

ASSESSMENT MEETING REPORT



ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER ARTS BOARD

APPLICATION CLOSING DATE
15 July 2004

AUSTRALIA COUNCIL
372 ELIZABETH STREET SURRY HILLS NSW 2010
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THE INFORMATION IN THIS REPORT IS EMBARGOED FROM PUBLIC
DISCUSSION UNTIL 12 November 2004

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 July 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:

Mr Richard Walley (Chair) – leading performer and writer. He has been variously involved as director, designer, writer, musician, dancer and actor in a range of media. He has toured Australia, Japan, Europe and the United States.

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 Martiniello – 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.

Anita Maynard – visual artist, curator, playwright and teacher. Anita is Deputy chair of the Riawunna Advisory Board, University of Tasmania and as well as being a practicing artist has also taught at TAFE Tasmania for several years in various areas including Abstract Art, Jewellery making and Indigenous Cultural Studies.

Brenda L. Croft - Since 2002 Brenda has been the Senior Curator of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art at the National Gallery of Australia. Prior to this she was Curator of Indigenous Art at the Art Gallery of Western Australia (1999 - 2001).

Brenda was a founding member (1987) and later General Manager of Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-operative in Sydney (1990-96), and was awarded a Master of Art Administration from the College of Fine Arts, UNSW (1995). She was the inaugural Australian recipient of the Chicago Artists International Program (1996), and resident artist at the Australia Council Greene Street Studio in New York (1997). On behalf of the Art Gallery of NSW, Brenda, Hetti Perkins and Victoria Lynn co-curated *fluent: Emily Kame Kngwarreye, Yvonne Koolmatrie and Judy Watson*, Australia's representation at the 47th Venice Biennale (1997).

As an artist since the mid-1980s, Brenda's work is held in public and private collections, and has been exhibited in national and international exhibitions. Brenda is currently curating an international Indigenous Commission from Australia for the Musee du Quai Branly in Paris, France, opening 2005/ 2006.

Djambawa Marawili - is an artist, working with sculpture and bark painting and was the winner of the 1996 Telstra award for the Best Bark Painting. Djambawa is the Chairperson of the Association of Northern and Kimberley Aboriginal Artists Association and Chairperson of Buku-Larrnggay Mulka Centre.

His principle roles are as leader of the Madarrpa clan, a caretaker of his own and other related clans and as an activist and administrator between non-Aboriginal people and the Yolngu (Aboriginal) people of East Arnhem Land.

Participating Advisers/Peer Assessors.

Mark Bin Barker

The ATSIAB staff in attendance at the meeting were:

Ray Kelly	– Director
Mark Stapleton	– Unit Manager
Kerri McIlvenny	– Senior Policy Officer
Darrell Sibosado	– Program Officer
Fleur Laurence	– Administrator
Catherine Timbrell	– Assistant Program/Policy Officer
Michelle Wong	– Assistant Program/Policy Officer
Noel Johnson	– Administrative Assistant
Lisa O'Hara	– Administrative Assistant

CHAIR'S COMMENTS

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts Board met to assess 86 applications to the New Work, Presentation and Promotion, Skills and Arts Development and Fellowships categories. The Board approved 42 applications. At this meeting the Board also assessed 8 nominations for the Red Ochre Award and 8 applications to the Key Organisations category. The Board approved 7 Key Organisations for funding.

The Board found that there has been a giant step forward in the quality of applications from all parts of Australia.

In keeping with the Board (and Council) strategies we are pleased to have made a contribution to the steady increase in Indigenous arts practice both in numbers and diversity. We feel that Indigenous arts practice is in a very healthy state and the applications received have reinforced this statement. It is evident that both national and international audiences are becoming increasingly appreciative of Indigenous arts.

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.

None of us wants to see a system whereby those in favour with the government of the day get the money and those out of favour don't.

And that's why the Australia Council was established and exists today as a statutory authority. Its task is to take government money -- the taxpayers' money -- and, where grants are to be made, distribute it as fairly as possible to those who can produce the best results from it.

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

Richard Walley
Chair

OUTCOMES

PROGRAM TITLE	ELIGIBLE APPLICATIONS (Number)		SUCCESS %	APPLICATIONS (Amounts - \$)	
	RECEIVED	APPROVED		REQUESTED	APPROVE
Skills & Art Development (Individuals and Groups)	9	6	66%	268,259	50,691
Skills & Art Development (Organisations)	9	3	33%	305,826	42,450
Presentation & Promotion	30	17	56%	740,642	229,510
New Work	25	14	56%	476,274	168,450
Fellowships	13	2	15%	1,040,000	160,000
TOTAL	86	42	48%	2,831,001	651,101

Key Organisations	8	7	87%	3,218,179	967,392
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At the October 2004 Board meeting the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts Board also assessed 8 nominations for the 2004 Red Ochre Award. The winner of the 2004 Red Ochre award will be announced on 6th December 2004.

