Garma

Australia's Premier Indigenous Event

3 - 6 August 2018

YUWALK LAKARANJA
TRUTH TELLING

Australia’s Premier Indigenous Event
Acknowledging Our Supporters.
The Chairman, Board of Directors and management of the Yothu Yindi Foundation extend sincere thanks to those that have supported the YYF projects currently being undertaken in the North East Arnhem region. We also acknowledge those that have helped to put this event together, and those that have commitments that prevent them joining us on site.
20TH ANNIVERSARY YOLNGU EXTRAVAGANZA

From the humble beginnings of a back yard barbeque, the Yothu Yindi Foundation is pleased to direct, host and stage our 20th birthday from Gulkula, the Gumatj clan’s significant ceremonial grounds. Gulkula has been an active participant for the development of Indigenous Affairs policy over the course of the past two decades. In the year 2018, we will recall friends of our past, acknowledge the outcomes we’ve been fortunate to provide back to the community, and celebrate the wins and milestones that have been gained.

GARMA IS AN ALCOHOL AND DRUG FREE EVENT
In 2018 the theme of our gathering is Yuwalk Lakarana which is a simple way of saying in my language – telling the truth.

It can be hard to tell the truth as the truth hurts some times. But it is important.

In my discussions with the Prime Minister, Mr Turnbull, at Garma in 2017 we were truthful with each other. What neither of us wanted was to pretend that the answers were simple and we talked at length about what we might do. After Mr Turnbull and the leader of the Opposition, Mr Shorten spoke at Garma on the Saturday I thought we had made something of the day and I asked them to take their words back to the Parliament, say the same words, and bring their colleagues along with them.

Looking back on the year since then things have not gone to plan and I can see that I was not clear enough, and I relied too much on the momentum that I thought we had built.

What I wanted was detail and meaning and cleverness; not words and promises and nothingness. I wanted to see words carved out in a way that they can never be lost to us. True words that reflect the truth. Words in the Constitution that lock in our sovereign rights in a real way.

In using the powerful word sovereign I am being truthful. My people are sovereign – when Captain Phillip came to Australia, and with those that followed, they met clan nations that owned everything that they encountered – the lands, the waters, the trees, the minerals, the animals, the plants, the very air that was breathed was owned by us – and speaking for my people, we still own it.

Please think about that and what it is you have taken from us. Think about the truth of the relationship between my people and the rest of the nation – it’s not very nice in truth.

But that is the past and I choose to look to the future so think for me about what must be done to make it a meaningful relationship and to make it right, remembering all that you have taken from us.

To my Aboriginal & Islander brothers and sisters I urge you to stay strong and keep believing in yourselves and who you are. Stay guided by who we are and not who others want us to be.

At Garma you will see a lot of good things and you can see that we have kept our laws and our relationships to our land and our people strong – our language, our law and our culture has adapted but at its heart it is exactly as it was when we first met the new Australians, who came to take our land and everything else that was dear to us.

Yet despite our survival, and despite everything we do and everything we offer we still suffer enormous disadvantage and we remain unrecognised and without a voice. We remain out of the picture when it comes to the main document that the Australian nation rests upon – the Constitution. The whole nation runs along without recognising who we are and what we own – or recognising what it is the nation has taken away from us, without payment for the taking. Or without a simple promise that the nation will take no more. Or that it will listen to us in a meaningful way.

Here at Gulkula you are on my land, Yolngu land that is sovereign, and the law of the land is Yolngu law – your laws are in play but they are second to my laws, and you are second to my people. But we welcome you with open arms and you are here as our friends, and as fellow Australians we include you. Why doesn’t the Parliament and the nation find it in its heart to have the same generosity of spirit and let us be a full part of the nation by recognising our sovereign rights and empowering us to continue on in the way we want, as Yolngu people within the nation?
The theme Yuwalk Lakaraŋa is a continuation of last years’ subject of Makarrata. We know a “settlement” is not easily reached, it is complex & must be inclusive, so this year’s event will allow us to continue to achieve progress with settling our differences & creating a viable future for us all.

Our many supporters of Garma have been very clear - they tell us they understand the challenges ahead, & are willing to find a solution that is inclusive for all Australians. This feedback speaks volumes & tells me that we’re on the right path this year, our 20th Anniversary. This unity of purpose opens up the possibility of a national settlement that is of substance. As we head down this path, we throw our collective will & energy into achieving it.

For as Galarrwuy suggests above, Australia is a lucky country in a very special way. Our nation is the heir to a 60,000 year culture that lives with us still. We are showing every sign of retaining & strengthening that as a religion, holding firmly its value, & embracing it as the very core of our nations strength. Culture, therefore must be recognised as being of immense value, and not reduced down because it doesn’t fit a particular mould.

On our 20th birthday, we welcome you back to Gulkula. This year we renew our efforts to find answers to these most difficult questions. Sometimes our discussions are challenging to hear, & challenging to conduct. But, we must all forge our conversations together, being accountable if we’re truly fair dinkum in making Australia a country in its best & brightest form.

The telling of the truth is a vital ingredient to paving the way forward, whether by ensuring Australia’s past is told honestly, or that the realities of Australian politics are fully understood, or the struggle of people’s lives explained in full. Truth telling remains a big part of our work at the Yothu Yindi Foundation, in particular our Productivity Commissions Submission on Horizontal Fiscal Equalization & the way the system has been rigged at every level against the interests of the most disadvantaged & those whose religious connection to land mean they are located in very remote or regional Australia. This is an example of the telling of a truth that we have been able to share, & we will continue to explain that detail.

But we do something else at Garma that we feel is very special. Away from the hard politics, or the power of the bunggul, we attempt to provide a place to learn & to value the beauty of Yolngu culture - Australian culture - which is a culture that is generously, on an annual basis offered to us all. We celebrate this living culture which is the very essence of Garma.

For the Yolngu kids we want you to be proud of who you are & the potential of your lives. Our visiting youth - we want you to see that Australian culture in Arnhem Land is very different from your suburban bases, & not fear its difference. Garma will affect you in its many shapes & forms, whether by watching the ceremonies, or by listening to Australia’s Indigenous languages – loud & rich to our senses.

Please seize the Garma opportunity & embrace the four days ahead by making the most of your time at Gulkula. The Garma families have gathered, & are excited, once again, to invite you into north east Arnhem land. Garma is designed to bring us further together, to bind our community. Please enjoy your weekend, you are welcomed warmly, & I look forward to meeting you onsite.
YOTHU YINDI FOUNDATION
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Senior Gumatj Clan Leader
Traditional Owner of Gulkula

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WOMEN’S PROGRAM FACILITATOR

ANISSA DOVE  
KNOWLEDGE CENTRE COORDINATOR
The vision of the Yothu Yindi Foundation is for Yolngu & other Indigenous Australians to have the same level of well being and life opportunities as non-Indigenous Australians.

What is it aiming to achieve?

The Yothu Yindi Foundation has identified three primary objectives to drive the achievement of its vision of financially, physically and culturally sustainable Indigenous Australians, each vital for social cohesion, cultural identity, community development and maximised economic development.

These objectives are to:

- provide contemporary environments and programs to practice, preserve, maintain and present traditional knowledge systems, cultural traditions and cultural practices such as traditional dance (bunggul), song (manikay), art (miny’tji) and ceremony;

- develop economic opportunities for Yolngu through education, training, employment, enterprise and personal and community development, including community leadership development;

- and to facilitate the sharing of knowledge and culture, thereby fostering a greater understanding between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.

How is it going to do that?

Yothu Yindi Foundation is focusing on three programs as the key vehicles to achieving the stated objectives. These programs underpin the maintenance and sustainable improvement of the social, cultural and economic well being of Yolngu and other Indigenous Australians:

The Education Hub (Dhupuma College and Garma Institute)

Aim: Developing individuals and communities through education, training and enterprise.

Description: Currently, the Garma Institute forms a crucial part of Garma through formal presentations (e.g. Key Forum and Youth Forum) and informal communications, discussions and networking. Moving forward, Yothu Yindi Foundation will create a broader Education Hub, providing 3 core groups of activities:

PHASE 1: Garma Institute: a culturally focused 'bush university' with conference, tourism and community facilities and learning in partnership with a tertiary education institute.

PHASE 2: Dhupuma College: school support and coordination – co-curricular, boarding and transitional schooling support;

PHASE 3: Dhupuma College: VET and adult pathways – vocational and foundation training, job placement, coordination of regional youth opportunities; and

The annual Garma Festival of Traditional Culture (Garma)

Aim: Reconciliation, education and understanding through sharing of culture and traditional practice; promoting and highlighting Yolngu culture, and creating economic opportunities beneficial to Northeast Arnhem Land.

Description: This is Australia's leading Indigenous cultural exchange event and a national hub for major forums with discussion, policy and action formulation, and bringing together Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians through youth forums, art gallery, music, film, song, dance and expo.
The Yothu Yindi Foundation was established in 1990 to promote Yolngu cultural development with community leaders and persons of authority from North East Arnhem Land clan groups.

The leadership and innovative program development of the Foundation are considered significantly positive forces supporting Indigenous cultural maintenance, not only in Northeast Arnhem Land, but throughout the country and internationally.

The Foundation is a not-for-profit charitable public benevolent institution, with an all-Yolngu Board of Directors. All revenues to the Foundation go to the infrastructure and delivery of its cultural, health, arts, education and economic programs.

The Foundation’s major vision is to develop its activities and objectives through the use of artistic and cultural practices towards ensuring Yolngu ownership, drive and direction of the future of the Yothu Yindi Foundation.
When the Yothu Yindi Foundation (YYF) was created in the 1990’s, the vision of the elders was to put education and culture at the heart of YYF’s work. Today YYF is continuing to work with stakeholders to address decades of poor educational outcomes in a system that has, despite the incredible efforts of so many Yolngu and non-Yolngu educators, failed to deliver holistic educational success. Attendance data says that 8 out of 10 Aboriginal students in NE Arnhem do not continue school past Year 8, meaning 8 out of 10 young adults are neither job-ready or life-ready. Too many then become caught in the justice system and end up all-but unemployable.

In partnership with the Northern Territory Department of Education YYF set out to develop a program known as Foundational Learning that is designed to re-engage young men and women secondary school-aged onwards and provide them with an opportunity to re-enter education and ultimately the work force.

**The three core foundational skills that are focused on are:**

- Life skills including physical and mental wellbeing, addressing drug and alcohol issues and personal or mental wellbeing.
- Basic literacy and numeracy so as to equip the student with sufficient skills to understand vocational training materials, perform technical tasks (including measurement and calculation) and fully grasp occupational health and safety (OH&S procedures);
- Basic job-readiness skills including workplace communication, time management, money management and team work.

Foundational learning is not the end-goal for the learner but a re-entry point initially to school. Foundational learning should enable the learner to re-start their educational journey and pursue more advanced, job-specific training and vocational programs; it is the latter that will ultimately lead the learner to truly sustainable employment.

Young Yolngu job seekers who may or may not have finished secondary school, are eligible for this foundational learning program. Their obstacles for gaining sustainable employment may include poor foundational skills, lack of motivation and teaching barriers driven primarily by cultural gaps such as language and style of learning.

By participating in YYF’s Dhupuma Foundational Learning Project, young people are given the opportunity to undertake intensive training in a safe and culturally sensitive environment that delivers programs designed to overcome teaching barriers. The Gulkula site is now an active campus, and it is being utilized for it’s original purpose - we are very proud of this though we recognise how many challenges lie ahead.

YYF’s education projects are not designed to replicate or replace school, or standard education providers but rather to supplement the work of those providers and offer realistic opportunities for those that have ‘missed out’ on the basics in their education to date. A structured learning environment also offers practical activities such as camping, cooking, ground facility management, pop-up tourism ventures, work experience, sports and inclusion in Yolngu leadership and mentorship opportunities - this is a reflection of the experience of Dhupuma College that meant so much to Yolngu people before it was closed in the early 1980’s at the direction of government.

YYF wants to thank all of the stakeholders who have contributed to the Foundation Learning project including the Yambirrpa School Council, the Laynhapuy Homelands, Yirrkala and Gunyangara Schools, the Nhulunbuy Primary and Secondary Schools, the Northern Territory Department of Education and the Northern Territory Minister for Education.
In 2013 the Yothu Yindi Foundation Board linked up with educators and education providers to re-think education in the NE Arnhem region. A review of local education ensued that included an intensive look at a cultural curriculum, a focus on increased Indigenous school attendance, foundational learning and the Garma Institute, education hubs, and boarding school options in the region.

At Garma in 2014 the NT Department of Education acknowledged better engagement was required with Yolngu in NE Arnhem. An agreement was made and the 2015 year emerged with four YYF-led education stakeholder engagement meetings which took place here at Gulkula in the Garma Knowledge Centre. From those discussions and design talks a holistic community engagement process was established focusing particularly on a Residential Boarding Facility. As a result of this work in May 2017 the Dawurr Boarding Facility was officially opened. Meaning honey bee, this 40 bed facility now stands on the grounds of the Nhulunbuy High School site and is taking in Yolngu children from the region.

