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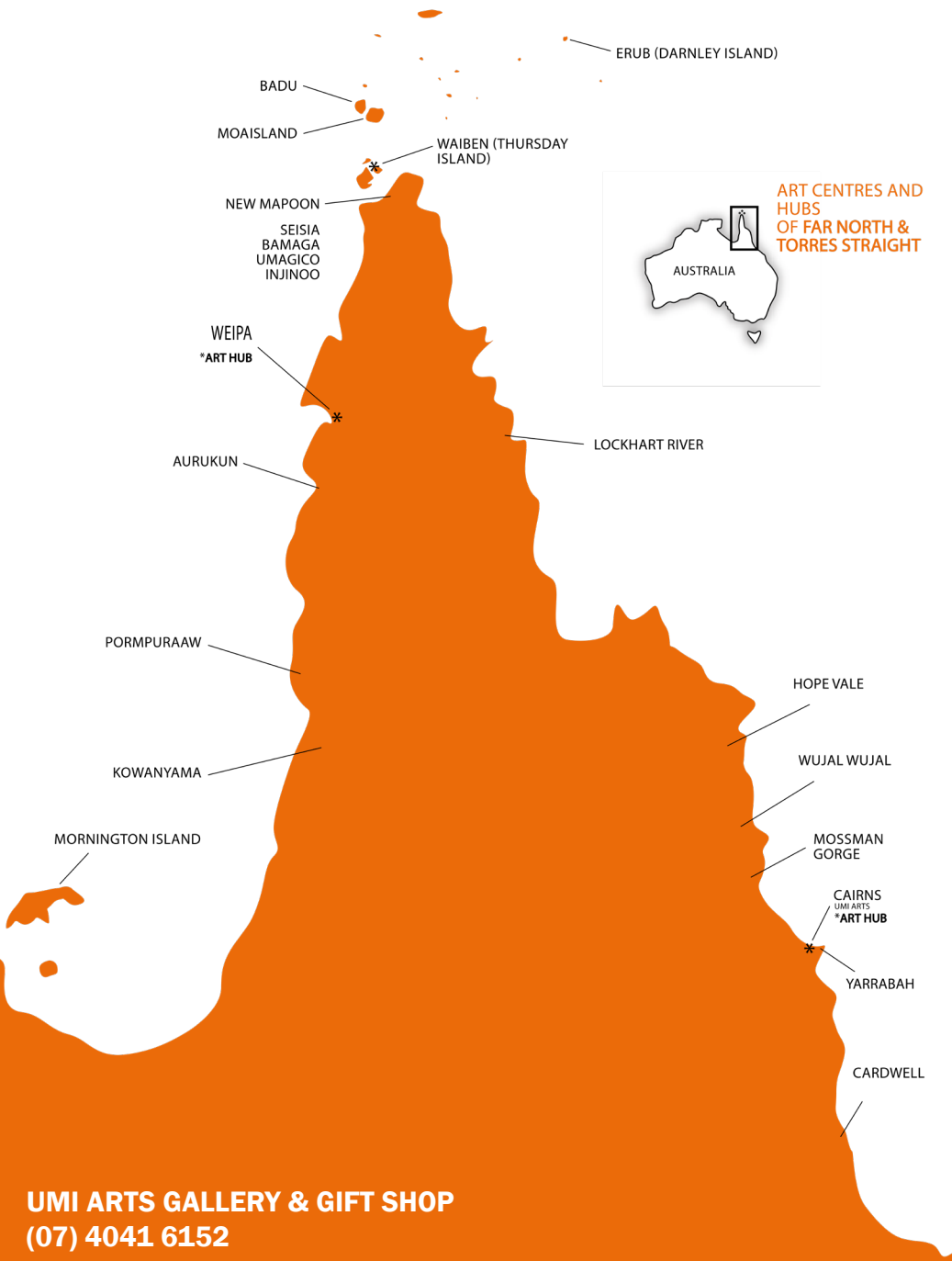
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Umi Arts

YOU AND ME
STRENGTHENING OUR ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER CULTURAL PRACTICES



ABOUT UMI ARTS

U MI Arts was established in 2005 and its mission is to operate an Indigenous organisation that assists Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to participate in the maintenance, preservation and protection of cultural identity.

U MI Arts also operates as the Cairns Indigenous Art Centre in order to provide support for Indigenous artists who live and work in Cairns.

At the broadest level, U MI Arts' goal is to strengthen Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural practices, including visual arts and crafts, dance, ceremony, story telling and music.

U MI is a Creole word that means 'You and Me' – for U MI Arts this is significant as we believe that we need to work together to keep our culture strong.

OUR MISSION

U MI Arts mission is to be an all Indigenous managed organisation that is nationally recognised as the peak arts and cultural organisation for Far North Queensland. At all times we will deliver programs and services that are based on respect for cultural protocols, sound governance and best practice and that: preserve, strengthen, maintain and celebrate all aspects of Indigenous arts and culture, train and skill Indigenous people for future employment and economic independence in the creative industries, create pathways for success for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists, cultural practitioners and communities in Far North Queensland.

UMI ARTS GALLERY & GIFT SHOP
(07) 4041 6152
umiarts.com.au
Shop1/4 Jensen St. Manooora QLD 4870



UMI ARTS IS A PROUD MEMBER AND SUPPORTER OF THE INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIAN ART COMMERCIAL CODE OF CONDUCT

A WORD FROM THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Wow, what a big year this has been with coming to grips with COVID and how it has impacted upon the local art scene. We note with disappointment that CIAF was postponing their art fair then eventually going online.

Looking back in time over the calendar year we wondered how we got through this year with delivering 5 exhibitions and 6 Side by Side workshops.

UMI Arts held our inaugural Art Symposium held at the new Bumba-ja Arts centre in town. The art symposium was well attended with over 80 participants attending. We had our local artist speak in telling their story of how COVID affected their sales and livelihood. As many were never given a platform to tell their stories in front of a wide and variant audience. We were privileged to have guest speakers of the calibre of Arts Law, Artist in the Black and Indigenous Arts Code. We had our local key stakeholders attend from the tourism sector, Cairns Chamber of Commerce and Cairns Regional Council. Then we had the money tree people from Australia Council, Arts Qld, Many Rivers and Council's Community Service provide insightful information on how to access grant funding.

UMI Arts held our annual Disability Week event down at the Healing Gardens on the Cairns Esplanade where we partnered with Cairns Regional Council, Mi Haven and Life Without Barrier in hosting a Family BBQ Fun day. The event was jammed pack of activities of having the Junk Weavers, our Splash Art, Beading sessions, a market stall, our Bush Tucka Lady and a musician playing soft background music.