Note: Each year the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts Board offers two \$80,000 arts fellowships (\$40,000/yr over two yrs).

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 a letterhead and stamped with the organisation of identity when applicants submit their application.

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.

The Board was impressed with the high standard of applications received in this round.

The Board has been actively supporting the implementation of key strategies. There has been a noticeable increase in the number of initiatives and special projects that were deemed to provide the highest level of appropriate service to the communities through efficient management and planning processes.

If you intend to apply to the ATSIAB 15th December closing date, please make sure you read the relevant sections of the 2004 Support for the Arts Handbook, as there have been a number of changes.

INITIATIVES & OUT-OF-TIME APPLICATIONS

Current Board Initiatives

The ATSIAB Strategic Plan identified key strategies for implementations in its 2004 - 2008 Strategic Plan. Listed below are the initiatives supported by the Board in 2004.

Quai Branly (International)

Major commission of Indigenous arts by the Musee du Quai Branly in Paris.

9th Festival of Pacific Arts 2004 (International)

A delegation of 33 Indigenous artists from Australia participated at the festival held in Koror, Palau.

Terrasphere Productions Pty Ltd (International)

Simon Raynor will undertake market research at the World Music Trade Fair & Expo (WOMEX) held in Essen Germany.

Kimberley Stolen Generation Committee Aboriginal Corporation (Western Australia)

To produce a CD compilation about the stolen generation.

Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery (New South Wales)

Two Tasmanian Aboriginal shell craft artists will attend Passage Exhibition and undertake workshops as part of the exhibition program.

Carclew Youth Arts Centre (South Australia)

To organise Blak Nite, a premier showcase event for Indigenous youth from South Australia & deliver skills development workshop program, Nunga Days.

Indij Readers Ltd (New South Wales)

To develop and produce CD "Raps for little Fullas, Raps for Big Fullas" Series 2.

Mudgin-Gal Aboriginal Corporation

Performing artists fees for Aboriginal Women's Award Night Ceremony.

National Gallery of Australia (National)

Solo exhibition of photo media, film and video by Wiradjuri artist Michael Riley.

Descendance Aboriginal & TSI Dance Company (International)

Participated in the International Festivals of Seoul, The Festival of the Drums and The Busan International Film Festival.

Out-of-time Applications

In exceptional circumstances, the Australia Council will consider grant applications outside the advertised closing dates for some categories. Out-of-time applications may only be made for significant International activities or by artists with HIV/AIDS or a terminal or debilitating illness.

For information, refer to the 2004 Support for the Arts Handbook or Australia Council website.

www.ozco.gov.au

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: KEY ORGANISATIONS		ATSIAB - APPROVED GRANTS LIST		CLOSING DATE: 15TH JULY 2004	
ORGANISATION	GRANT	STATE	AMOUNT		
Ananguku Arts & Culture Aboriginal Corporation	3 year Triennial Grant	SA	\$225,000		
Institute of Aboriginal Development	1 year Triennial Grant	NT	\$240,000		
Kurruru Indigenous Youth Performing Arts Inc	1 year Triennial Grant	SA	\$50,000		
Kimberley Aboriginal Law and Culture Centre	1 year Triennial Grant	WA	\$112,000		
Woomera Aboriginal Corporation	1 year Triennial Grant	QLD	\$205,392		
Magabala Books Aboriginal Corporation	1 year Triennial Grant	WA	\$90,000		
Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-op	1 year Program Grant	NSW	\$45,000		
		TOTAL AMOUNT	\$742,392.00		

CATEGORY: FELLOWSHIPS		ATSIAB - APPROVED GRANTS LIST		CLOSING DATE: 15TH JULY 2004	
ORGANISATION	GRANT	STATE	AMOUNT		
Herbert Wharton	To create four new literary works	QLD	\$80,000		
Ricky Maynard	To create a photgraphic essay of the Bass Strait and its Indigenous people	TAS	\$80,000		
		TOTAL AMOUNT	\$160,000.00		