We’d like to extend our thanks and acknowledge all who attended these meetings, and contributed to these important conversations. The Dawurr Boarding Facility is growing in capacity and soon to be extended, such is the demand from parents in the region.

The Boarding facility is well worth a tour while you are at Garma. For those wishing to hear more about the Dawurr Boarding Facility and related programs, YYF and the Department of Education will be sharing this story at the Education Forum on the afternoon of Friday 3 August. At the Education Forum guests will hear from Yolngu educators who are determined to improve opportunities for their children. The Education Forum will also feature an interactive tour of the Garma site, and a number of presentations from Aboriginal leaders and educators from around Australia. We need your advice, we want to hear your ideas, and we want you to find at Garma knowledge and inspiration that will enable you to make a contribution to Indigenous education wherever it is you return to at the end of your time with us.
THE NORTH EAST ARNHEM LAND REGION

The Arnhem Land Region is one of the five regions of the Northern Territory of Australia. It is located in the north-eastern corner of the territory and is around 500 km from the capital Darwin. This vast tract of nearly 100,000 km of Aboriginal owned land is one of Australia’s last strongholds of traditional Aboriginal culture. The Aboriginal people of Northeast Arnhem Land the Yolngu today live a unique lifestyle blending western influences with a richly retained and strong cultural focus.

Yolngu have lived in the region for at least 50 thousand years with recognised land and marine estates. Clans live throughout Arnhem Land much like they always have, hunting fish, bush animals and seasonal bush foods. Today, the Yolngu culture has survived years of pressure to reform to a western lifestyle and English is largely a second language, with ‘Yolngu Matha’ being the first language of choice in Yolngu homes.

Northeast Arnhem Land (including the Gove Peninsula) is part of the Arnhem Land Aboriginal Land Trust, and is held under inalienable freehold title by the Aboriginal traditional owners. The township of Nhulunbuy and the associated bauxite mining operation are located on lease areas.

POLITICS

Since the 1960s, Yolngu leaders have been conspicuous in the struggle for Aboriginal land rights. In 1963, provoked by a unilateral government decision to excise a part of their land for a bauxite mine, Yolngu at Yirrkala sent to the Australian House of Representatives a petition on bark. The bark petitions (celebrating 50 years in 2013) attracted national and international attention and now hangs in Parliament House, Canberra as a testament to the Yolngu role in the birth of the land rights movement.

When the politicians demonstrated they would not change their minds, the Yolngu of Yirrkala took their grievances to the courts in 1971, in the case of Milirrpum v Nabalco Pty Ltd, the Gove land rights case. Yolngu lost the case because Australian courts were still bound to follow the terra nullius principle, which did not allow for the recognition of any “prior rights” to land to Indigenous people at the time of colonisation. However, the Judge did acknowledge the claimants’ ritual and economic use of the land and that they had an established system of law, paving the way for future Aboriginal Land Rights in Australia.

The song Treaty, by Yolngu band Yothu Yindi, demonstrates the dedication of Yolngu to the cause of reconciliation, land rights and a desire for broader recognition of culture and Law.
In 1967 Mungurrawuy Yunupingu made a painting of Gulkula, his country, on bark. Gulkula is the site you are standing upon, held in a stringybark forest atop an escarpment of trees. The trees on the escarpment at Gulkula are mainly of one species of stringybark known as Eucalyptus tetradonta. In Yolngu culture the grey stringy-barks has many names, one Dhuwa moiety name is Gadayka. At night on the escarpment Gadayka seem ‘to move in their stillness’ and in the late afternoon as the wind moves through the leaves the trees appear to dance, to communicate with each other. Trees are sung and their movement is danced in ceremony.

In August Gaydaka is in flower and small native bees turn nectar into honey.

Gulkula is connected with actions of an ancestor, Ganbulapula. In his search for honey Ganbulapula used his walking stick to hit the trees and so disturb the bees. With his hand shielding his eyes from the sun as he looked up, Ganbulapula could see the tiny black bees hovering around their hive in the hollow of a tree; he looked upwards to trace the flight of bees. A link is established through honey and the actions of both the Yirritja and Dhuwa moiety ancestors, with people and land and sea-country across North East Arnhem Land. The significance of bees and honey is manifested in sacred designs that identify the body of cultural knowledge associated with honey.

In a European bid to gain knowledge, and to establish and maintain international connections and cooperation, many of the trees on the escarpment at Gulkula were bulldozed and then burnt by the Department of Works in 1964 so the Gove Down Range Guidance and Telemetry Station could be built.

The purpose of the station was to track the path of rockets. The rockets were launched from Woomera in South Australia and at the time, the Yolngu owners had no rights in Australian law. Therefore, on and around the ceremonial ground where Ganbulapula looked up in his search for bees the European Launcher Development Organisation (ELDO) installed a rocket tracking station.

Today, history has repeated in the most remarkable way, although this time, thanks to the Land Rights Act, the Yolngu landowners are front and centre in a new space race.

In 2017 the Gumatj clan through the Northern Land Council approved a lease to the Gumatj Corporation for the purposes of a lease over Gumatj land near Gulkula - this lease is to operate a sub-orbital rocket launch facility, a first not just for Yolngu but for Australia.

Gulkula is once again on the cutting edge of international space research and activity - looking up to the future!
Mungurrawuy Yunupingu, Gulkula, 1967. 92x60cm.

Mungurrawuy’s painting shows the ceremonial ground at Gulkula (centre). Yolngu history describes how people have danced here ‘from the beginning’. At the apex of the ceremonial ground the black triangular shape is the point of the walking stick. At one level the central shape represents the digging stick. It is used to extract honey from the hive. In the panel (above right) the linked diamond design or miny’tji depicts ‘all the trees’, and on the panel at bottom left the miny’tji represents the burnt trees.

The planning that resulted in the falling of trees on the escarpment at Gulkula was undertaken by the Weapons Research Establishment situated at Salisbury, north of Adelaide in South Australia as part of the ELDO project. The project, which linked Britain, France, West Germany, Italy, Belgium, Holland, and Australia was designed to produce scientific information and had no military objectives. It was a collaborative effort and the information produced was intended to be public and available to other research organisations throughout the world. Galarrwuy Yunupingu, son of Mungurrawuy, describes how Gulkula already has a prior and current history of ‘collaborative effort’ and ‘collective determination.’

In that eternal time-place Wangarr, which in English we often call ‘the Dreaming’, a ceremony was held at the very place we now call Dhupuma [Gulkula], and where Garma will grow. The ceremonial manager was Ganbulapula. He was the singing man. It was a funeral ceremony and an initiation ceremony for the Matjurr people, whom we now know as fruit bats. The Damala (spirit) people and the Matjurr (spirit) people were the dancers. As a funeral, the ceremony was a grieving for the divisions of the past. Decorated log coffins in the centre of the ceremony ground were waiting to receive the bodies of the dead, lying in a shelter of leafy boughs. As initiation, it was also a ceremony looking to a new future. Initiating young men into manhood, a healing of the divisions of the past, an affirmation of a collective determination to go on together.

In part “Gulkula” shows people dancing, working together, and negotiating knowledge for specific outcomes. It is the site of a collective Yolngu concept, a Garma, or public ceremony where knowledge between different cultural groups is generated and exchanged. In a contemporary sense Garma today carries on an historical tradition in a historical context. Gulkula is a significant site as it contains many layers of history alluded to by Mungurrawuy. This very bark painting was exhibited in New York in 1988.

It is understood that a participant in the ceremony did something to upset families gathered onsite and this disrupted the ceremonial activities. There was fighting and disagreement, ‘confusion and conflict’ and the ceremony began to disintegrate into a ‘hardening of past divisions, disagreements, and oppositions.’

Galarrwuy describes how on seeing this:

That old man, Ganbulapula did something extraordinary. He picked up one of the painted log coffins waiting there to receive its body, saturated with cultural meanings. And he flung it. Eastwards and a little to the south. It landed in the sea; at Djalambu. And its meaning flowed outwards there. The action lifted people’s eyes from the mire of disorder, disagreement and bitter division. In that unprecedented flinging of the decorated log coffin, that unexpected ejecting of what we might call intellectual property into a new context, a new network of cultural meaning was created. The action generated the possibility of a future different from the past.

From Djalambu the hollow log was carried by water and the tides to other parts of North East Arnhem Land. The hollow log became one means by which knowledge of the events and actions of Ganbulapula at Gulkula was disseminated to other groups who were then linked through the sharing of this knowledge. These events are widely known and celebrated throughout North East Arnhem Land communities and belong to certain individual and group histories. Through the Garma Festival Yolngu families are able to provide you the opportunity to learn and share in events that document these histories.
INTERESTING HISTORY

GARMA 20 YEARS ON
As we look back on our history, we are reminded of our work by each year’s Garma theme. Each theme was carefully selected, being of great significance to the Yothu Yindi Foundation, its driving force, the people & its region. Such consistency shows the determination of our people to always find solutions in the first hand, to be proactive with issues presenting & affecting their livelihood, but also their awareness of grass roots activities & the issues that require attention at the community level.

2018  Yuwalk Lakaranga - Truth Telling
2017  Go! Bukulungdhun Makarrata wu’
2016  Wanga Ngaraka Ga Bundurr - The Land is our Backbone
2015  Walnga Dalkuma - Building Our Future, Strengthening Our Lives
2014  Go Ngilimuru bukmak djalkiri Nherrannmirri dhiyaku romgu - Responsibility, Reform and Recognition
2013  - Garma wu’ BukuLungthurra - Getting people together
2012  Australia’s Resources Boom - A stepping Stone to an Indigenous Future
2011  Academic Excellence & Cultural Integrity
2010  Education and Training
2009  Indigenous Creative Industries: Opportunities, culture and knowledge
2008  Indigenous Water Knowledge, Indigenous Water Interests, Knowledge Exchange
2007  Indigenous Health: Real Solutions for a chronic problem
2006  Indigenous Education and Training
2005  Indigenous Cultural Livelihoods
2004  Luku-nherran Romnha Dalkuma - Indigenous Livelihoods and Leadership
2003  Dhuni: Indigenous Arts and Culture
2002  Welcome to Garma
2001  Go! Walala Marrtjiya Gamalili!
2000  Community Gathering
1999  Community Gathering
You can understand the reason that Closing The Gap on Indigenous disadvantage has failed when you can understand the depth of underspending & misspending by Government in relation to the actual need of Aboriginal people in the Northern Territory. Over a decade YYF has analysed spending patterns & formulas through careful review of Commonwealth Grants Commission (CGC) data & Northern Territory (NT) budget reports.

In November of last year, YYF made a submission to the Productivity Commission Inquiry into the CGC’s method of GST distribution that accounts for approximately 60% of the NT’s revenue. The GST funds are untied funds, increased on account of Aboriginal disadvantage but spent at the discretion of the NT government. Our position is that the spending of these funds should be tied to need, with allowances for reasonable administration costs. Also, HFE doesn't work for the NT - HFE’s rationale is to maintain the same level: in the NT then the aim is to maintain an inequitable situation where Aboriginal people lose out.

The discrepancies between CGC allocations & actual NT Government spending has been highlighted for years, but a number of additional inequities were uncovered in our work. Firstly, Canberra funds NT Local Government services without any distinction between, say, Wadeye, NT and, Rose Bay, NSW. Wadeye has no ratepayer tax base, has no all-year road access, & has suffered decades of neglect in terms of civic infrastructure & services. To find that NT towns such as Wadeye or Yirrkala could be in the same category as Rose Bay, or Toorak, is an indictment on policy makers. Aboriginal people tell us that the Local Government reforms in 2008 to create Super Shires was as damaging as the Intervention - these reforms took place because of the inequitable funding of local government services - we say, fix this please.

Secondly we learnt that the CGC allocates funds based on "Indigeniety" without taking into account whether a person lives in Yirrkala, NT or in Carlton, Victoria. This straight line allocation has no reference to actual need & makes no sense - we say, fix this please.

The way in which spending is reported has changed since we first raised concerns in 2007, making the data harder to read. The underspend is argued to be less but the Gap has widened - and the general theme is still clear: the urban centres in the NT still benefit from funds sent from Canberra for the purposes of addressing disadvantage.

What we see at every level - Commonwealth, Territory & Local Government, the people who live in remote Aboriginal communities are subjected to financial formulae that rig the system against them. Other Australians benefit from these inequities that in turn contribute to the screaming disadvantage that we, in YYF, attempt to address, day in, day out. We wonder why it is that these financial formulas, that can be changed with a stroke of a pen, are not? We challenge leaders of our government & our treasuries to act decisively and think about the damage that continued inaction will cause.