Then of course we held our annual Big Talk Cultural festival where for the first time UMI Arts developed a television ad in promoting the event in the lead up to the festival. Apart from our 14 performers, we had 25 market stalls of our members marketing their wares. It was a good day had by all and we closed the festival by having Mau Pow singing his fav hit of " My Island Home".

However things are not done yet as we have to finish off the year with holding our Summer Show exhibition and our Rainforest Markets up at Kuranda.

Then it is rest time to recharge the batteries and get ready to do it all over again next year.

From the UMI Team we wish all a Merry Xmas and a safe New Year.

Peter Lenoy

Executive Officer, UMI Arts

BIG TALK ONE FIRE F e s t i v a l

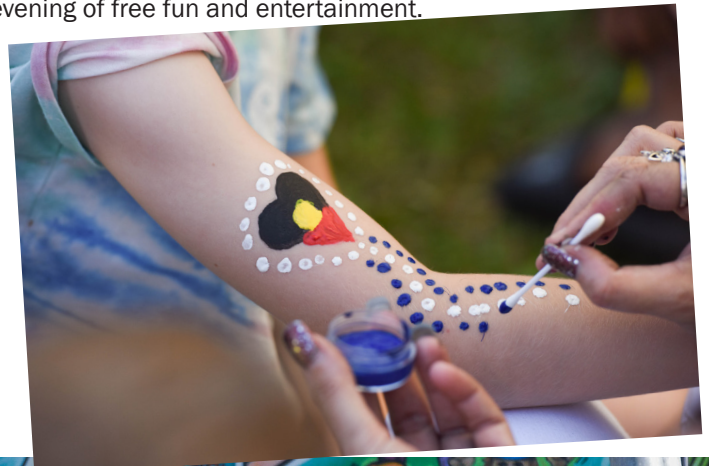
“UMI ARTS SPARKS JOY WITH RETURN OF BIG TALK ONE FIRE”

IT WAS a sunshiny, Far North Queensland day for the return of UMI Arts' signature event, Big Talk One Fire in Cairns on the weekend. Families from near and far converged in Fogarty Park for the laid-back celebration of the region's two distinct cultures. Criss-crossing various musical genres from rap to RnB and rock and folk, the stage program, along with the market stalls and activities was warmly received.

With support from Cairns Regional Council, UMI Arts celebrated its eighth annual festival on the weekend with a stage program of 14 music and dance performances and 16 food, art and craft stalls. Performers included 11 year old Wawumun, along with 16 year old Aisha Jade and the shining stars of Torres Webb, Naomi Wenitong, Merindi Schrieber, Rochelle Pitt, SeeBreez, Danny Bani and Night-shift Cairns, and legendary David Hudson.

A truly cultural immersion with a laid-back family vibe, Big Talk One Fire featured activities for kids, weaving, fashion, tastings and knowledge sharing of native foods, plants and medicine, crafts and information stalls.

Big Talk One Fire's event organiser Liz Cavanagh said the sun shone and people turned out in force for the family friendly afternoon and evening of free fun and entertainment.





“Big Talk is one of UMI Arts’s signature ways of helping community stay connected while supporting the creative industry of Far North Queensland’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander First Peoples,” Ms Cavanagh said. - Cairns Post, Oct 22 (Provided by Pip Miller PR)

Big Talk One Fire was promoted via an extensive media campaign across both traditional and social media. A 30-second TV commercial was produced, and a graphic designer hired to create posters and flyers for the event. Live radio interviews were conducted with Bumma Bippera Media and press releases distributed to Cairns region.

Over 2000 people attended the event over the course of the day.

PUBLICITY

WINTV commercial

12,000 views

Facebook

6,000 reached, 500 responses

Bumma Bippera FM

9000 likes, over 10,000 followers

All Social Media

20,763 reached, 8,000+ engagements





Big Talk One Fire

SYMPOSIUM 2021

BIG TALK ONE FIRE SYMPOSIUM 2021

UMI Arts held our inaugural arts symposium at the Bumba-ja Arts Centre on 10 June 2021. The event was an opportunity to reconnect the Indigenous Arts sector post-COVID and to create a community atmosphere for discussion and information sharing.

Michael Healy MP officially launched the symposium with over 70 participants attending. Attendees were encouraged to participate in talks, with lots of time given to questions and discussion with the audience. A broad range of subjects relevant to the Indigenous Arts sector were covered, involving tourism, the arts, local government and local businesses. 16 speakers attended, from a diverse range of organisations such as Arts Law, Artist in the Black, TTNQ, Chambers of Commerce, Many Rivers, Indigenous Arts Code, Arts Law, Artist in the Black, Arts Qld, Australia Council and Cairns Regional Council. Arts Law conducted wills workshops and offered private consultations throughout the day for all attendees, offering advice on a variety of arts, copyrighting, licensing and business laws.

The event featured the Kuranda Weavers displaying their skills while talks were held, and creating a fantastic reminder of the event which is still displayed in the UMI Arts Shop. After the event program, attendees were entertained by the Maluigal Dancers and then headed to Crystalbrook Bailey for refreshments and networking, with musician Naurita Briscoe and friends performing.

BTOF Symposium 2021 received very positive feedback from participants and speakers, with many indicating they would like to see the symposium repeated next year.

Speakers

- Susan Rey - Artist
- Paul Bong - Artist
- Merindi Schrieber & Lia Pa'apa'a - Ngammu
- Liz Cavanagh - Musician
- Garth Murgha - Artist, Native Creations Australia
- Melanie Hava - Artist
- Suzanne Derry - Arts Law
- Gabrielle Sullivan - CEO, Indigenous Art Code Limited
- Georgia Mokak - NAVA
- Mark Olsen - CEO, TNQ
- Sally Mlikota - President, Cairns Chamber of Commerce
- Donna Burton - Many Rivers
- Stephen Foster - Cairns Regional Council
- Jon Niehaus - Arts Queensland, Bulmba-ja Arts Centre
- Anastasia Charles - Australia Council
- Jen Houston - Cairns Regional Council



The Kuranda Weavers demonstrating their skills



Panel engages in discussion and questions



Audience participation and discussion was strongly encouraged

UMI ARTS 15TH ANNIVERSARY

A night of reflection and celebration – UMI Arts marks 15 years under a Far North Queensland sun. It was a perfect night under a starlit sky in Cairns when the team, Board and artist members of UMI Arts came together to celebrate the organisation’s 15th anniversary. Speaking at the milestone celebration at the Pullman Cairns International, UMI Arts Executive Officer Peter Lenoy said the occasion was particularly special after what has been a challenging year. “The fortitude of our organisation is testament to the way in which we have overcome the difficulties of this year’s pandemic by still managing to launch two exhibitions, including our first ever online gallery that formed part of Cairns Indigenous Art Fair’s 2020 digital program.” Mr Lenoy said the future is bright. Just last week the organisation took possession of a new vehicle that will enable UMI Arts to develop and implement outreach programs. “This is exciting as we are now able to take UMI Arts to the communities and help those emerging artists who would otherwise be restricted. “We are about fulfilling our peoples’ potential and building pathways to future success,” Mr Lenoy said. Mr Lenoy thanked UMI Arts Board, staff, artists and funding partners for their contribution that underpinned the celebratory gathering. - 27 Oct 2020, (Pip Miller PR)