**ATSIAB - APPROVED GRANTS LIST
CLOSING DATE: 15TH JULY 2004**

CATEGORY: NEW WORK

APPLICANT	GRANT	STATE	AMOUNT
@Production	Nerrpu - Dhawu Rrurrambuuy: multimedia, one man show performed by George Rrurrambu	NT	\$26,500
Birrinbirrin, Richard	Richard Birrinbirrin to develop his painting skills and paint his parents' stories from their countries	NT	\$10,000
Fletcher, Geoffrey	Recording original music written, sung and played by Geoffrey Fletcher and Bernard Wallaby	WA	\$10,000
Jimmy Chi Pty Ltd	Kuckles band to create a new recording of Jimmy Chi musical 'Bran Nue Dae'	WA	\$10,000
Johnson, Leroy	Record 'Songs From a Resting Place' a CD of the journey of an Aboriginal man	NSW	\$10,000
Kirinari Hostel	Shifting Spirits' a multi-artform performance about coping with change	NSW	\$8,250
Lewis, Lynette	Record a CD entitled 'The Way I Did' in English and Wambaya	NT	\$10,000
Paupiyala Tjarutja Aboriginal Corporation	Commission 9 Spinifex paintings along with publicity for major retrospective in Amsterdam	WA	\$28,000
Railway Street Theatre Company Ltd	Nangami performance workshops and production by young Indigenous people of Western Sydney	NSW	\$10,000
Sansbury, Tarina	Tarina Sansbury to write and record her grandmother's biography	VIC	\$3,700
Summers, Delia	Delia Summers to create baskets and textile pieces for a solo exhibition entitled 'Weaving Memories'	TAS	\$7,000
Taylor, Alfred	Research and write poetry, leading to a collection of poems	WA	\$7,000
Ugle, Primus	Create a series of paintings that illustrate early life experiences	WA	\$8,000
VIM Incorporated	Dance project - a reworking of 'A Street Car Named Desire' set on The Block, Redfern	NSW	\$20,000
TOTAL			\$168,450

**ATSIAB - APPROVED GRANTS LIST
CLOSING DATE: 15TH JULY 2004**

CATEGORY: PRESENTATION & PROMOTION

APPLICANT	GRANT	STATE	AMOUNT
Arranounbai Aboriginal Art Enterprises	Participate in art exhibitions throughout South East Queensland	QLD	\$18,000
Bradley, Yvonne	Promote CD on TV, festivals and radio	NT	\$3,000
Buchanan, Michelle	Create a book of Aboriginal poetry	QLD	\$7,500
Bula'bula Arts Aboriginal Corporation	Produce brochures, product swing tags and promotional CD	NT	\$5,000
Dann, Robert	Produce a DVD to promote the Nibjlm dance group nationally and internationally	WA	\$15,000
Johnson, Ian	Record a CD of songs for an album - 'The Bear Necessitates'	VIC	\$10,000
Keighran, Cheryl	Record and promote a CD of original music and create a film clips	ACT	\$10,000
Maribyrnong Festival Ltd	Present an outdoor performance, 'Nyet Nyet's Warning' at Big West Festival	VIC	\$15,000
McKenzie, Pauly	Record Wild Water's second album 'Bugula - Gun - Batchirra' (Wild Water)	NT	\$10,000
Milera, Warren	Record a CD, 'Heading Home'	SA	\$10,000
Nabarlek	Develop a promotional DVD	NT	\$10,000
Queensland Folk Federation Inc	Present Indigenous arts and cultural products at the Woodford Folk Festival	QLD	\$22,000
The Trades Hall & Literary Institute	Showcase concerts of emerging and established Victorian Indigenous songwriters and musicians	VIC	\$1,500
Yirra Yaakin Aboriginal Corporation	World Premiere Season of 'Windmill Baby'	WA	\$40,000
TOTAL AMOUNT			\$177,000

**ATSIAB - APPROVED GRANTS LIST
CLOSING DATE: 15TH JULY 2004**

CATEGORY: SKILLS & ARTS DEVELOPMENT – INDIVIDUALS & GROUPS

APPLICANT	GRANT	STATE	AMOUNT
Blackrobrats	Travel expenses and fees for circus workshops	QLD	\$10,000
Deadly Dreaming	Emerging indigenous artists to collaborate with an Ethiopian artists in Western Sydney	NSW	\$12,500
Foreshew, Nicole	Culture [Ex] Change - Conversations with arts and design: Study of Indigenous representation	NSW	\$6,500
Green, Yaritji	To participate in the Clarion South: Australian Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers' Workshop	SA	\$5,191
Kineman Karma Band	Ngarrindjeri Cultural and Artistic Development of Kineman Karma Band	SA	\$10,000
McKenna, Brenton	To create a graphic novel to present for publication under the mentorship of writer Jarrod Thomas	SA	\$6,500
			TOTAL AMOUNT \$50, 691

**ATSIAB - APPROVED GRANTS LIST
CLOSING DATE: 15TH JULY 2004**

CATEGORY: SKILLS & ARTS DEVELOPMENT – ORGANISATIONS

APPLICANT	GRANT	STATE	AMOUNT
Australian Performance Laboratory Ltd	Tammy Anderson to undertake a mentorship program as part of the Cultural Diversity Cluster	SA	\$4,450
Ngadrii Ngalli Inc	Develop a series of workshops in a multi track recording, creation of a CD	NSW	\$12,000
Tangentyere Council Inc	To provide visual art support services and workshops for exhibition	NT	\$26,000
			TOTAL AMOUNT \$42,450