QUOTE'S FROM YYF'S SUBMISSION

"...government policies have prevented Indigenous people in the NT from contributing fully to the national economy & participating in the wealth of the nation. Not hindered - actually prevented.”

"....remote areas such as ours will not develop economically until funds are spent in accordance with the development agenda that takes into account historic disadvantage....."
# Four Day Program

## Friday 3 August

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<td>6:30 - 8:30AM</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>Main Kitchen &amp; Club Garma</td>
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<td>7:30-8:30AM</td>
<td>Physical Activities with Aime &amp; Girls Academy</td>
<td>Bunggul Grounds</td>
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<td>9:00AM - 3:30PM</td>
<td>Education Fair (Students)</td>
<td>Bunggul Grounds</td>
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<td>9:00AM - 3:00PM</td>
<td>Education Forum (Adults)</td>
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<td>10:30AM</td>
<td>Garma’s 20th Birthday Morning Tea Party</td>
<td>Knowledge Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:45-2PM</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Main Kitchen &amp; Club Garma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30PM</td>
<td>Afternoon Tea</td>
<td>Main Kitchen &amp; Club Garma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00PM</td>
<td>Gather for Official Opening</td>
<td>Garrtjambal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30PM</td>
<td>Seated for Official Opening</td>
<td>Bunggul Grounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00PM - 6:30PM</td>
<td>Evening Bunggul &amp; Official Opening</td>
<td>Bunggul Grounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30-8:45PM</td>
<td>Garma Dinner</td>
<td>Main Kitchen &amp; Club Garma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00PM</td>
<td>Open Air Art Gallery Opening</td>
<td>Gapan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30PM</td>
<td>Live Music</td>
<td>Bunggul Stage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30PM</td>
<td>Policy Perspectives Interactive Q&amp;A Session with Senior Australian Government Representatives</td>
<td>Knowledge Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00PM</td>
<td>Astronomy @ the Point</td>
<td>Ticketing Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30PM</td>
<td>Poetry Recital with Garma Ambassador Jack Thompson</td>
<td>Fireside</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30PM</td>
<td>Remembrance Gathering</td>
<td>Memorial Rock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00PM</td>
<td>Close to Days Proceedings</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Saturday 4 August

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:30-8:30AM</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>Main Kitchen &amp; Club Garma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00AM</td>
<td>Tai Chi with Jack Thompson</td>
<td>Knowledge Centre Balcony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00AM</td>
<td>Live Music</td>
<td>Bunggul Stage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30-8:30AM</td>
<td>Physical Activities with Aime &amp; Girls Academy</td>
<td>Bunggul Grounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00AM</td>
<td>Key Forum Official Opening</td>
<td>Garrtjambal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30AM</td>
<td>Morning Tea</td>
<td>Main Kitchen &amp; Club Garma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00AM</td>
<td>Guided Learning on Country Walks</td>
<td>Yirralka &amp; Rangers Expo Stalls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00PM</td>
<td>Live Music</td>
<td>Bunggul Stage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:45 - 2:00PM</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Main Kitchen &amp; Club Garma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30PM</td>
<td>Afternoon Tea</td>
<td>Main Kitchen &amp; Club Garma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00PM</td>
<td>Evening Bunggul</td>
<td>Bunggul Grounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30PM</td>
<td>Garma Dinner</td>
<td>Main Kitchen &amp; Club Garma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00PM</td>
<td>Yarns from Indigenous Australia - Open Mike</td>
<td>Fireside</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00PM</td>
<td>Astronomy @ the Point</td>
<td>Ticketing Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30PM</td>
<td>Live Music</td>
<td>Bunggul Stage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00PM-10:30PM</td>
<td>Garma Cinema - Sweet Country</td>
<td>Knowledge Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30PM</td>
<td>Close to Days Proceedings</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note all programing times and venues are subject to change.
# SUNDAY 5 AUGUST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5:30AM</td>
<td>DAWN CRYING CEREMONY (WOMEN ONLY)</td>
<td>KNOWLEDGE CENTRE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30-8:30AM</td>
<td>BREAKFAST</td>
<td>MAIN KITCHEN &amp; CLUB GARMA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00AM</td>
<td>TAI CHI WITH JACK THOMPSON</td>
<td>KNOWLEDGE CENTRE BALCONY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00AM</td>
<td>LIVE MUSIC</td>
<td>BUNGGUL STAGE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30-8:30AM</td>
<td>PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES WITH AIME &amp; GIRLS ACADEMY</td>
<td>BUNGGUL GROUNDS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30AM</td>
<td>YOUTH FORUM</td>
<td>DJAMAKULI AREA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00AM</td>
<td>CULTURAL ACTIVITIES</td>
<td>BUNGGUL GROUNDS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30AM</td>
<td>MORNING TEA</td>
<td>MAIN KITCHEN &amp; CLUB GARMA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00AM</td>
<td>KEY FORUM YOUTH VOICE</td>
<td>KNOWLEDGE CENTRE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:45-2PM</td>
<td>LUNCH</td>
<td>MAIN KITCHEN &amp; CLUB GARMA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00PM</td>
<td>KEY FORUM PLENARY</td>
<td>KNOWLEDGE CENTRE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00PM</td>
<td>EVENING BUNGGUL - OFFICIAL CLOSING CEREMONY</td>
<td>BUNGGUL GROUNDS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30-8:45PM</td>
<td>GARMA DINNER</td>
<td>MAIN KITCHEN &amp; CLUB GARMA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00PM</td>
<td>LIVE MUSIC</td>
<td>BUNGGUL STAGE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00PM - 8:30PM</td>
<td>GARMA CINEMA - WE DON’T NEED A MAP</td>
<td>KNOWLEDGE CENTRE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00PM</td>
<td>CLOSE TO DAYS PROCEEDINGS</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

# MONDAY 6 AUGUST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:30-8:30AM</td>
<td>BREAKFAST</td>
<td>MAIN KITCHEN &amp; CLUB GARMA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00AM</td>
<td>LIVE MUSIC</td>
<td>BUNGGUL STAGE</td>
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<td>BUNGGUL GROUNDS</td>
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<tr>
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<td>TAI CHI WITH JACK THOMPSON</td>
<td>GARRTJAMBAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00AM</td>
<td>YOUTH FORUM</td>
<td>DJAMAKULI AREA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30AM</td>
<td>KEY FORUM</td>
<td>GARRTJAMBAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00AM</td>
<td>CULTURAL ACTIVITIES</td>
<td>BUNGGUL GROUNDS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30AM</td>
<td>MORNING TEA</td>
<td>MAIN KITCHEN &amp; CLUB GARMA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00AM</td>
<td>KEY FORUM YOUTH VOICE</td>
<td>KNOWLEDGE CENTRE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:45-2PM</td>
<td>LUNCH</td>
<td>MAIN KITCHEN &amp; CLUB GARMA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00PM</td>
<td>KEY FORUM PLENARY</td>
<td>KNOWLEDGE CENTRE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00PM</td>
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<td>BUNGGUL GROUNDS</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00PM</td>
<td>LIVE MUSIC</td>
<td>BUNGGUL STAGE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00PM - 8:30PM</td>
<td>GARMA CINEMA - WE DON’T NEED A MAP</td>
<td>KNOWLEDGE CENTRE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00PM</td>
<td>CLOSE TO DAYS PROCEEDINGS</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
AUSTRALIAN INDIGENOUS HISTORY

"We give too much credit to power & not enough to ourselves, & our own beliefs & power. In order to accept & have faith in our own powers, this requires one to have courage, to live it daily, strongly & to be actively living with that stance."

Richard Flanagan, Booker Prize winner and internationally celebrated writer
Australia's history tells of a colonizing past. Accepting how our country has come to be is a story that must be addressed as part of the process of Makarrata. Facing our nation's history is a challenge, but we must nonetheless acknowledge the past as being factually correct. Reparations need to be discussed to heal the wounds of past brutality. The timeline below reminds us that many Indigenous and non-Indigenous people fell to make way for Australia's settlement.
CLOSING THE GAP

Closing the Gap is a government strategy that aims to reduce disadvantage among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. It is a formal commitment made by all Australian governments to achieve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health equality within 25 years.

In March 2008, Australian governments and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people agreed ‘to work together to achieve equality in health status and life expectancy between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous Australians by the year 2030’ when they signed the Indigenous health equality summit statement of intent.

INFANCY & EARLY CHILDHOOD

The target to halve the gap in mortality rates for Indigenous children under five by the end of the year is on track.

With 91% enrolment of all Indigenous four-year-olds in 2016, the early childhood education goal (95% by 2025) is on track.

EDUCATION

The school attendance rates for Indigenous students have been stable with 83% in 2017 but are not on track.

The target to halve the gap in reading, writing and numeracy for Indigenous children by 2018 is not on track.

The target to halve the gap in Year 12 attainment by 2020 is on track.

EMPLOYMENT

The target to halve the gap in employment by 2018 is not on track. While there has been a 4.2% increase in the Indigenous employment rate over the past decade, the employment rate is currently falling in Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia and the Northern Territory but stable or rising in the other states.

Source: closingthegap.pmc.gov.au - The Prime Minister's 2018 report to Parliament on progress in Closing the Gap.
“It is clear that Closing the Gap is a national responsibility that belongs with every Australian. Ending the disparity is complex and challenging. This will not lessen our resolve or diminish our efforts, even when some problems seem intractable and targets elusive.”

Australia’s Prime Minister, Mr Malcolm Turnbull, Closing The Gap Report, 2017

The target to close the gap in life expectancy by 2031 is not on track based on data since the 2006 baseline. Over the longer term, Indigenous mortality rates have declined by 14% since 1998, with the largest decline from circulatory disease (the leading cause of Indigenous deaths).

Indigenous mortality rates from cancer (the second leading cause of death) are rising and the gap is widening.

“Our collective failings are written across the land: in schools, communities, hospitals and families. Nine years after the framework was agreed, only one of the seven Closing the Gap targets is on track to being met.”

Leader of the Opposition, Mr Bill Shorten responds to Closing The Gap Report 2017.
EDUCATION FAIR
Looking up to the Future

FRIDAY 3 AUGUST

Venue: BUNGGUL GROUNDS

Guests are invited to observe the teaching classrooms operating under the Gulkula bough shelters. Today is a school day for our youth, and our educators. Wander by and observe these classrooms, and show our young people that education is valued, and learning with peers is important.

The shelters will be rotating students from local and interstate schools. Amongst the mix are young men and women, that will be responsible for looking after our nations future. We will be placing a time capsule and having a 20th Birthday Party - the Education Forum will join in with us for these events so we can encourage the future leaders of our nation, let them know we support them and we care about their future.

The follow protocols must be followed:
1. Do not interrupt the classrooms.
2. Please don't take photos or record video footage from these classrooms.

FRIDAY 3 AUGUST

Venue: BUNGGUL GROUNDS

EDUCATION FAIR 9:30am – 2:30pm

Cultural Curriculum:

9.30am  Time Capsule placement
10.30am Morning Tea Birthday Party
11am  Garma turns 20
12:00pm Tour of the Garma Grounds
1.00pm Lunch
1.00pm 1. My Participation
2. Bringing Australia Together
3. Garma theme: Yuwalk Lakaranga
4. My Politics
5. My Wellbeing
6. My Learning
EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

TOUR: DAWUURR BOARDING SCHOOL FACILITY, NHULUNBUY

The Northern Territory Minister for Education Selena Uibo has invited guests to tour the Dawurr Boarding Facility.

Dawurr today stands in the township of Gove, where its residence of 40 school students are boarding to complete their secondary education. If you're interested in touring this facility, there are limited seats (25) on the bus, so locate the education staff in their stall located on the edge of the bunggul grounds. Be quick to reserve your seat.

GARMA  #NOBULLYING  DAY

DRESS IN BLUE TO SHOW YOUR COLOURS
CARE FOR DJAMARRKULI - GARMA CARES!

EDUCATION FORUM  9am - 3:00pm  Venue: Garrtjambal Auditorium

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9am</td>
<td>Welcome &amp; Opening Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>In this session led by YYF’s Yananymul Mununggurr, Yolngu leaders and senior Aboriginal educators will discuss their work and their vision for education. The session will reflect on what success looks like for Aboriginal people and highlight the cultural approach to two-way education that has been debated at Garma since 1999. During the session we will also reflect on the awful implications of failure, highlighted in the recent Royal Commission and hear from front-line workers who work day to day with children who have fallen out of the education system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.30am</td>
<td>Morning Tea for Garma 20th Birthday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11am</td>
<td>Tour of the Garma Grounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Breaking into 5 groups guests will walk through Gulkula with Yolngu hosts, stopping at key sites, to learn about Garma and the significant sites, events and people who are part of the Garma story.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30pm</td>
<td>Keynote Address</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00pm</td>
<td>Introducing Dhupuma Foundational Learning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30pm</td>
<td>Northern Territory Minister for Education, Selena Uibo with Department of Education CEO, Vicki Baylis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00pm</td>
<td>Close</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Garma is where we come together to discuss the issues of the day and challenge each others thinking, in a calm and respectful way.
For 20 years Garma has been involved in a discussion about the future of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) people in the Australian nation & each year the Garma Key Forum is at the centre of that experience. Garma is a public ceremony where ideas are put forward & debated & balance is sought between competing visions, or versions, so as to find a future that is better than the past.