(Back row) L-R William Blanco, Leo Akee, David Hudson, Kel Williams, Tommy Pau & (front row) L-R Dorothy Edwards, Priscilla Major, Susan Reys, Jahzara Trench and Lisa Michl OAM



(Back row) L-R Peter Lenoy, Del Devina, Priscilla Major, Michael Solomon, Leo Akee and Thelma Savage (Seated) L-R Traditional Owner, Henrietta Fourmile Marrie AO & Lisa Michl OAM

NEW PARTNERSHIP:

PULLMAN CAIRNS INTERNATIONAL

UMI Arts was successful as being the preferred provider in supplying artworks to Pullman International during their renovations. UMI Arts was given four floors in which to supply artwork and reproduction prints for each room on those four floors. UMI Arts worked closely with Arts Law in developing licencing agreements in order to protect the artist copyright to their artworks. It was a great outcome with artists being paid suitable fees for their artworks and prints. Arts Law stated that the process was a great example of industry best practice.



Artwork purchased by Pullman Cairns International: River Bed I, Tatipai Barsa.

POP-UP EXHIBITION @ PULLMAN

UMI Arts provided a small scale exhibition at the entrance of the CATSINaM National Conference Series – ‘Back to the Fire’, on 12 & 13 April 2021 at the Pullman International Hotel. UMI provided:

- easels for display;
- framed prints;
- curatorial services, installation of works and provision of wall cards

The 10 artworks were positioned throughout the lobby outside the Pullman Grand Ball room outside the conference. UMI also supplied the conference participants with corporate gift packs.



Prints on display outside the Pullman Grand Ballroom

NEW STAFF



UMI team @ Freshwater Saltwater Launch: (L-R) Thelma Savage, Peter Lenoy, Lisa Michl, Erick Kasukulu, & Robyne Pacey

The start of 2021 saw UMI Arts engage a new Finance Manager, Erick Kasukulu. Erick works closely with the Executive Officer, Artistic Director, and Board of Directors to maintain and further facilitate the financial viability of UMI Arts, and promote UMI Arts' purpose and objectives to the wider community as required. Part of this involves looking after the organisation's compliance with its funding and regulatory bodies such as ASIC, ATO, the ACNC. Erick also spends time researching opportunities to further extend the organisation's reach, either by monitoring the organisational KPIs, reviewing the organisational strategy or building new networks. He has also recently taken on the additional roles of Company Secretary and Public Officer. He oversees the Retail Officer in making sure products are compliant with the Indigenous Art Code and well-priced; and making sure artists and members are looked after. "My objective is to see the organisation prosper in its goals and values and continue to serve its members. That's why development, planning and review are part of my daily work".

In May 2021, UMI contracted Robyne Pacey as Exhibitions & Gallery Officer, to deliver several exhibitions as well as to liaise with artists and process all received artworks. Robyne comes from a background of tourism & event management and is also a freelance visual/graphic designer – skills which have proven useful in catalogue design and creating printed and digital advertising materials. She has a Bachelor of Fine Art from COFA (Sydney) and a strong interest in Indigenous art and stories. 2021 has seen Robyne manage and deliver several exhibitions, including Freshwater Saltwater, UMI Arts' submission to CIAF2021, Exhibition Ready: Homelands, and The Summer Show exhibition.

In the second half of 2021, UMI Arts was pleased to welcome Makaela Maloney-Connolly as our new Business Trainee, as a part of completing her Certificate III in Business Administration through Skills360 under the Australian Government's Boosting Apprenticeship program. Makaela is full-time at UMI where she is completing her traineeship under the mentorship of our Finance Manager Erick Kasukulu. So far, Makaela has been updating membership information, cleaning databases, assisting the Executive Officer during meetings and conferences, and helping the retail officer with markets. We hope that her traineeship with UMI will give Makaela a thorough grounding in the operations of arts business management and

administration. "I'm thankful that UMI Arts has given me this opportunity, I've enjoyed my time here so far and the team is wonderful to work with. It's such a great experience to see of the different types of artwork come through the door as well all the hard work that gets put into it, and also the hard work that gets put into the markets and behind the scenes. Looking forward to getting my Certificate III in business and what a good way to get while working at such a great place like UMI Arts, so once again a big thank you to UMI Arts and the team for allowing me to have to have this opportunity."

NAVY OUTREACH

The Navy Indigenous Development Program (NIDP) is a 5-month development course focusing on cultural identity, health, education and pathways to employment with a military training structure. UMI Arts continues to secure the contract to deliver Cultural Dance and Art services to the Indigenous Naval recruits for 2021. The program includes visual arts workshops and Torres Strait Dancing and Indigenous sessions, all taught by experienced Indigenous leaders and delivered by UMI Arts. During workshops, recruits painted sailors hats, to be distributed and displayed at naval bases around the country, signifying Indigenous involvement in the armed forces. We are also proud to assist in their Graduation ceremonies. The Navy usually conduct their Graduation Day ceremony at HMAS Cairns, but this year hosted the ceremony at Munro Martin Park for the winter cohort group and the Cairns Basketball stadium for the summer cohort group. UMI Arts arranged for master carver Kel Williams to create a message stick to present during the ceremony. "The Message Stick represents an oar or paddle which is used by Indigenous people. Message Sticks are often given as a matter of protocol, from one tribal group to another, to advise of certain groups that are preparing to enter the other tribal group's country. The message stick is carved from Silkwood, a rainforest timber."



Graduates of NIDP 2021



Painted Sailors Hat



Kel Williams with message stick

NEW WEBSITE

A brand new UMI Arts website is currently under construction and will be ready to go live in 2022. The new website will be a way to talk directly to the world, learn about more opportunities, and increase collaboration with other organisations and artists. It will let the world know that we are more than just arts, and will highlight the support and programs available to support our members.

