Strait Islander songs'	QLD	\$30,756.00	
South Australian Indigenous Writers Group	Literature - SA Writers Group Anthology	SA	\$4,677.00	
	TOTAL		\$204,328.00	

PRESENTATION & PROMOTION		ATSIAB - APPROVED GRANTS LIST CLOSING DATE: 15TH DECEMBER, 2004		
CLIENT NAME	APPLICATION TITLE/SHORT DESCRIPTION	STATE	AMOUNT	
Alice Springs Festival Inc	Music/Multi Arts - 'DESERT song 2005'	NT	\$15,100.00	
Brisbane Writers Festival Association Inc	Literature - Brisbane Writers Festival - Indigenous program	QLD	\$10,000.00	
City of Adelaide	Multi Arts - 'NAIDOC 05 Indigenous Creative (hybrid arts) laboratory'	SA	\$20,000.00	
Gary and Juliette	Dance - New dance work - 'Entrapment'	NT	\$26,995.00	
Joseph Geia	Music - CD production of original songs	VIC	\$10,000.00	
Alice Haines	Music - Marketing and promotion of CD - 'Alice'	WA	\$5,000.00	
Ruby Hunter	Music - International tour with Australian Art Orchestra	VIC	\$8,000.00	
William Jarrett	New Media - Production of DVD - 'River Rhythm Beatbox'	NSW	\$14,250.00	
John Harding Enterprises	Literature - The selected works of playwright John Harding	VIC	\$13,700.00	
Kimberley Aboriginal Law & Culture Centre	Multi Arts - KALACC Festival 05	WA	\$43,000.00	
Magabala Books Aboriginal Corporation	Literature - Author Tour and Launch - 'The N Word'	WA	\$9,376.00	
Violet McDermott	Literature - To work with an editor to write the 'biography of Violet McDermott'	QLD	\$10,000.00	
Martin Pascoe	Music - 'The Day Street Sessions'	NT	\$7,530.00	
Paupiyala Tjarutja Aboriginal Corporation	Visual Arts - Spinifex Arts project Overseas Exhibition Program	WA	\$19,225.00	
ProppaNow Artists collective	Visual Arts - exhibition - 'Thicker than ever'	QLD	\$14,250.00	
South Australian Indigenous Writers Group	Literature - 'National Indigenous Writers festival 05'	SA	\$22,152.00	
Tandanya Nat Aboriginal Cultural Institute	Visual Arts - Multi media exhibition - 'Colliding Worlds'	SA	\$25,370.00	
	TOTAL		\$273,948.00	

ATSIAB - APPROVED GRANTS LIST			
CLOSING DATE: 15TH DECEMBER 2004			
SKILL & ARTS DEVELOPMENT - ORGANISATIONS	CLIENT NAME	APPLICATION TITLE/SHORT DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
	Djilpin Arts	Theatre - performance combining traditional and contemporary media techniques - 'Walking with Spirits 2005'	\$15,000.00
	Kaltjiti Arts and Crafts Inc	Visual Arts - 'Tjukurpa Painting Workshops'	\$20,762.00
	Maningrida Arts and Culture	Visual arts - Record the artistic projects of John Mowurnjui	\$8,100.00
	Music NT Inc	Music - Employment of NT Indigenous Music Development Officer	\$5,100.00
	Nimbin School of Arts Inc	Visual Arts - Inaugural Nimbin Indigenous Art and Culture exhibition	\$4,118.00
	Songlines Aboriginal Music Corporation	Music - Development of Local Music Forums	\$20,000.00
	Vulcana Womens Circus Inc	Theatre - 'Urban Dreaming with a Backflip'	\$27,084.00
		TOTAL	\$100,164.00

SKILL & ARTS DEVELOPMENT - INDIVIDUALS & GROUPS		ATSIAB - APPROVED GRANTS LIST CLOSING DATE: 15TH DECEMBER 2004		
CLIENT NAME	APPLICATION TITLE/SHORT DESCRIPTION	STATE	AMOUNT	
Kunajarray Artists Co-op of Nyirrpi	Visual Arts/Crafts - Art and culture workshops between the Kunajarray artists and Kuarna artists.	NT	\$10,000.00	
Gail Mabo	Dance - Research and development for a Dance work celebrating the life of Koiki (Eddie) Mabo - 'Koiki'	QLD	\$35,093.00	
Jason Davidson	Visual Arts/New Media - Development of a visual art works combining animation, digital photography and video - 'Aboriginal Imagination Street Machine Project'	NT	\$21,100.00	
Jason Pitt	Dance - 2nd stage development of multimedia dance work 'Inasmuch'	NSW	\$15,000.00	
Mariaa (Margaret) Randall	Dance/Theatre - workshops with Indigenous Dance Group, 'PROOF' in Casino (NSW) - 'ChoiCes/ChangeEs'	NSW	\$21,831.00	
		TOTAL	\$103,024.00	