This year the theme is Truth-Telling & the truth is that though every year we try & every year we make our contribution - we have not succeeded - Australia is not fair, it is not balanced & ATSI people are not a part of the nation in the way we should be. The nation is far from balanced. In fact there are great inequalities between ATSI people & the rest of the nation & within ATSI communities. Some of our people do better than others, for different reasons & with different results. But most of all we miss out on the great wealth of this nation.

For the past three years at the Garma Key Forum we lifted up the concept of constitutional recognition of ATSI people & made it the centre-piece of debate.

Last year the Prime Minister & the Leader of the Opposition both joined the debate & over 36 hours, camping with us, eating with us & living with us, they lay their thoughts & ideas, their strengths & their weaknesses on the table.

In our opinion both our leaders, from the two sides of political life, were honest with us & told us what they knew & what they believed. Our Prime Minister disappointed us later in 2017 when he rejected our proposal saying that the Australian people were not ready for the type of constitutional change that was proposed at Uluru, & that he feared a loss in a referendum.

Yet the Prime Minister was truthful with us, & in our discussions with both leaders, led directly by Galarrwuy Yunupingu, it was clear that both leaders were sincere in their efforts.

This year we have invited both leaders back to Garma to stay the course with us, & work with us to see what it is that can be achieved, what steps can be taken & where these steps will lead us.

Our Chairman, who has given his life, along with so many ATSI leaders to the cause of his people, tells us in his welcome to Gulkula that the work is still ahead of us, & in his usual wise words, he directs us to get on with it.

At this year’s Key Forum we will hear men, women & children tell their truths & this truth will be wisdom that can guide all of us in our thoughts. And, we hope to hear again from our leaders, & we will challenge their thinking so that their decisions can be formed with our words in their ears.

This is what Garma is about - a public event where the community comes together to share knowledge and solutions.

And let’s challenge ourselves & see if we can go further & do as the great Yolngu ancestor Ganbulapula did & make order of disorder, look up to the future, & create a future that is better than the past.

KEY FORUM LEADERS

DJAWA YUNUPINGU
A senior Gumatj man, Djawa is Deputy Chairman of YYF and Gumatj Corporation. In 2013 Djawa gave the Garma Key Note Address and is integral to Garma and its development as an internationally renowned event.

PROFESSOR MARCIA LANGTON
AM, PHD MACQ U, BA (HONS) ANU, FASSA
Professor Marcia Langton is Associate Provost at The University of Melbourne and one of Australia’s leading academics. She has facilitated the Key Forum over the past decade.

SEAN BOWDEN LLB (HONS)
Sean Bowden is a lawyer with 20 years’ experience in the Northern Territory. Sean has provided legal advice to the Gumatj clan for over a decade. His work also includes representation of Aboriginal interests at Wadeye, Mutitjulu, Groote Eylandt and Tennant Creek.
## FRIDAY 3 AUGUST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALL DAY</td>
<td>#NoBullying Day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 8:30PM    | Evening Dialogue Policy Perspectives  
An interactive session discussing Indigenous policy and programmes with leaders of the Australian and Northern Territory Public Services.  
Introduced by Djapirri Mununggurritj  
Knowledge Centre |

## SATURDAY 4 AUGUST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:45AM</td>
<td>Guests assemble at the Garrtjambal Auditorium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00AM</td>
<td>Ceremonial Opening – Mangalili clan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 9:15AM    | Welcome  
YYF Chair Galarrwuy Yunupingu AM, CEO Denise Bowden and the Yothu Yindi Dilak Council |
| 9:45AM    | Galarrwuy Yunupingu will open a session where Indigenous leaders from around Australia will speak on issues concerning the past, present and future of Indigenous Australia. |
| 10:45AM   | Morning Tea Break |
| 11:15AM   | Truth-telling session  
YYF will lead a continuation of statements from Indigenous and Islander leaders. This session is designed to start the process of carving out a wayawu – a pathway to a good place.  
Garma is a place where all views are respected and all people are treated with respect. |
| 12:15PM   | ‘Yolngu Heroes’ Awards Ceremony - Galarrwuy Yunupingu AM, with Minister Nigel Scullion and YYF Patron Jack Thompson. |
| 1:00PM    | Lunch |
| 2:00PM    | Makarrata – Treaty – Constitutional Recognition - Settlement  
• These words are often used to describe Indigenous reform processes - and are offered up as solutions for the future.  
• This afternoon session is dedicated to digging deeper into these concepts with presentations from Aboriginal and Islander leaders, and from Australian political leaders. The purpose is not to arrive at one defining word, nor to cut one word off from the other, but to look to the meaning behind each and hear what it is that motivates people - and what it is that might create continued purpose across the nation.  
• The session will allow for feedback from participants who will be given an opportunity to reflect on the issues of the day, and to offer your own ideas into the mix. |
| 3:00PM    | Afternoon Tea Break |
| 3:15PM    | Anchoring our Future: Panel discussion  
• This panel will bring together a range of voices to discuss the issues of the day and conclude with a statement from senior Djapu man, Barayuwa Mununggurr |
| 4:15PM    | Bunggul |
### SUNDAY 5 AUGUST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00AM</td>
<td>Closing the Gap Refresh</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet and members of the Indigenous Advisory Council will provide a briefing session concerning work being done on the Australian Government’s Closing the Gap Refresh. This session will allow for feedback and questions from participants.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.00AM</td>
<td>Morning Tea Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.30AM</td>
<td>Anchoring Our Future - Economic Development Session, Chaired by Djawa Yunupingu</td>
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<td></td>
<td>This session will focus on Indigenous-controlled initiatives that are delivering economic outcomes Australia-wide - an Aboriginal mining company; Aboriginal and Islander Sea Rights; regional Forestry &amp; Horticulture Projects, Joint Ventures, collaborations and other unique initiatives established by Indigenous people to create jobs and income will be presented and discussed. Land Councils and Representative Bodies will also provide updates as to their work on behalf of landowners, highlighting challenges and obstacles, as well as examples of best practice and sustainable success. Minister for Indigenous Affairs Nigel Scullion will close the session.</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30PM</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00PM</td>
<td>Miwatj Health Forum</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Opening Statement: Barayuwa Mununggurr with Panels on:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Renal disease and Type 2 diabetes: Miwatj Health - Purple House - and others</td>
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<td>- Rheumatic Heart disease - a third world disease in Australia</td>
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<td>- Focus on tobacco and alcohol as agents of ill-health for Aboriginal people</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:30PM</td>
<td>The System Is Rigged. Analysing the way Commonwealth, State and Local governments calculate, allocate and spend money intended for Aboriginal disadvantage.</td>
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<td>- Opening statement: CEO YYF Denise Bowden &amp; Professor Marcia Langton</td>
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<td>- Comments from Barry Hansen, Bob Beadman, Fred Chaney &amp; Bill Gray</td>
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<td>- Q &amp; A session</td>
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### MONDAY 6 AUGUST

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALL DAY</td>
<td>Community Open Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30AM</td>
<td>Looking Up to Our Future</td>
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<tr>
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<td>This session is led by the Garma Youth Forum. Young people will present their 2018 Garma Youth Declaration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30AM</td>
<td>Morning Tea Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00AM</td>
<td>Makarrata Panel</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Final session on truth telling</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00PM</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00PM</td>
<td>Plenary Session</td>
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<td>The Final Key Forum session is designed to enable participants in the Key Forum to share their experiences and learnings, comment on issues of significance and have a final opportunity to reflect and to contribute to the debates that have run through Garma in 2018. Garma can mean different things to different people and participants are encouraged to discuss their overall experience, as well as make constructive contributions to the topics addressed at the Key Forum.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:30PM</td>
<td>A closing statement will be made by YYF Director Balupalu Yunupingu and the Festival Director.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00PM</td>
<td>Closing Bunggul</td>
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<td>All guests are urged to attend the final ceremony where the clan leaders will bring song-cycles to their final stage for this Garma, with manikay (song) and yidaki (didgeridoo) bringing the ceremony to life for a final time.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Often ‘overlooked’ by guests, the bunggul is the Yolngu equivalent to the Key Forum where Yolngu express themselves, make statements, exhibit their prowess, heal rifts, manage disputes and form alliances and lasting bonds.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Guests must listen carefully for the ancient sound of the yidaki, as it calls us together each afternoon. For the deep circular breathing expels the sound made for you by the musician and his yidaki. Together, they are calling you to the ceremonial dance grounds. Here clan groups are waiting to share their stories, and we should not underestimate this calling.

The bunggul is one of the most important activities that guests can attend during their stay at Garma, and we each are able to show our appreciation by enjoying this uniquely Australian Arnhem Land traditional dance scene every evening.

Do yourself a favor, and find a comfortable place to seat yourself on the side of the bunggul grounds. By firmly sinking your feet into the warm sand you'll feel completely connected to Gulkula, its people, its music, its traditions - its heartbeat. The bunggul demands attention each evening, so be prepared to spend some time here, by trying to fully understand the stories. Your focus is well invested, given these songs, the music, the stories, all of this material has been carefully preserved, maintained and handed down over thousands of years. Being immersed in the bunggul means that you too are the recipients of this, Australia’s archive of history, and it is being shared with you in a bush auditorium that sits upon the land it is intended to link with.

This popular evening occasion is an essential and gentle way to ease into your evening. There couldn't be a more harmonious communal end to a busy Garma day than to watch the many generations of men, women and children on the bunggul grounds bonded unanimously by Yolngu tradition. The handing down of stories, the mentoring, the teaching, it's all laid bare in full living practice here, now. From barely-walking babes to the senior men and women – you'll find a collective of family units engaged in dance from the breezy beaches of Groote Eylandt to the flood plains of Wadeye.
In its fifth year, this component of our Key Forum is an opportunity to thank our community members for their commitment to influencing a good and just society.

There is a remarkably deep well of talent to draw from within the north east Arnhem region. From internationally renowned artists, to strong leaders, & cultural educators, our Yolngu Heroes themselves are proactive & passionate. They possess a great desire to drive forward their community, & we are here to celebrate this unique attribute and to share our appreciation.

Since 2013, we have now presented before you the stories of twenty six remarkable men, women and youth who appear in the pictorials above. These are the faces of some of the most extraordinary individuals that have experienced challenges that make them the people that stand before you here today.

Some we've lost along the way, but at least we've have had the opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate our legends that have used their influence in a positive way. Many still continue to be the backbone of their communities. Three heroes have been nominated as this year's annual recipients.
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2018 YOLNGU HEROES

**GRAHAM MAYMURU**
A Mangalili ceremonial leader, a Guwak man, who is a peace keeper and thinker, respected for his fair minded approach to life and for healing differences in difficult circumstances. Graham is a Coordinator for Yirralka Rangers and a popular coach of the Nguykul Football team. Graham is a highly regarded artist in his own right and a gentleman respected by clan groups across the region.

**DJAWA YUNUPINGU**
Djawa Yunupingu is the son of Mungurrawuy. His mother is Bitingurra, a Ngaymil woman; he is a saltwater crocodile, a maralitja man. Djawa is a diplomat & negotiator who has been trained by the best; in the past decade Djawa has led negotiations for the Gove Mining Agreement, the Gunyangara Township Lease, the Gulkula Mine and Training Centre & the Gulkula Space Port. He is Deputy Chair of the Gumatj Corporation & the Yothu Yindi Foundation and Chair of the Ngarrariyal Aboriginal Corporation.

**DILTHAN YOLNGUNHA OUR WOMEN HEALERS**
These ladies - who will each be named and acknowledged on the day - have been our motivators, our leaders, our healers. They are being acknowledged for their determination to protect and preserve the sacred knowledge of Yolngu women, and their generosity of spirit in sharing that knowledge with Australia and the world.
GARMA MERCHANDISE

Your dollar spent here at the Garma shop goes back to the region. This bush outlet has become an important place for businesses from around the region to sell their products. Make sure you collect a 20th anniversary t-shirt as it clearly explains you attended this years event. Drink cannisters, CD’s, hats and more items can be purchased at reasonable prices. Go find Julie and her team, and they’ll kit you and your family out in Garma product.

"I wear my Garma t-shirt proudly as a statement & in support of an event that promotes positive relationship building."
Carmen Mitchell, Abu Dhabi

"My grandkids each year for the past 3 years wait for me to return home from Garma. Sure, they love to see me - but I know they are waiting for their t-shirts."
Warwick George, Sydney
By far the most exciting place to be at Gulkula is the Youth Forum, where you'll find our youth readying themselves to become the next generation of inspiring Australian leaders.