HAVE WHEELS, WILL TRAVEL

UMI Arts has a new vehicle that will enable hosting a series of artist workshops in communities across the Far North region. After taking delivery of a new set of wheels this month UMI Arts announced it will drive a series of exciting, community-based initiatives for independent First Nations artists. UMI Arts Executive Officer Peter Lenoy acknowledged the Australia Council for the Arts which has made the vehicle acquisition possible and in so doing, enable their team to undertake recovery-led workshops within the artists' community. Mr Lenoy said UMI Arts is responding to the challenges confronted by regional and remote communities and specifically, the Indigenous art sector, during COVID-19. "What the new vehicle means is that we can travel to communities and conduct workshops aimed at rebuilding artist capacity and confidence. "Cairns is the centre point for the region with other neighbouring townships and communities such as Mossman, Mareeba, Atherton, Kuranda, and Yarrabah, being within an hour's drive and therefore, often inaccessible to artists," Mr Lenoy said. In coming months, UMI Arts will deliver "You want to be an Artist" workshops as an intensive but informative introduction to groups of emerging and intermediate artists while its 'Outreach' programs are designed to provide information and hands-on training. UMI Arts will focus on engaging with its new crop of green shoots artists with the aim of developing this particular cohort group into the next era of exhibiting artists. According to Mr Lenoy there is constant and specific need to operate workshops of this nature in the region. "These workshops are critical to artists' development and cover a broad range of areas from becoming acquainted with industry to curatorial skills, product development marketing and grant writing," he said. *From media release issued by Pip Miller PR*



Executive Officer, Peter Lenoy and Retail Officer, Thelma Savage with UMI Art's new vehicle

SOCIAL MEDIA ENGAGEMENT

UMI Arts has increased its social media presence over the last year, with an increase of posts and a focus on ensuring all content is engaging and well-presented. This has doubled our online reach from the previous year (reach of 5,234 from July 2020 - June 2021, compared to 2,204 in the year before), greatly increasing our online engagements. The more active and involved UMI Arts can be on social media, the more it becomes a valuable platform for both communication and advertising.



Kel Williams at his market stall in Port Douglas

DOCUMENTARY:

'THE KEL WILLIAMS STORY'

Filmed and directed by Gregg Maxwell and produced by UMI Arts, with support from Cairns Regional Council, the short film celebrates one of Far North Queensland's artist Elders, Kel Williams. UMI Arts' executive officer Peter Lenoy said Mr Williams is truly deserving of any attention and admiration the film will bring. "People need to know about people like Kel, who as an Elder statesman and long-time member of UMI Arts, has made an immense contribution to our regional community through his talent and artwork that authentically speaks to culture and Country. We are excited to share this film, which is destined to be a lasting legacy about one man's experience and the close ties that bind culture and Country to community," Mr Lenoy said. With Ugar (Stephen Island) Guuguyimidhirr (Cape York) heritage, Kel was born and raised in Cairns but now lives in Bellenden Kerr where he practises his visual art specialising in wood carving. While Kel admits that he is also a brush artist, he says that is more about work for the tourist market while he is better known for his beautiful, collectible Aboriginal figures and carvings of Australian native animals. From the age of 10, long before turning his artistic talent into a full-time career, Kel was learning the traditions of wood carving under the tutelage of his grandfather. After completing his trade certificate in boat building during the 70s he applied his skills to commercial industry. Turning his hand to art, he later, in the early noughties, undertook and completed a Certificate IV in Assessment and Workplace Training in 2004, which qualified him to share his craft, teaching wood carving to emerging artists across many remote Aboriginal and Island communities all around Cape York. Not surprisingly, Kel has also established himself as an expert in creating wooden boat models that reference the old pearl luggers that were used in the Torres Strait. Along with his boats and native animals, there is a range of fine jewellery and a new exploration into print making - producing contemporary linocut prints thanks to the support of UMI Arts' workshops and studio. *From media release issued by Pip Miller PR*



EXHIBITION READY:

'Duliny the Artist: Susan Reys'

10 December 2020 to 16 January 2021

The UMI Arts 'Exhibition Ready' program guides and mentors artists through each step of gallery exhibition preparation, presentation and promotion, whilst working towards a six week long exhibition at UMI Arts Galleries in Cairns. The exhibition titled, 'Duliny the Artist: Susan Reys' was the culmination of the artist's participation in the 'Exhibition Ready' program, completed during the COVID-19 lockdown under the mentorship of curator, Trish Barnard. Although Susan Reys was already an experienced ceramicist, and had been running her own successful retail business, she had not yet put on a solo show. During the program Reys gained the skills and experience needed to exhibit independently in the future. Barnard explained, "It was during one of Susan Reys's regular visits to her traditional Guugu Yimithirr homelands, that she collected ochre clay from a creek on country and then through experimentation and a new technical direction, produced a range of exciting new works". The show is made up of acrylic paintings on canvas and ceramic works. UMI Arts is proud to nurture and support artists in progressing their career with mentorships, skills development and exhibition opportunities.

Susan Reys with her exhibition in the UMI Arts Gallery



LORE TO LAW @ The Courthouse

19 February to 1 May 2021

An external exhibition at the newly renovated Cairns Court House gallery launched a packed 2021 schedule for UMI Arts. This inaugural exhibition presented artworks that convey Indigenous perspectives of the Cairns Court House, and articulate some unknown stories from the period between 1877 and 1992. It also provided an insight to Indigenous perspectives associated with the system of cultural law and the challenges faced when navigating a new justice system. Lore to Law The Exhibition was opened to the public from 19 February until 1 May 2021. The exhibition featured the works of local artists Paul Bong, Shirley Collins, Susan Reys, Natasha Daviu, Elverina Johnson, Tommy Pau and Arone Meeks, and was curated by Ms Trish Barnard.



Visitors to 'Lore to Law' at the Courthouse with artwork by Robert Tommy Pau

YOU AND ME

8 April to 21 May 2021

'You and Me' is the annual curated exhibition at UMI Arts open to all UMI member artists. UMI accepted artwork created in the past 12 months or new works in a variety of mediums. This exhibition provided an exciting opportunity to showcase the rich artistic diversity of UMI Arts member artists. The exhibition featured the works of Natasha Davui, Shirley Yumala Collins, Dorothy Edwards, Trish Barnard, and Lisa Michl. Visitor feedback suggested that the diversity of artworks, mediums and styles was a drawcard. Attendance may have been affected by low tourist numbers, as well as restrictions on events and gatherings. To improve sales and promotion opportunities, The exhibition was extended, and three works were sold to local private collectors.



Natasha Davui with her works in the UMI Arts Gallery



Curator Trish Barnard hanging works



A visitor to Freshwater Saltwater exhibition

FRESHWATER SALTWATER

8 July to 9 September 2021

'Freshwater Saltwater' is an annual exhibition that celebrates the rich artistic diversity of Far North Queensland's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists and communities. The exhibition is based around the holistic existence of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Freshwater represents the Aboriginal nations of Far North Queensland, with rivers flowing all across the land and through the rainforest, while saltwater represents the Island nations and peoples of the Torres Strait.