Sponsored by CSIRO, the Youth Forum this year will transform into a raucous bush laboratory where young minds experiment with the ideas, dreams and hopes of the future.

The Youth Forum is a place where friendships are forged, cultural knowledge is acquired, and experiences are shared in the pursuit of common ground and understanding.

Our young men and women this year will take part in a range of exciting workshops, encompassing STEM skills, music, leadership, circus activities, Learning on Country, a Girls’ Academy, story-telling and digital media training provided by journalists from the ABC.
OFFICIALLY SPONSORED BY CSIRO

CSIRO is Australia’s national science agency finding solutions to our nation’s most significant challenges and opportunities - today and into the future.

Our mission is to improve the lives of all Australians, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, who we recognise as the First Peoples of this land and we respect their enduring connection to lands, skies, waters, plants and animals.

CSIRO is uniquely positioned to drive reconciliation by engaging with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in research and scientific knowledge sharing, education, and creating employment and partnership opportunities that impact the lives of all Australians.

Through the delivery of a range of science education programs for young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, we are focussed on building the capacity and opportunities in education and employment for future generations of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to take up science-related careers.

SALUTE TO OUR FRIENDS

The Yothu Yindi Foundation would like to acknowledge all our colleagues that pitch in to facilitate the youth forum.

This friendly learning area has developed into a vibrant and creative space. We’ve been especially lucky to witness a decade of bright young sparks engaged at Garma each year. Here, our youth have grown into adults and they are now using their Garma learnings in their adult worlds today.

We thank the many music teachers, the many mentors that have contributed to the influence on our next leaders.

Whether from Raypirri at Miwatj Health, or Dhimurru for their Learning On Country teachings, to the ladies for your warm introductions and cleansing ceremonies each year - we say thanks so much.

The many bonds of friendships made here are countless, and the young have thrived and kept our older educators invigorated and young at heart.

It is in this spirit we’re thrilled to provide this youth space, a secure place to allow our youth to shine.

Above all - we thank you - young folks for making this the warm, inviting and incredibly noisy space it has come to be.
### Friday 3 August

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30am</td>
<td>Physical activities on the bunggul grounds - AIME &amp; Girls Academy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30am-3:30pm</td>
<td>Education Fair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00</td>
<td>Bunggul</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 pm</td>
<td>Astronomy</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 pm</td>
<td>Fireside - Meet your sponsors - CSIRO</td>
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### Saturday 4 August

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30am</td>
<td>Physical activities on the bunggul grounds - AIME &amp; Girls Academy</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 - 10:30AM</td>
<td>Raypirri Rom - Miwatj Health</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Welcome and introductions</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- to group</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- to theme Yuwalk Lakaranga</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- all workshop leaders and mentors</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30-11:00am</td>
<td>Morning tea</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00am - 3:30pm</td>
<td>Day 1 Learning workshops 1 - 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30 - 1:30pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 - 3:30pm</td>
<td>Continuation of learning workshops 1 - 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30 - 4:00pm</td>
<td>Evaluation - CSIRO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00pm</td>
<td>Bunggul</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30pm</td>
<td>ABC’s Behind The News - Production</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00pm</td>
<td>Fireside - Motivational speaker: Joe Williams</td>
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</table>
### SUNDAY 5 AUGUST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30am</td>
<td>Physical activities on the bunggul grounds - AIME &amp; Girls Academy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30am</td>
<td>Warm up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 - 10:30am</td>
<td>Day 2 Learning workshops 1 - 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30-11:00am</td>
<td>Morning tea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30-1:30pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 - 3:00pm</td>
<td>Continuation of learning workshops 1 - 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30 - 4:00pm</td>
<td>Evaluation, CSIRO</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:00pm</td>
<td>Bunggul</td>
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### MONDAY 6 AUGUST

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30am</td>
<td>Physical activities on the bunggul grounds - AIME &amp; Girls Academy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30am</td>
<td>Bid you farewell, friends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 -10:30am</td>
<td>Workshops finalised</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30-11:00am</td>
<td>Morning tea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00am - 12:30pm</td>
<td>Looking Up to Our Future, Youth Forum Presentation at Garma Key Forum . A Garma Youth Forum declaration - Yothu Yindi Foundation</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30 - 1:30pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:30 - 3:00pm</td>
<td>Group evaluation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 - 4:00pm</td>
<td>Group pack up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00pm</td>
<td>Bunggul</td>
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</table>
A two day Cultural Fair has been built into your Garma experience, based inside the bough shelters of Gulkula’s bunggul ground. Use these opportunities on offer to you Sunday and Monday for they are provided as a personal chance to mingle with families, gain some local advice, pick up the basics of Yolngu language or merely a hands-on experience in understanding life in these remote parts of the bush.

Walk the bunggul grounds first and choose your learning feast. There is much on offer sure to pique your interest. These two days are designed for you to slow down a pace, and hear some stories through the platforms of select activities.

We encourage guests to intermingle casually over these two days. Meet the men, women and youth that live and breath the Yolngu lifestyle and absorb their stories. The Cultural Fair is often the reason where families make acquaintances and life long friendships and future opportunities are forged.
The Yothu Yindi Foundation Board of Directors are pleased to introduce guests to the Garma Gallery over the course of this years event. Presenting the official opening at 8:00pm Friday 3 August, follow the pathways to the art trail where you’ll find...

Arts Collective

Family members have made themselves available to interact with guests to Garma 2018. From within this artistic space we encourage open dialogue regarding art works on exhibition & the stories behind artistics inspiration. Here you will find a rich wealth of creative treasures, with a diverse & broad collection of stock for your visual delight. Artists from accross the North East Arnhem region invite your presence, if only to share a yarn.

Buku Larrnggay

“The feeling on your face as it is struck by the first rays of the sun (i.e. facing East)”

Buku-Larrnggay Mulka Centre is the Indigenous community controlled art centre of Northeast Arnhem Land located in Yirrkala, a small Aboriginal community, approximately 700km east of Darwin. Our primarily Yolngu (Aboriginal) staff of around twenty services Yirrkala & the approximately twenty-five homeland centres in a radius of 200km.

Bula'bula Arts Aboriginal Corporation

Bula'bula Arts Aboriginal Corporation began in the 70’s as Ramingining Arts and Crafts. The name Bula’bula refers to the message embodied in the song cycle of the Areas principal creative being Gandayala the Red Kangaroo and loosely translates to mean Knowledge. Bula’bulas main objective is to preserve & foster Yolngu culture.

Bula'bula Arts services Ramingining & its 11 surrounding Outstations & is situated near the Arafura wetlands in North East Arnhem land.

Elcho Island Arts

Elcho Island Arts is located in Galiwin’ku, Elcho Island off the nth-east coast of Arnhem Land. Our artists are renowned for their design & knowledge of traditional bush materials & their artworks are widely exhibited nationally & in major collections worldwide. Relaunched in 2018 under the direction of senior Yolngu artists, the art centre assists emerging and established artists from Galiwin'ku & surrounding Marthakal homelands in artwork production, professional development & the promotion & distribution of Yolngu art & design.

Ngukurr Arts Centre

The Ngukurr Arts Centre is a place for local artists to create & display their work for sale. The enterprise is 100 % owned & governed by Ngukurr Art Aboriginal Corporation, a not for profit organisation. 60% of all sales goes directly to the artist. The Board of Directors are indigenous locals representing seven different clans.

The rich diversity of local Aboriginal cultures spanning such a vast area is reflected in one of the most diverse range of styles of Aboriginal arts in any art centre.

The art style of Ngukurr is as distinctive and varied as our artists.
MUSIC

Main Stage Performances

FRIDAY
Wildwater  8:30 PM
Wirrinyga Band  9:15 PM

SATURDAY
Jesse Tree Project  7:00 AM
Valentina Brave (band)  12:00 PM
David Spry &
The Moral Highground  8:30 PM
Bärra West Wind  9:15 PM

SUNDAY
Valentina Brave (solo)  7:00 AM
Mambali Band  12:00 PM
OKA  6:40 PM
Yirringa  7:25 PM
Dhapanbal  8:10 PM
My Boys Are Good Boys  9:00 PM

MONDAY
Yeshe  7:00 AM
Joe Newton  11:40 AM
Serina O’Conner  12:20 PM
Ripple Effect  1:00 PM
KK Boys  1:50 PM
Tjupi Band  2:40 PM
Sunrize Band  3:30 PM
Emily Wurraramara  6:40 PM
Garrangali Band  7:25 PM
EylanId Band  8:20 PM

This year Garma focuses on Northern Territory musicians, celebrating both the depth of talent and the growth of the industry over the last twenty years. We go back to the roots of Yolngu rock with Wirrinyga Band and Sunrize Band who inspired the next generation of musical genius. We also have two bands born from Warumpi Band’s energy and family; Tjupi Band from Papunya (Central Desert) and My Boys Are Good Boys from Galiwin’ku (Elcho Island).

Rising star Dhapanbal Yunupingu, returns to the main stage for the big Sunday night show and will be master of ceremonies for the music stage for the other nights. Dhapanbal is part of the new wave of Arnhem Land female bands and musicians that are going to blow the crowd away this year. Look for Ripple Effect band and Valentina Brave from Maningrida, Emily Wurraramara of Groote Eylandt and Serina O’Conner from Nhulunbuy.

Crowd favourite dance bands fuelled by high energy and saltwater reggae sounds are well represented with Garrangali Band, Bärra Westwind, Wildwater, Mambali Band and Eylandt Band. Bringing the funk and an all star cast from Darwin is David Spry and the Moral High Ground. Rounding off the music program eclectic tastes this year is visiting act OKA, taking a break from their international show schedule to bring Garma pure good vibes and groove.
very different worlds. Wurramara’s music is being born – young artists drawing from two worlds. From Groote Eylandt, we see a new tradition emerging:

**EMILY WURRAMARA**

From Groote Eylandt, we see a new tradition being born – young artists drawing from two very different worlds. Wurramara’s music is a modern yet ageless perspective of stories told through a contemporary outlook - you can hear it through every beat & skip of her music, letting you in on deeply engaging personal songs. Wurramara is carving a bright path for Indigenous and non-Indigenous youth in Australian music.

**BÄRRA WEST WIND**

Local favourites Bärra West Wind return to Garma on the back of a mammoth year. Touring in support of their much anticipated new album ‘Djöngirriny’, as well as the feature film ‘Westwind: Djalu’s Legacy’, Don’t miss this chance to catch Bärra West Wind at full power on home turf at Garma 2018!

**DHAPANBAL YUNUPIJU**

One of Dr Yunupiŋu’s daughters, Dhapanbal is forging her own way in the music industry with her contemporary songs sung in English and Yolŋu Matha. A Gumatj clan member, she is heralding a new dawn of musicians traversing cultural and contemporary songs and music. In 2016, she released her debut single Gurtha, winning an NT Song of the Year award and she released her first EP at the National Folk Festival in April 2018.

**DAMIENTHAN dfHØMÅR ÅYOK**

David Spry draws influence from his world travels & relates this to his Indigenous Australian heritage through heartfelt, powerful & uplifting songs. From a long line of storytellers, David shares his experiences in a contemporary style of music with a uniquely upbeat vibe. Teaming up with his full backing band 'The Moral High Ground', you’ll hear the creation of a diverse global sound that effortlessly combines Reggae, Roots & Blues.

**WÄLYUUNPILU**

MY BOYS ARE GOOD BOYS

This great band from Galiwin’ku was formed in 1997. The lead singer is Layilayi Burarrwanga, a Gumatj man who still lives & works in his community. Most of their songs are written in Yolngu language. The songs share the wisdom of the musicians’ elders & ancestors with future generations, creating understanding & healing, not just for Yolngu but for everyone.

**EYLANDT BAND**

Eylant Band are here to get the Garma crowd pumping! From Groote Eylandt, the band carry the sound & memories of the late David Dingala who first heard these great musicians as students at Angurugu School in 2005. After a grieving period of respect they continue to honor his legacy, by bringing to the stage his songs with passion & power.

**GARRANGALI**

Garrangali Band play that upbeat mix of traditional songs & saltwater rock reggae with songmen, dancers & yidaki (didgeridoo) to inspire every crowd. Garrangali means home of the crocodile & their flag is blue & white, representing the sea and the clouds. Garrangali Band have been wowing crowds for over 10 years with their infectious grooves. See you at the stage!

**KÖK BÔNND**

KK Band, are a young Arnhem Land rock band whose name & reputation is growing like wildfire. Hailing from Maningrida they are emerging as the next generation of talent from this well known musical region. KK Band has written sophisticated and heavy music in their first language, Kune. They bring a rock sound to the Top End Indigenous scene & are gathering fans with a strong, developed, distinctive sound.

**MÄMBALI**

Mambali Band are a tight saltwater rock reggae band from Numbulwar and Groote Eylandt, they sing and dance stories that are connected to their traditional songlines from the Murrungun, Bara & Mambali Tribes.