This exhibition was curated by Artistic Director, Lisa Michl and Exhibition Officer, Robyne Pacey. Showcasing artworks from both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists, in a variety of mediums and styles both traditional and contemporary, the exhibition featured 14 new works by nine member artists: Tatipai Barsa, Michael Boiyool Anning, Paul Bong Bindur-Billin, Abe Muriata, Wanjibung (Shaun) Edwards, Dorothy Edwards, Robert Tommy Pau, Trish Barnard, and Lisa Michl Ko-manggen.

A media and publicity session was held with several artists available for inter-views and photography with their works. Channel Seven attended and filmed an inter-view with UMI staff which was broadcast on the same day. Extensive articles including photos were featured in both the Cairns Post and Tropic Magazine. Despite a very rainy evening, the exhibition opening event received 30+ visitors who reported very positive comments about the quality and diversity of works displayed.

UMI Arts produced a 22-page full colour catalogue, which was distributed to guests at opening night and continues to be displayed at the UMI Arts Store.

Freshwater Saltwater publications; exhibition catalogue and Tropic Magazine



EXHIBITION READY:

Dorothy Edwards, 'Homelands'

21 September to 1 December 2021

Dorothy Edwards began UMI Arts 'Exhibition-Ready' program having been painting and developing her art practice for only a few years, and feeling ready to advance her practice to a more professional level. The final deliverable of the 'Exhibition-Ready' Program is to launch a solo exhibition at the UMI Arts Gallery. To this end, Edwards participated in several days of printing workshops run by Darren Jones, in which she produced ten unique lino print designs, printing in runs of 10 or 20. These prints were added to her growing work of acrylic paintings (painting skills taught by Lisa Michl). She also participated in the Go-See program, visiting several local galleries, and learning more about how galleries are run. In collaboration with UMI Arts' Exhibition Officer, Edwards then selected and prepared her prints and paintings for exhibition, including writing stories for her artworks. Homelands was launched on Wednesday 22nd September, described as "A series of artworks depicting stories passed down during times spent on country". The official opening saw 20+ visitors to the UMI Gallery. Edward's cousin and celebrated performer, David Hudson, was invited to attend as Guest Speaker for the event. Short speeches by EO Peter Lenoy and David Hudson were well-received. Four sales were made on opening night.



CURRENT EXHIBITION:

DOROTHY EDWARDS

Homelands
A series of artworks depicting stories passed down during a life growing up on country

OPEN
22 SEPT - 1 DEC 2021

Monday - Friday, 10am - 4pm
UMI Arts Gallery



Dorothy Edwards receiving congratulations at opening night



Edwards discussing artworks with gallery visitor



DAAF & CIAF

Unfortunately, due to ongoing restrictions and uncertainty regarding travel, Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair and Cairns Indigenous Art Fair, two of the highlights of the arts calendar of Northern Australia, were both run as online-only events. Although disappointing to not have works on display and guests from interstate, efforts were made to make the online platforms and engaging and interactive as possible. Virtual tours of exhibitor's booths, 'Meet the Artist' live online interviews, livestreamed panel discussions, and awards nights, as well as small satellite physical exhibitions and events to complement the main fairs online.

The advantage of the events going online was the opportunity to reach a broader, more international audience than other years, and had a very receptive audience from interstate as well, leading to great sales and exposure despite limitations. UMI Arts was also proud to see several of our member artists walking away with prestigious prizes from CIAF.

CIAF featured artists:

- Connie Rovina
- Melanie Hava
- Michael Boiyool Anning
- Wanjibung (Shaun) Edwards
- Tatipiu Barsa

Congratulations to our member artist CIAF award winners:

- Paul Bong (Premier's Award for Excellence)
- Michael Boiyool Anning (3D, Design, Sculpture & Installation Award)
- Simone Arnol (Emerging Artist Award)
- Wanjibung Edwards (People's Choice Award)



Yalma (cross boomerangs), Michael Boiyool Anning

THE SUMMER SHOW

1 December 2021 to February 2022

The current exhibition at UMI Arts Gallery is the inaugural 'The Summer Show'. Curated and delivered by Lisa Michl and Robyne Pacey, the exhibition featured nine artists from around Far North Queensland and the Torres Strait: Robert Tommy Pau, Dorothy Edwards, Trish Barnard, Kara Savage, Taheega Savage, Cassandra Savage, Shirley Yumala Collins, Lisa Michl Komanggén. This exhibition is to showcase artists' works who have been experimenting with new techniques and or have adapted their artistic direction in the last 12 months. We were pleased to include Taheega Savage in his first ever exhibition. The theme was 'Inspired by the energy of the wet tropics' and was designed to encourage works in a diverse variety of mediums and styles. The secondary theme was "portable and affordable", with the aim of making high sales with small, affordable objects in the weeks prior to Christmas. For this reason, the exhibition includes many small works such as jewelry, prints, and artefacts. The exhibition launched on the 10th of December and will remain open until February 2022 (including the period of office closure over Christmas). A full colour catalogue has been produced by UMI Arts to accompany the exhibition. The official opening, which was also the premiere screening of the Kel Williams documentary, was a great success, with much higher attendance than other 2021 openings.



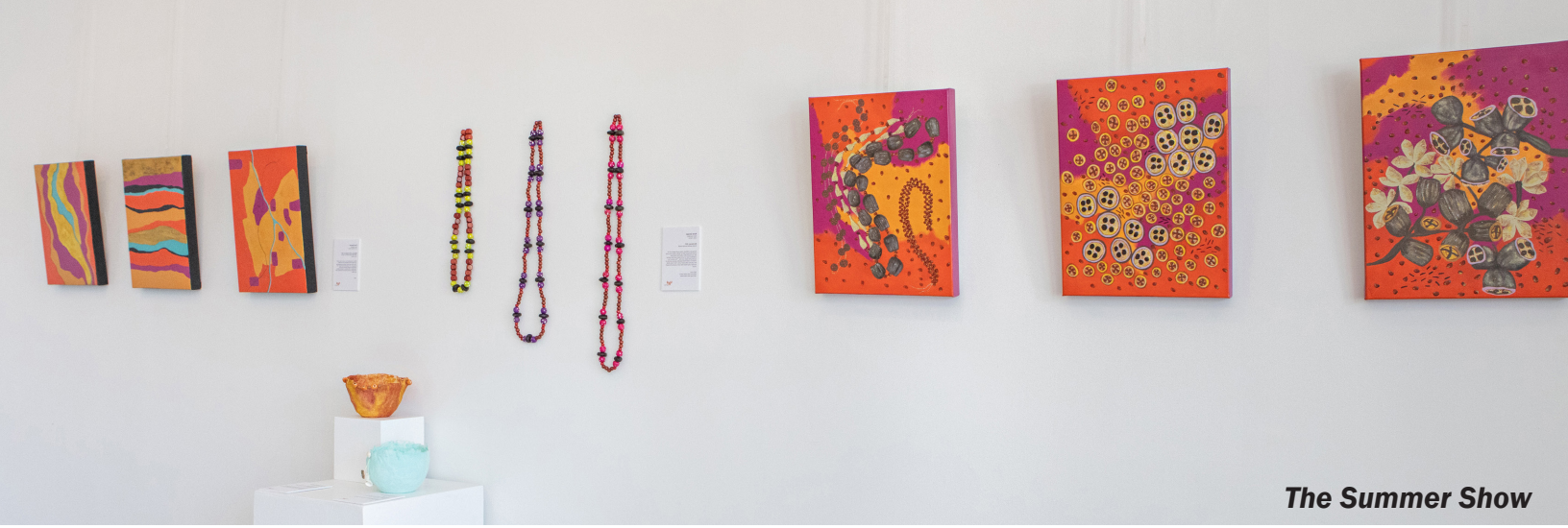
New UMI Chairman, Shaun Wanjibung Edwards opens The Summer Show