**SUNRIZE BAND**

The Sunrize Band are legends, playing extensively throughout the nation. They’ve and toured with Carlos Santana, Jimmy Barnes, Hunters & Collectors, Painters and Dockers, Paul Kelly, Spy v Spy, Bob Geldof & many more. Their music is infectious, heartfelt & always memorable. A hot rock sound on the airwaves, the Sunrize Band’s songs reveal the essence of their tribal lands, their people & their heritage.

**VALENTINA BRAVE**

Believing in music as medicine, Valentina Brave is a seeker of the deepest truths & transformation. A singer, a songwriter, unapologetic & exposed. No stranger to the stage, Valentina has arrived in her own right. Overflowing with heavy dark soul, disarming honesty & a voice to wake the dead.

**WILDWATER**

At the forefront of Darwins’ original music scene over the last decade. Their sound captures the contemporary urban identity of Top End Australia, reflecting the connection of its members to the sea, the land and its people.
The Garma Cinema is proud to present another line-up of stellar new films brought to us by Blackfella Films. Thoughtful, provocative and hilarious and relateable, this year’s line-up reinforces many of the advantages for Yolngu that Yothu Yindi Foundation advocates: education, leadership, culture in a contemporary context and family.

**SWEET COUNTRY**
**SATURDAY 9:00PM-10:30PM**

Blazing a trail from Alice Springs across the world, Sweet Country finally arrives at Garma. In this special screening renowned director Warwick Thornton will join us to discuss this extraordinary film inspired by real events that occurred in 1920’s Central Australia. When Aboriginal stockman Sam kills white station owner Harry March in self-defence, Sam and his wife Lizzie go on the run. They are pursued across the desert in this dazzling yet stark film that pulls no punches in its depiction of frontier times.

**Director:** Warwick Thornton  
**Producer:** Greer Simpkin and David Jowsey

**WE DON’T NEED A MAP**
**MONDAY 7:00PM-8:30PM**

We Don’t Need a Map explodes onto the screen with a punk rock soundtrack and an attitude to match. Warwick Thornton takes us on his personal journey exploring this epic symbol of Australia, the Southern Cross. From its bastardisation by yobbo nationalists to its origins as ancient muse for the songmen of Central Australia, The Southern Cross has as many points as meanings. Seen literally through the lense of its maverick director Warwick Thornton this cavalier documentary asks questions about where the Southern Cross sits in the Australian psyche.

**Director:** Warwick Thornton  
**Producer:** Brendan Fletcher
Organisers wish to thank the Yunupingu family for approving the screening of this movie. We also thank Rachel Perkins, Skinnyfish and Madman Entertainment for working alongside us to bring this movie to both Galiwin'ku & Garma.

GURRUMUL
SUNDAY 6:00PM-8:00PM

Celebrated by audiences at home and abroad, Indigenous artist Geoffrey Gurrumul Yunupingu was one of the most important and acclaimed voices to ever come out of Australia. Blind from birth, he found purpose and meaning through songs and music inspired by his community and country on Elcho Island in far North East Arnhem Land. Living a traditional Yolngu life, his breakthrough album Gurrumul brought him to a crossroads as audiences and artists around the world began to embrace his music.

**Director:** Paul Damien Williams  **Producer:** Shannon Swan

Organisers wish to thank the Yunupingu family for approving the screening of this movie. We also thank Rachel Perkins, Skinnyfish and Madman Entertainment for working alongside us to bring this movie to both Galiwin'ku & Garma.
ACROSS THE
GARMA GROUNDS

TAI CHI & POETRY WITH JACK THOMPSON
Garma Ambassador Jack Thompson extends an open invitation to join him for Tai Chi sessions at 7:00am on Saturday and Sunday and 7:30am on Monday morning on the Knowledge Centre balcony.

An energised Jack will also be reciting poetry around the gurtha (fire) on Friday evening.

LIGHT YARNS FROM INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIA SATURDAY & SUNDAY 8:00 – 10:00 PM
We welcome all guests to Garma to share a story or two on Indigenous Australia. If you’ve ever thought of yourself as a story teller - then here’s the chance to spin together a story around the campfire. You’ll have a five minute window to do so. To register - find Mary and Leanne in the library and ask for the entry paperwork.

ASTRONOMY WITH IAN AND FRIENDS
Ian Maclean and local friends of Nightsky Secrets share stories and a closer look at the constellations during these evening sessions on Saturday and Sunday. Yolngu elders share their amazing stories too, to give an insight into Yolngu astronomy. Make your booking when you arrive at the Expo stall. Spaces are limited.

GULKULA MEMORIAL AND REFLECTION POINT
The YYF Board invites you to reflect on and remember those who have passed since the last Garma gathering. This reflection point is our way to honour those men and women, indigenous and non-indigenous from the past that are still close to our hearts. Located next to the Knowledge Centre. Gather with us on Friday evening at 10:30pm and Monday evening at 7:30pm where we reflect on the legacy left to us to carry forward into the future.

GARMA LIBRARY
We welcome Garma Library coordinators Leanne and Mary back to Garma again. Whether you are a bookworm or not, have a cruise through the library to catch a glimpse of historical documents, photos and books specific to Yolngu lore and culture.

StoryTime sessions are on every day outside the library. All ages are welcome to attend; however, the reading material will focus on 7-year-old children.

Hours:
Garma Library Friday to Sunday 8:30 am – 4:00 pm
StoryTime Friday to Sunday 10:00 am & 2:00 pm

PRIVATE FUNCTION: SPONSOR’S DINNER, FRIDAY 7:00PM
This private function is by invitation only to acknowledge YYF’s major sponsors. Without them, we would be unable to stage this event. Please remember to bring your invitation with you.

PRIVATE FUNCTION: CORPORATE DINNER, SATURDAY 6:30 PM
Sponsored by Telstra, this Corporate dinner acknowledges organisations with bookings of 10 people or more. Catering is strictly limited, so be sure to bring your special invite. Special guest speaker is Richard Flanagan, Booker Prize winner & internationally celebrated writer.

YYF MERCHANDISE SHOP
9:00 AM – 3:00 PM DAILY
Purchase your Garma merchandise here.

T-shirts, hats, hoodies and all kinds of stock are available for you at a modest price. Take them home and wear them with pride.
GARMA CAFÉ DAILY 7:00 – 9:00 AM AND 2:00 – 3:00 PM
Enjoy a morning and afternoon beverage in the cool open café overlooking the escarpment. The Barista Sista's are back at the Garma Café this year to provide your favourite tonic. Tea, coffee and chai are available.

GARMA GENERAL STORE 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM DAILY
For your remote personal needs, pop in to the Garma General Store. Hot food, cold drinks and basic goods will be available.

MIWATJ HEALTH CLINIC 8:30AM – 4:00 PM DAILY
Miwatj Health Practitioners will provide medical services and basic first aid care over the course of Garma. They are located by the bunggul ceremonial ground.

ST JOHN’S AMBULANCE NT
St John's Ambulance NT will provide emergency care during Garma. They are located next to the general store.

ART BUILD
Damien Kamholtz provides us with the visual delights of our Art Build at the entrance to Gapan Gallery. This is Damien's second visit to Garma, having been a Garma artist in residence in 2016. He says "I realised toward the end of my art studies that the marriage between creativity, art and education is perfect." Damien is an Australian artist hailing from Queensland. You'll find his presence will draw many a crowd to contribute to to his final art piece. Stop by, introduce yourself to Damien, his background is an interesting yarn.

SHORT BACK AND SIDEWALKS
This pop-up barber shop rolls into town over the course of Garma's four days. Craig and his team are offering free haircuts to Garma guests. We have a focus this year on a nobullying campaign on Friday’s Education Day, so if you'd like to sacrifice your locks for a good cause, then find Garma's best barbers onsite and turn that shade of blue you've always wanted.

TELSTRA VAN
Call in to the Telstra van in the Expo area to recharge your phone, use the Wi-Fi Hotspot, get a Telstra prepaid SIM or enquire about technical support.

GARMA 20 YEARS ON
YYF will be sharing with guests the journey along the way. From the humble beginnings of a backyard barbeque to the reality of a now active bush university, take a look into Garma’s morph. Gulkula will have on display imagery, some audio and various visuals across the grounds to remind us all how far this event has come. Take some quiet time to drink in this story, it’s definitely worthwhile celebrating our achievements in an environment that is highly challenging.

RESTRICTED ACCESS - WOMEN ONLY
Dilthan Yolngunha, the women's healing space has been re-introduced within a restricted entry area at Gulkula.
Please excersise respect for this element of Garma, and note this area is for women only. No cameras or recordings of any nature.

WATER PRESERVATION
You are on a very remote bush site. We ask guests to be mindful of water restrictions. You can help by turning off dripping taps or keeping your showering time limited.

VEHICLE SITE ACCESS
There is limited access to the Gulkula site during the four day period of Garma. All vehicles are to be parked at the immediate parking bays prior to entry. Only servicing vehicles will be permitted entry. Guest safety is paramount.

GULKULA RUBBISH MANAGEMENT
We can all help to keep this site tidy by placing all rubbish in the waste management bins provided. Gently encourage others not to litter. This site is being let to us by the Gumatj Corporation. Let’s show we value this site by keeping it clean.

PURPLE HOUSE
Sarah Browns team will be providing haemodialysis treatment from the Purple House mobile dialysis van at Garma. Haemodialysis treatment is needed when a persons kidney's stop working and therefore are no longer able to eliminate toxins and excess fluid in the body. Without treatment life expectancy is dramatically shortened. The Purple House team have driven to Garma to treat remote patients, giving them the chance to take part in four Garma days of activities. They’re keen to spread the word of their work, and they’re up for a chat. Make sure you visit to see first hand the great work they provide to our bush families.
AUSTRALIAN INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP CENTRE (AILC)
The Australian Indigenous Leadership Centre (AILC) courses unlock opportunities for Indigenous people of all ages to develop their careers and expand the ways they contribute to the community. The AILC takes programs are delivered across the country. We are a not-for-profit company owned and controlled by Indigenous Australians. The AILC offers accredited courses in Indigenous Leadership, Governance and non-accredited short courses in specific leadership skills and diversity mentoring. We can also tailor programs to meet a specific need. Many of our courses are at no cost, thanks to sponsorship from government departments, companies and not-for-profit organisations.

CHARLES DARWIN UNIVERSITY
Charles Darwin University (CDU) is dedicated to promoting Indigenous knowledges and perspectives into all aspects of the University; by participation in ethical research, and by providing expert analysis and reviews of collaborative research projects to develop sustainable livelihoods and preservation of knowledge. This is achieved by providing unique courses in Indigenous culture, history, policy and language and ensuring a culturally safe learning environment for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. WANT TO LEARN YOLGNU MATHA? COME SEE US AT THE CDU STAND AT GARMA FOR SESSION TIMES. For information on studying at CDU visit www.cdu.edu.au or call 1300 376 175.

CFMEU
The CFMEU Apprentice Scholarship Program has been in operation for over 20 years. Due to the long aspiration from the leadership of the CFMEU the program has recently been extended to include a dedicated Indigenous Training Program to give the opportunity of an apprenticeship to some of the most disadvantaged youth in our society. The CFMEU proudly has 20 Indigenous Jarwon trainees undertaking training in Certificate 3 plant operations.

The CFMEU Queensland and Northern Territory Branch is pleased to support and manage the delivery of the Scholarship Program which significantly enhances long-term employment opportunities for participants who successfully achieve their qualification.

CSIRO
CSIRO is Australia’s national science agency finding solutions to our nation’s most significant challenges and opportunities - today and into the future. Our mission is to improve the lives of all Australians, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, who we recognize as the First Peoples of this land and we respect their enduring connection to lands, skies, waters, plants and animals. CSIRO is uniquely positioned to drive reconciliation by engaging with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in research and scientific knowledge sharing, education, and creating employment and partnership opportunities that impact the lives of all Australians.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE
Defence has made strong progress in recognising Indigenous culture and providing employment opportunities to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Australians; however, we acknowledge there is still more work to be done. Defence is committed to have Indigenous Australians comprise 2.7 per cent of its combined ADF and APS workforce by the end of this year. As at 1 May 2018 2.4 per cent (2,386 members) of Defence identified as Indigenous. The Defence Reconciliation Action Plan (D-RAP) 2015-2018 reflects Defence’s enduring commitment towards reconciliation, and the Whole of Government ‘Closing the Gap’ strategy. It provides the strategy for progressing Indigenous Affairs across Defence.