EXTENDED GALLERY

As part of striving to create exhibition opportunities for our UMI Arts Members Artists, we recently created a secondary exhibition space in the UMI Arts Gallery & Shop, adjacent to our offices and conference room. This space has created an opportunity to showcase two dimensional artworks to stakeholders as they enter and exit our meeting rooms and offices. We would like to activate this space and maximise exposure and sales opportunities of artists and their artworks that have recently come out of our gallery exhibitions.



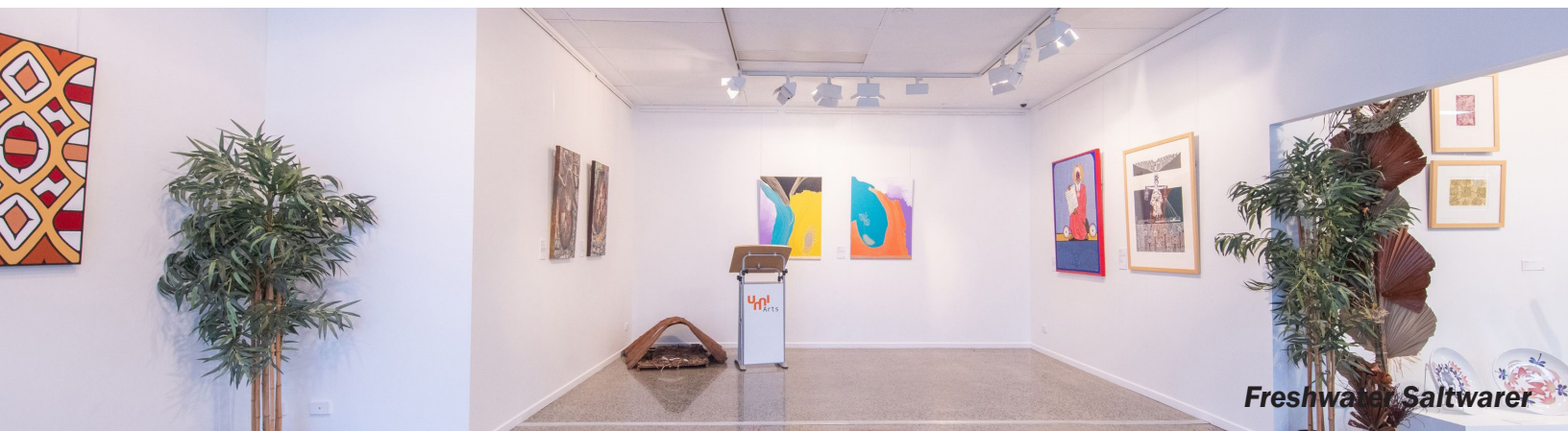
Prints by Dorothy Edwards in the Extended Gallery space



The Summer Show



Dorothy Edwards: Homelands



Freshwater Saltwater



The Summer Show

WORKSHOPS & PROGRAMS...



Excursion to the studio of artists Paul and Elizabeth Bong (Mirriwini)

SIDE BY SIDE: 'GO SEE'

The Side by Side - Go See programs are held for UMI Arts members, free of charge with all materials supplied, unless stated otherwise. Members are encouraged to participate in these sessions as they provide an opportunity for members to visit local galleries, studios and suppliers they may not be familiar with and also provides a safe, community environment for members to learn side by side. These sessions are facilitated by our members for our members. This encourages our members to share their skills with one another. The Side by Side - Go See program was introduced for UMI Arts members to gain further education and also to provide a community atmosphere where we can all learn new skills together. These sessions also provide cultural strengthening, as members talk to each other and discuss or share their own stories during the course of the sessions. These sessions will also inspire members to connect, upskill and create.

Session Content:

- Overview UMI Arts Exhibition Program/Induction Career Pathways
- Inspiration - Ideas into Art
- Developing a Professional Approach
- Market Research
- Running a Small Business – Artists Perspective
- Understanding Arts Market Needs
- Artists Networking

Excursions: Babinda

Participants travelled to Babinda to see a demonstration by member artist Kel Williams. Kel's speciality is carving artefacts and using various carving techniques and methods to create functional and individually hand crafted works. During the workshop participants learned about how to use different types of timber and natural and acrylic paints and mediums. UMI Arts staff developed the photography and video techniques recently acquired in our photography workshop.

Cairns

Participants visited several local art galleries, including Bulnba-ja Arts Centre, Tanks Art Centre, Ink Masters studio, the Cairns Art Gallery, and the Courthouse 'Lore to Law' Exhibition, presented by UMI Arts. This was particularly designed to assist in the Exhibition-Ready program, to give participants more exposure to local galleries and an introduction to exhibition preparation

Mirriwini

Participants travelled to Mirriwini to visit the studio of member artists Paul and Elizabeth Bong. The visit included a workshop on dry point etching and printmaking, and an introduction to creating sublimated prints and transferring onto clothing.



WORKSHOPS & PROGRAMS...



SIDE BY SIDE: 'COME SHARE'

UMI Arts 'Side by Side' program will engage Far North Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists in a 3 day intensive Professional Development workshop for capacity building. The Cairns based workshop will provide both information and hands on exercises facilitated by arts industry professionals and high profile experienced visual artists. Participating artists will be introduced to industry knowledge needed to operate as a practicing visual artist, information about career pathways (eg TAFE, University courses, other networks), opportunities with visual arts projects, and additional mentoring, working side by side with artists.