DEPARTMENT HUMAN SERVICES
DHS provides the following –

- Connecting all Australians to the Services they need, including Indigenous Australians looking for work, studying or training; as well as access to a range of payments & services for people with disabilities, parents, carers...
- DHS also has Indigenous Service Officers, the Indigenous Call Centre, Remote Servicing Teams delivering services to remote & Indigenous communities
- Promoting uptake of digital services within Indigenous communities
- Support individuals, families & communities to achieve greater self-sufficiency
- Through the delivery of policy advice & high quality accessible social, health & child support services & other payments
- Support providers & businesses through convenient & efficient service delivery
- Service Commitments – We provide high quality Centrelink, Medicare & Child Support Services
- Careers@Human Services – Information for People seeking employment with us

DEPARTMENT OF THE PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET
Indigenous Affairs is a national priority for the Australian Government. The Indigenous Affairs Group within PM&C works towards improving the lives of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

We recognise that each community is unique. Our team includes people living and working in communities around Australia. Our Regional Network works closely with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to make sure policies, programs and services address the unique needs of communities across the country.

To hear about some of the wonderful achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across Australia you can visit www.Indigenous.gov.au or follow us on Facebook.
DEVELOPING EAST ARNHEM LAND (DEAL)
Award winning not-for-profit, Developing East Arnhem Limited (DEAL), helps boost the local economy through initiatives like its Economic Development Fund, open to East Arnhem businesses that create jobs.
It is an exciting time to live and work in East Arnhem Land with opportunities in a range of industries like tourism, health, fishing and soon…. space.
We are proud to be part of Australia’s first space centre, working with Equatorial Launch Australia to develop a rocket launch facility close to the Garma site in Gulkula.
DEAL is a proud partner of Many Rivers, which develops micro-enterprises to Indigenous communities.
Visit www.developingeastarnhem.com.au

DHIMURRU ABORIGINAL CORPORATION
Our aim is to address the natural & cultural management priorities with particular emphasis on designated recreation areas in accordance with the directions of our traditional owners.
The township of Nhulunbuy (Gove) & the associated bauxite mining operation, run by Rio Tinto Alcan, are located on leases surrounded by land held under inalienable freehold title by the recognised traditional owners. We have designated certain areas of land outside the lease areas as recreation areas available to residents of Nhulunbuy (Gove) & visitors to the township. A focus of Dhimurru’s activities is the development & implementation of culturally & environmentally appropriate resource management strategies for these areas.
Dhimurru seeks to provide residents & visitors with an enjoyable recreation experience & at the same time an avenue for enhancing their awareness of Yolngu cultural values.
Among its functions, Dhimurru issues Recreation Permits for access to these areas, monitors compliance with access conditions, & develops culturally appropriate resource management plans.
All functions undertaken by Dhimurru are in accord with the expressed wishes & directions of our relevant traditional land-owners.

GUMATJ CORPORATION
Based in Gunyangara, the Gumatj clan operates four key organisations – Gumatj Corporation Ltd, which operates a range of small to medium business enterprises, Ngarrariyal Aboriginal Corporation, which holds and administers the Gunyangara township lease (the first time this has been done by a traditional owner corporation), Gulkula Mining Company, which operates the first Indigenous owned bauxite mine, and Mangarr Resource Centre Aboriginal Corporation, which delivers a range of social and community development projects.
Across these organisations, Gumatj employs more than 70 Yolngu in across more than 20 business or community work areas. Gumatj’s goal is to provide sustainable employment and community development beyond mining in the region, and supporting the employment of Yolngu in a culturally appropriate way that accommodates customs and lifestyle.

LAYNHAPUY HOMELANDS ABORIGINAL CORPORATION
In 1985, Laynhapuy Homelands Aboriginal Corporation (LHAC or ‘Laynha’) was established to assist in supporting these communities. Today, Laynha serves some 30 homeland communities with a population of approximately 1100 Yolngu residents across the region, and approximately 300 regular visitors.
It is a member based association of the Yolngu, with no statutory or other powers.
Laynha supports homeland communities through:
• Yirralka Rangers
• Health Services
• Community Services
• Ganybu Infrastructure & Housing Services (GIHS)
• Partnerships with organisations in the region with shared interests to support employment and training opportunities, culture and community, and economic development
• Representing and promoting Laynha homelands

EAST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL (EARC)
East Arnhem Regional Council (EARC) dedicates its resources to promoting the power of people, protection of community and respect for cultural diversity.
In 2018 we celebrate 10 years of providing core Local Government services to nine remote communities of East Arnhem Land; Milingimbi, Ramingining, Galiwin’ku, Gapuwiyak, Yirrkala, Gunyangara, Umbakumba, Angurugu and Milyakburra, spread across a region of approximately 33,359km2.
With the strength of our Elected Members, Executive Leadership, Local Authorities and staff, EARC is working towards constructive changes through a commitment to providing high quality services which promote empowerment, leading to community, economic, and social wellbeing.
Congratulations YYF on celebrating 20 exceptional Garma gatherings.

CORPORATION
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• Representing and promoting Laynha homelands
underpinned by our Treaty and Local Decision Making commitments and our work toward the vision that land and sea ownership delivers on economic and social aspirations of Aboriginal Territorians.

As well, the exhibition will provide opportunities to find out more about the Territory’s approach to early childhood and education, health and wellbeing of children and families, youth justice initiatives, Aboriginal justice agreements and community safety initiatives.

You will also be able to obtain information about the work that is under way in remote and regional places to support economic development, start and grow businesses and jobs and training across a range of industry sectors.

The Northern Territory Government’s exhibition is a truly whole-of-government approach that will be a great opportunity for local Yolngu, interstate and international visitors and corporate partners to share stories, learn and suggest new ways of doing things or how to better work together in the future.

**PURPLE HOUSE**

Sarah Browns team will be providing haemodialysis treatment from the Purple House mobile dialysis van at Garma. Haemodialysis treatment is needed when a person’s kidney’s stop working and therefore are no longer able to eliminate toxins and excess fluid in the body. Without treatment life expectancy is dramatically shortened. The Purple House team have driven to Garma to treat remote patients, giving them the chance to take part in four Garma days of activities. They’re keen to spread the work of their work, and they’re up for a chat. Make sure you visit to see first hand the great work they provide to our bush families.

**RIO TINTO**

Rio Tinto is proud to be again the principal sponsor for Garma & congratulates Garma celebrating its 20th year this year.

Our operations are situated on extensive deposits of high grade bauxite, a burnished red ore with high aluminium oxide content & is located on Aboriginal land on the Gove Peninsula in North East Arnhem Land in the Northern Territory. Our bauxite is exported to both domestic & international customers.

Rio Tinto has a formal Agreement with the Gumatj, Rirratjingu & Galpu Traditional Owners. The Agreement acknowledges Traditional Owners rights to land & provides significant long-term mutual benefits. The Agreement captures the aspirations of Gove Operations & Traditional Owners to work together to create intergenerational benefits & sustainable economic, cultural, social & environmental outcomes for the signatory Traditional Owner groups & communities including business development, education, employment, training, & cultural heritage management.

As a long term partner & contributor in the region, Rio Tinto looks forward to being a part of this unique event & welcoming visitors to Arnhem Land.

**TELSTRA**

Telstra is a proud supporter of the 2018 Garma Festival.

In addition to enabling guests of Garma to remain connected with mobile coverage over the course of the event, Telstra will also be onsite with a van and provide a range of services, including:

- Wi-Fi Hotspot
- Charging Station
- Telstra Pre-Paid Sims
- Telstra Handsets
- Technical Support

Stop by and say hi to our friendly and helpful staff who can assist with all your Telstra related needs.

**YOLNU RADIO (ARDS)**

Yolnu Radio’s award winning broadcast team will once again be providing live coverage of this year’s Garma Festival. Come say ‘hi’ at the Yolnu Radio tent near the Main Stage. The broadcast will be live on the Yolnu Radio network, available to Festival Goers on 96.5FM, or go to ards.com.au to share the live stream with friends.

Yolnu Radio have expanded their 2018 Broadcast Program to include:

- Live Broadcast of all the happenings from the Main Stage, including the Bungul and Bands
- Daily interviews with key note speakers, musicians, festival goers and service providers
- Broadcast of Key Forums
- Roving Radio Team
The Australian Government is proud to support Garma 2018. Issues affecting Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islanders (ATSI) are a significant national priority for the Australian Government. The Indigenous Affairs Group within the Department of the Prime Minister & Cabinet is committed to working with ATSI people to improve the lives of individuals, families and communities living across Australia.

Throughout Arnhem Land we are working in partnership with Yolngu & other Indigenous Australians to empower local communities to increase economic opportunity and prosperity. Our team works closely with communities to make sure policies, programs and services address each community’s needs. The Australian Government has set three priorities to make sure funding is effectively targeted:

- **Education** — children who go to school have better life outcomes.
- **Employment, economic development & social participation** — the right conditions and incentives need to be in place to support ATSI peoples to participate in the economy & broader society.
- **Healthy and safe homes and communities** — for families to thrive and reach their full potential they need to feel safe & well.

The Department has a network of regional offices across Australia. The PM&C Regional Network works with Indigenous Australians and other stakeholders to develop community-led solutions that are tailored to local needs and are likely to lead to sustainable outcomes.

**Four major programs & activities are fundamental to our work:**

1. **Indigenous Advancement Strategy (IAS)**
   The Australian Government’s Indigenous programs and activities are funded through five programs under the IAS:
   - Jobs, Land and Economy
   - Children and Schooling
   - Safety and Wellbeing
   - Culture and Capability
   - Remote Australia Strategies

2. **Women & Girls**
   Reducing violence against Indigenous women and children is a priority for communities and governments.

3. **Closing the Gap**
   In November 2008, all Australian governments committed to improving the lives of ATSI peoples.

4. **Constitutional Recognition**
   The Government is committed to recognising ATSI people in the Australian Constitution.

Gumatj Corporation Ltd represents the Gumatj people of North East Arnhem Land. It creates training & job opportunities by building local business.

The organisation began in 2007 with a cattle station in Garrathiya, & a timber mill, now at Gunyangara. Its mandate was to reduce reliance on royalty and welfare income by creating businesses that reflect the priorities of Yolngu people and a workplace where Yolngu people feel in control.

Today, Gumatj Corporation has 8 business units and employs over 100 people, mostly Yolngu. It also provides work placements through the Community Development Program.

The cattle farm breeds cattle for live export and also butchers and packs meat for homelands during ceremonies throughout North East Arnhem Land.

In addition to the timber mill there is now a sustainable timber harvesting business that works off the Rio Tinto mine site, harvesting timber that would otherwise be burnt. Recently a major sales contract was entered into with the Northern Territory Government for the sale of timber to Darwin – one of the first ever shipments of a non-mineral primary product to Darwin from the regions. There is also a cement works & block making factory that caters to local civil and construction industries.

At Gunyangara the Gumatj Corporation runs a retail store, a café & a nursery which all employ & train Yolngu – of great pride to the corporation is that each is run by a Yolngu woman.

In late 2017 the subsidiary company, Gulkula Mining, commenced production of bauxite which has been sold to Rio Tinto. Near the mine site is a Regional Training Centre, which runs in collaboration with Charles Darwin University and is training Yolngu people for jobs, which are all linked to the training – 80% of successful graduates from the Training Centre now have jobs, an amazing outcome. Also in late 2017 a lease was granted to the corporation for the purpose of a space launch facility fulfilling the corporation’s motto of Looking Up to the Future. A joint venture building company has now built over 30 houses, using concrete blocks from the concrete factory, timber trusses from the timber factory and Yolngu workers from the region - another story of which we are extremely proud.

While training & employment is a priority, Gumatj Corporation also focuses on providing supports that help families, & give children the best start in life. The corporation has funded the constructions of a transitional school for preschool to Year 2, which prepares children for mainstream school. The Families as First Teachers’ program runs at this campus with a playgroup in the school holidays. Setting the foundation for a good education will enable future generations to keep their culture strong, while gaining the skills needed for the workforce, this is an important part of the work done by the directors.

We believe our corporation is a model for Aboriginal and Islander people and can give confidence that there is a way to work on your own land, employ your own people and use the income and profits in a way that benefits your own community.
Developing strong & lasting relationships with Traditional Owners (T/O's), & recognising & respecting connection to land are principles embedded in Rio Tinto's culture & policies. These relationships are particularly important with communities close to where we operate.

In the early 1990s, Rio Tinto broke with convention as the first mining company to grasp the spirit of reconciliation & move to apply Australia's newly introduced Native Title Act. Since then, we’ve actively partnered with Indigenous Australians & now have over 30 agreements globally in place, including North East Arnhem Land.

Rio Tinto has an Agreement with Yolngu T/O's. In 2011, the Gove Traditional Owners Agreement was signed with the Gumatj, Rirratjingu & Galpu T/O's. The Agreement formally acknowledges T/O's & provides significant long-term mutual benefits. It captures the aspirations of Gove Operations & T/O’s to work together to create intergenerational benefits & sustainable economic, cultural, social & environmental outcomes for the signatory T/O Groups & communities.