Lino Printing Workshop

UMI Arts engaged Master Printer Darren Jones of Acuro company to work with UMI Arts and its member artists to develop lino cutting and printing skills. Seven artist participated in the workshop which also included discussing exhibition agreements and dealing with UMI store as a supplier.

Session content included:

- Arts business workbook printed for each participant to work through during the workshop and take away as a guide.
- How to write stories for your artwork – examples and activity.
- How to write your artist statement, biography and CV – examples, template and activity.
- Labelling and packaging art products for sale – examples and activity.
- Pricing for wholesale and retail markets – template and activity.
- Storage, care, postage and transit of artworks
- Exhibition and consignment agreements – examples and activity.
- Attending art fairs – visit from CIAF staff and/or presentation by local artist on benefits of attending art fairs and successful strategies to achieve sales.
- Marketing and promotion of your work – view online tools, templates, activity.
- Each participant leaves with an A4 portfolio including initial bio and CV completed during workshop.

Digital Imaging Workshop

UMI Arts received funding from Arts Queensland to conduct a digital photography workshop for its staff and members. The Digital Imaging Workshop was successfully delivered by Colyn Huber over six separate sessions during February 2021. The

Program ran as planned, and all key outputs were achieved according to the scheduled timetable.

Participants were introduced to theoretical and practical aspects of digital capture. The initial focus was on still photography, primarily aimed at enabling artists to capture compelling, professional quality stills of artwork, and then converting those capture files to be shared in the digital environment. The Workshop then focussed on motion capture, once again beginning with a theoretical introduction, followed up by practical application of the ideas discussed.

A variety of devices were discussed in theory and then compared in practice, culminating in a group field excursion which put the course content to use. Participants were able to produce still images, and a video which showcased what was gained from the Workshop. The intended outcomes were achieved in that participants were able to learn to create, manage, and share digital content to tell artists' stories and promote art.

On the whole, the facilities at UMI Arts served very well to allow both the theoretical and practical components of the course to be conducted effectively. The Digital workshop has enabled UMI staff to be trained up in all aspects of photography and video filming in uploading high resolution photos onto our website and online shop.

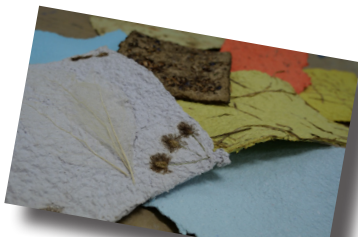
Weaving Workshop

A Side by Side workshop was held in the Umi Arts gallery from 20 - 28 September 2021 to explore handmade weaving techniques utilizing natural fibers, and plat materials. Facilitators, Rhonda Brim and Rhonda Duffin presented samples of handmade products, before demonstrating the preparation process and assisting members in learning techniques to weave their own baskets. Participants gathered natural fibers, feathers and seeds on country and learnt the skills to incorporate these materials within their weaving to produce a functional piece.

Papermaking Workshop

A Side by Side workshop was held in the UMI Arts gallery from 25 - 29 October 2021 to explore handmade papermaking utilizing natural fibres, plat materials and recycled paper. Facilitator, Darren Jones presented a PowerPoint presentation and samples of handmade paper products, before demonstrating the papermaking process and assisting members to develop their own handmade paper items. Participants gathered natural fibres, leaves and seeds on country and learnt the skills to incorporate these materials with recycled cardboard and paper to produce handmade paper. Inclusion of natural dyes and commercially

WORKSHOPS & PROGRAMS...



available inks, dyes and paints were also demonstrated to colour the papers. A range of natural papers were developed in different formats and sizes for further use in artistic works and printmaking workshops.

Block Carving Workshop

From 22 – 26 November 2021, Block Carving workshops were run at the UMI Arts Gallery, to explore carving timber blocks for printmaking and sculptural applications. Facilitators Kel Williams and Darren Jones demonstrated carving tools, techniques, and safety as well as a range of carving materials including timber and ezy-carve blocks. Participants explored mark making and patterns before refining their designs and transferring them onto blocks. Participants then learned how to plan out a design and carve it into the blocks. A range of tools were demonstrated including commercially available tools, high end carving tools and a motorised carving Dremel. Participants developed designs across several blocks for later printing.



Block Printing Workshop

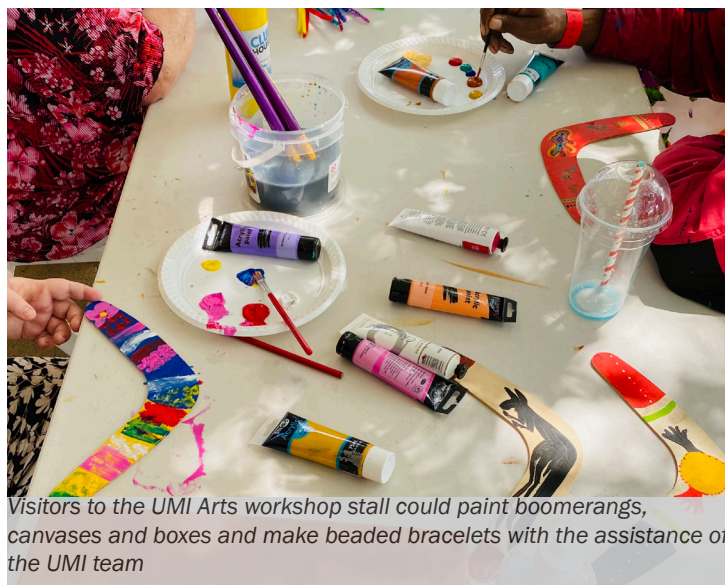
A Side by Side workshop was held in the Umi Arts studio from 14-17 November 2021 to explore block printing. Facilitator, Darren Jones demonstrated the print editioning process including, paper types, print labelling and packaging, pricing, framing options, and storage and care of prints. This was the third workshop in a series that included papermaking, block carving and block printing. Participants made their own paper and then carved and printed a block onto their own paper, as well as commercially available papers. Participants explored different paper options for

printmaking including printing on handmade and commercially available papers. Small editions of prints were developed for the UMI gallery and store and future online sales events. Participants learned how to operate the etching and stamp presses so that they can work independently in the studio to develop further editions in 2022 and beyond.

DISABILITY ACTION WEEK

UMI Arts partnered with Life Without Barriers and hosted a free community event as part of National Disability Awareness Week. The event was held at the Healing Gardens on the esplanade across the road from the hospital.

UMI Arts prepared a free sausage sizzle, entertainment – including traditional Carl Fourmile's dance group MINJIL YIDINJI and organised Junk Weavers to hold a weaving workshop while Cape York Art conducted painting activities on canvas and boomerangs.



Visitors to the UMI Arts workshop stall could paint boomerangs, canvases and boxes and make beaded bracelets with the assistance of the UMI team

EXIT THROUGH THE GIFT SHOP...



Although it was a quieter than usual year for fairs and markets, UMI Arts still managed to source a new partnership and market opportunity. Rainforestation Nature Park have formed a partnership with UMI Arts to support the development of local indigenous artists, with the launch of the inaugural Pamagirri Art Market. Rainforestation Nature Park in Kuranda has been home to the Pamagirri Aboriginal Experience since 1993, and was awarded the Gold Award for Aboriginal And Torres Strait Islander Tourism at the Queensland Tourism Awards in 2019. The free, no-commission market saw eight stall holders selling a diverse range of art and craft wares ranging from small prints to artefacts, jewelry and handmade souvenirs. Rainforestation Cultural Development Officer Willie Enoch-Tranby said the event was established to provide artists with a platform to show and share their work with a willing audience. "UMI Arts exists to support emerging artists, so they are the perfect partner for us to work with on this, as they are a terrific resource for them."

This year the UMI Arts Gallery Gift Shop had the opportunity to participate in a number of markets throughout the year. Markets included Mission Australia's Disability Week Action Week one day event, Big Talk One Fire Artist Symposium, Darwin Aboriginal Online Art Fair, Big Talk One Fire Cultural Festival & Pamagirri Local Artist Market.

NEW PRODUCTS

- Maxwell Williams & Melanie Hava – Tea Towel & Coffee Mugs
- Timena Rhodes New Book – 'You belong here too'
- 'Kel Williams the Artist' Documentary film
- Cape York Arts - Beautiful handmade necklaces
- David Hudson – Various music CDs
- Kara Savage - Wooden bead and Kulap Necklaces

...and lots of great new art materials!



William Savage- Large Kulap Shaker

Kara Savage - Bead and Kulap Sed necklace

Melanie Hava - 'Back to Country' tea towel



Big Talk One Fire 2021 Merchandise



JOIN UMI ARTS

There are two ways you can join UMI Arts. One is as a member (voting or non-voting), the other is to become a Friend of UMI Arts. To join, please fill in the relevant form and return it to us.

UMI Arts Non-voting Member Application Form

This FREE membership level is for Indigenous individuals 15+ years who have a blood-line connection to Far North Queensland.

Personal Details

Name:

Clan Group:

Language Group:

Mother's Name:

Father's Name:

Gender:

Age Group: 18 – 25 26 – 40 41 – 65 65+

Postal Address:

Postcode:

Phone (M):

Phone (W):

Phone (H):

Email:

Signature:

Date: / /

Signature

Signature:

Date: / /

Please return completed Application Forms to:

UMI Arts
PO Box 15044, EDGE HILL, QLD 4870
Phone: (07) 4041 6152 Fax: (07) 4041 6542
Email: admin@umiarts.com.au
Or visit us at: Shop 4 / 1 Jensen Street, MANOORA, QLD 4870

You can also download all our Application Forms from www.umiarts.com.au

UMI ARTS WILL ONLY USE PERSONAL INFORMATION PROVIDED BY YOU FOR THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH IT IS COLLECTED. WE ENSURE THAT YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION WILL NOT BE DISCLOSED TO OTHER INSTITUTIONS / ORGANISATIONS.

UMI Arts Voting Member Application Form

This is a paid ANNUAL membership level for Indigenous individuals 18+ years who have a blood-line connection to Far North Queensland.

Personal Details

Name:

Clan Group:

Language Group:

Mother's Name:

Father's Name:

Gender:

Age Group: 18 – 25 26 – 40 41 – 65 65+

Postal Address:

Postcode:

Phone (M):

Phone (W):

Phone (H):

Email:

Signature:

Date: / /

Signature:

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Become a Friend of UMI Arts Application Form

This level of support is for all organisations, and for individuals who do not have a blood-line connection to Far North Queensland. As a Friend of UMI Arts you will receive information about all UMI Arts activities, exhibition openings and events. Your support in this way is very special to us.

Details

Name / Organisation:

Contact at Organisation:

Postal Address:

Postcode:

Phone (M):

Phone (W):

Phone (H):

Email:

Application Date:

Membership is for a 12-month period and is renewable annually.

(Amounts below include GST)

Individual = \$33 / yr

Concession (PENSIONER OR STUDENT) = \$22 / yr

Couple = \$55 / yr

Family = \$88 / yr

Children = free if under 12 years old

Not-For-Profit & Community Groups = \$88 / yr

Companies, Government Departments & Agencies = \$110 / yr

Indigenous Australians without blood-line connections to FNQ = \$5.50 / yr

Payment Details

Method of payment (please tick)

Credit Card

Card Type (We only accept the following): Mastercard Visa

Name on Card:

Card Number:

Expiry Date: / Amount:

Card Holder's Signature:

Cheque (made payable to UMI Arts Ltd)

For other payments including by EFT and phone, please contact UMI Arts on (07) 4041 6152.

For 2022, we look forward to a year full of potential for our members and artists. We look forward to meeting our KPIs as set out in the new business strategy, and are excited to work with our board in reaching out to more communities. We will look to expand our membership and corporate engagement, and to create new opportunities to partner with other industries, including tourism, disability, and government institutions. We will keep delivering valuable workshops and programs to encourage skills building and professional development of our members. We will continue show-casing our member artist's talents in high-quality exhibitions and events, and incubating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art, culture and music in Far North Queensland.

UMI Arts would like to thank its Board of Directors, UMI Arts Patron Henrietta Marrie (OA), all members, UMI staff and supportive funding partners for helping us achieve the 15 years milestone.

Funding Partners

Australia Council for the Arts
Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support (Australian Government – IVAIS)
Queensland Government (Arts Qld)
Cairns Regional Council
Tourism Tropical North Qld (TTNQ)
Tourism Events Qld
Piccones IGA





Susan Ryan
 Orange Watercolor, Gunga Yindibarri
Kookaburra
 1995-2005
 1000 x 1000mm
 \$1,104

Susan Ryan
 Orange Watercolor, Gunga Yindibarri
Mug the Poisoner
 2005
 1300 x 1000mm
 \$417

Susan Ryan
 Orange Watercolor, Gunga Yindibarri
Deep Loving
 2005
 1300 x 1000mm
 \$417

Susan Ryan
 Orange Watercolor, Gunga Yindibarri
Drinking Water
 2005
 1300 x 1000mm
 \$417

Susan Ryan
 Orange Watercolor, Gunga Yindibarri
Water in Spirit
 2005
 1300 x 1000mm
 \$417



UMI Arts Gallery & Gift Shop
 4/1 Jensen St.
 Manooro QLD
 umiarts.com.au