Rio Tinto nationally
• Was the first resources company to obtain Elevate status for its Reconciliation Action Plan;
• Has more than 30 land use agreements with T/O's
• Has provided support for Indigenous university students for nearly 20 years;
• Invests millions in a range of partnerships with Indigenous organisations or service providers around Australia.
• Employs more than 1,400 permanent Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander people in Australia.

Our local joint achievements include:
• In 2017, more than $53 million spent in goods & services with local & Indigenous businesses;
• Support for the Gulkula Regional Training Centre & the first Aboriginal owned & managed mining operation by the Gumatj people;
• Significant number of Rio Tinto employees completed cross cultural awareness training managed & operated by T/O's;
• Partnered with T/O's on key contracts including diesel supply to our operations & environmental & horticulture activities to support rehabilitation activities at the mine & Residue Disposal Area;
• Expansion of Rio Tinto's Yolngu employee programmes to transition Yolngu from training to jobs;

Rio Tinto continues to be a longstanding proud supporter of Garma & welcomes the opportunity to return again in 2018. We look forward to another meaningful event in sharing everything Garma has to offer.
Telstra's purpose - to create a brilliant connected future for everyone – puts simply why we do what we do. It gives our work meaning and guides our actions and our future direction. The words ‘for everyone’ are crucial and given special meaning by the challenges often faced by many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

This underpins our Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) which defines our commitment via tangible, outcome driven and ambitious initiatives. Telstra's capabilities mean we play a key role to connect Indigenous customers and communities, in particular in remote Australia, to the digital world. Similarly, Garma is also about connection.

Connection to each other, to ideas, conversations and to a beautiful part of the world. We are proud to again be part of Garma and part of connecting the peoples of this land.
Founded in regional Queensland in 1920 – as Queensland and Northern Territory Aerial Services – Qantas is one of Australia’s most iconic brands and has played a central role in the development of the Australian and international aviation industry.

Today the Qantas Group is a diverse global aviation business, comprising Qantas Domestic, Qantas International, the Jetstar low-cost carrier group, Qantas Freight and Qantas Loyalty. In total, the Qantas Group operates more than 7,300 flights each week and, together with its codeshare and oneworld partners, offers flights to more than 1000 destinations around the world.

The Qantas Group’s fleet numbers almost 300 aircraft with an average age of around seven years – the youngest in two decades – including the acclaimed Qantas A380 and the Jetstar Boeing 787 Dreamliner. Qantas is ranked the world’s safest airline by AirlineRatings.com, one of the top 10 airlines in the world by Skytrax, and holds many major awards for service, food and wine, technology and innovation.

The Qantas Group carries over 50 million passengers each year and employs around 30,000 people.

Qantas has long represented the sense of ‘home’ through our connection to Australia, our land and our people. We appreciate the unique position of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as Australia’s First Peoples and the richness their cultures bring to our national identity.

We have a long standing commitment to the empowerment and celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and culture. We are proud to have an Elevate Reconciliation Action Plan.

Qantas is proud to continue our sponsorship of the Garma Festival and our association with the Yothu Yindi Foundation and the Yolngu people of North East Arnhem Land. To learn more about Qantas’ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander programs, please visit www.qantas.com/rap

The Territory Government is proud to continue its long standing support for the Garma Festival and, in particular, to be a strong partner in this year’s 20th Anniversary event. The Territory’s significant Aboriginal Affairs agenda, centred on empowerment, local decision making and self-determination, is setting the foundation for future relationships between Aboriginal Territorians and the Government. This is underpinned by the recent signing of an historic Memorandum of Understanding that paves the way for consultations to begin with Aboriginal people about a Treaty.

The Territory has a significant presence at this year’s event, demonstrating its strong commitment to the East Arnhem region and we welcome visitors to this unique and beautiful part of the Northern Territory.
The annual Garma Festival takes pride of place on the ABC’s national calendar of events. Many months of planning go into getting the ABC team to Gulkula so that the message of Garma – this year Yuwalk Lakaraŋa or truth telling – can travel far beyond the sacred Yolngu site. Each year, we renew our commitment to Garma not only because it brings Indigenous Australians together to talk frankly with each other, but because it helps focus our attention on the issues most relevant to Indigenous communities.

The ABC’s strategic vision is to be the source of Australian stories, culture & conversations. Fulfilling this ambition would be impossible without a commitment to reflect the stories of Indigenous Australia. Our vision for reconciliation is that the diversity & distinctiveness of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander peoples, their cultures & perspectives are fairly represented in the national conversation.

Garma is an ideal opportunity to put this vision into action. Under our Charter, the ABC informs, educates & entertains Australians through innovative & comprehensive television, radio, online & mobile services, including local services in all capital cities & throughout regional Australia. The ABC’s editorial policies remind ABC journalists, presenters & producers that they have “a special responsibility towards Australian Aboriginal People.” The ABC is proud of its record in engaging with Indigenous communities & in delivering stories from these communities to the rest of the nation.

While the ABC has an obligation to tell the difficult stories, we must also tell of the successes. We take the long view of all the complexities of Indigenous life. We make these stories a regular part of our reporting & a central part of our coverage – evidence of our deep commitment to truth telling & reconciliation.

On screen, a new era of Indigenous content & production began with the award-winning & critically acclaimed Redfern Now in 2013. Since then, the ABC’s Indigenous slate has expanded to include Indigenous drama series Gods of Wheat Street, mythological sci-fi Cleverman & Indigenous comedies Black Comedy, Kiki & Kitty & Aussie Rangers. On radio, the Indigenous flagships, the long-running Awaye! & Speaking Out cover politics, current affairs, history, the arts & culture from an Indigenous perspective.

Behind the camera, the ABC is working towards better outcomes for Indigenous employees. We have a track record of reflecting Indigenous diversity through staff initiatives including the ABC News cadet journalist program, the bi-annual Indigenous Staff Summit & a strong recruitment & Indigenous mentoring program. The ABC is on track to have Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander peoples account for 3 percent of our total staff by December 2018.

This year, at Garma, for the first time, we take our content-making skills into the community, hosting the ABC Digital Storytelling Workshop at the Garma Youth Forum. In this half-day workshop, ABC content makers will teach young Australians about the power of storytelling, explaining how to tell the stories that matter to them & how they can have an impact on the world through storytelling, newsmaking & filmmaking.

The 2018 Garma Festival will be a major celebration of Indigenous culture & conversations & the ABC is proud to play a role in ensuring its success.
SITE ACCESS
Garma commences on the morning of Friday 3 August and concludes the night of Monday 6 August, 2018. The event site Gulkula opens to exhibitors and exposition stall holders at 10:00am Thursday 2 August and closes to the public at 10:30am on Tuesday 7 August.

CLIMATE
Generally speaking, it is traditionally fine, rain-free and sunny. The days are quite warm (tops of around 31°C) and evenings can be cool (down to around 15°C). We have previously experienced heavy dew, fog in the mornings and the odd sprinkle of light rain. Remember to zip up your tent properly when leaving it, to avoid sharing your bed with creepy crawlies, and prevent your belongings getting damp. It is essential to keep up a high fluid intake (plain water is best) to avoid dehydration (particularly important if you have been in transit and travelling from southern states) and it is advisable to wear a broad-brimmed hat to guard against sunburn.

MOSQUITOES
To avoid mosquitoes, wear repellents and cover up at dusk. Generally speaking, there are not many mosquitoes but you may wish to bring a mosquito net, as individual reactions to bites vary.

SHOPPING
At Garma you will have the opportunity to purchase various goods from the General Store, Merchandise Stand, Gapan Gallery and the Garma café (see site map for location of each). Be aware that there are no ATM’s at Garma. Whilst we may have limited EFTPOS facilities for credit card transactions we strongly urge guests to pre-empt their spending habits and bring cash to suffice.

MEDICAL AND FIRST AID
A St Johns First Aid service is available on site. Any serious conditions will need to be referred to the Nhulunbuy hospital. Please advise the organisers if you have any special needs or conditions.

RECORDINGS AND PHOTOGRAPHS OF GARMA
It is a condition of entry to Garma that all registered Garma participants agree to the terms outlined in the Deed of Agreement to Make a Record, a document that specifies that it is not permissible to publish images of Yolngu individuals and families without permission. This is a legally binding document which prevents the Yolngu people, their culture, their art, their lifestyle from being utilised for commercial profit for purposes not aligned with the values and priorities of the Yothu Yindi Foundation. This policy has been developed out of respect for the Yolngu clans and their families and it enables them to maintain control, for protocol and cultural sensitivity reasons, of the public use of images.

ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS
Garma is an alcohol and drug free event. Alcohol and drugs are strictly not permitted on the Gulkula site where Garma is held. Alcohol is also banned at Yirrkala, Gunyangara & Birritjimi. Penalties for taking alcohol and other drugs into restricted areas can be severe. We need your help and assistance by honouring the way we manage our event. The Yothu Yindi Foundation prides itself on delivering our event in an alcohol and drug free environment. Penalties will apply if drugs or alcohol are brought into Garma 2018.

BEHAVIOUR
At Garma, you are requested to observe and work within Yolngu protocols. Remember Garma is held on Gumatj land and the traditional land owners have warmly welcomed you onto their country. Yolngu perceptions, priorities and preoccupations are different from those of mainstream Australia. Be patient, and try to leave at home your expectations of how things are learnt, and how events should run. Traditionally Yolngu learn by observation, by looking and listening. Asking too many questions can be inappropriate. So, when you have questions, choose them carefully and pose them thoughtfully. Listening can gain you big personal credits, and barking endless questions will lose you credits pretty quickly. Diplomacy goes a long way here in Arnhem Land.

Respect Yolngu people’s personal space, particularly in the camping areas and each individual guest’s tent. Sticking to the walking paths provided is important to ensure you’re not stumbling into and imposing on cultural space. Avoid strolling around and visiting Yolngu camp sites unless specifically invited and accompanied by your Yolngu host.

Please exercise courtesy and sensitivity when taking photographs – seek the permission of the subjects.

Please do not take close-ups, or photographs of small groups, particularly in the women’s programs and men’s programs cultural and health sessions.

Visitors should NOT leave the Gulkula site by themselves and should only walk along specifically marked event trails. This is about showing respect for land and is also a safety issue for event organisers. Wild buffalo wander this country and organisers spend considerable effort in monitoring their trails prior to Garma each year.
Treat the old people with the greatest of respect – they hold the knowledge and the power.

Please be conscious that dress standards may often vary from what is considered acceptable at your home. By dressing conservatively you will avoid the possibility of causing offence. Too much skin on display draws inadvertent attention not appropriate for this event. Schools attending the festival should advise their students of this policy. Our dress standards also protect our participants from sunburn, sunstroke and dehydration. Plan a sensible wardrobe, practical and covered shoes and include a hat to protect you from the elements.

CAMPING
Garma is intended to be a camping experience and the site at Gulkula is well established with facilities to make your stay as comfortable as possible. We encourage you to stay with us during your visit.

By staying on site at Gulkula, you will have a greater opportunity to experience Garma, and its special character, purpose and essence.

MEALS
For registered guests Garma is fully catered, with three main meals a day. Vegetarian, vegans and celiac options will be available for each meal. Please let catering staff know if you have food allergies, so that we can help you identify a meal that is safe for your consumption. There are two kitchen/dining areas at Garma and all guests are welcome to use either. Tip - Avoid queues at the main dining hall by heading over to the dining area by the Yolngu camp ground.

TOILETS AND SHOWERS
There are several amenities blocks around the site with toilets and hot showers. Refer to site map for location. Note there are no laundry facilities on site. Use water sensibly, you are remote. Keep your showers quick. Turn off running tap if there is no one using them. Notify a site team member if something is damaged.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION
In the event of an emergency please make your way to the emergency assembly area located on the bunggul grounds. At all times listen to the instructions of the Garma crew and follow their direction. Do not leave the Garma boundaries – event organisers need to know where you are.

COMMUNITY OPEN DAY
On Monday 6 August Garma is open to the local people of Nhulunbuy. Our local guests are also welcome to pack a picnic for the day.

LOST AND FOUND
Lost and found items can be located in the ticketing office. For the more valuable items, event organisers may have secured safely the item you’ve lost. Ask at the ticketing office, as our friendly staff may be holding your lost product for safe keeping.

MOBILE PHONES AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES
Telstra enables guests of Garma to remain connected over the course of 4 days worth of activities. The site will be equipped with a Telstra charging station and a supply of Telstra prepaid SIM cards YYF shop.

Those wishing to use electronic devices during Garma should be aware that:

- Telstra mobile coverage will be available
- We encourage guests to switch their devices to flight mode whilst at Garma to extend battery life.
- Other power outlets are located at the ticketing office/reception and guests are encouraged to remain at reception while their device charges, as Garma staff cannot assume responsibility for any devices left unattended.
- As power outlets are always in high demand at Garma, we predict that guests will sometimes need to wait for an outlet to become available. To avoid disappointment we encourage guests charge during quiet periods such as early morning and later in the evening.
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Oxfam Australia’s commitment to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples

At Oxfam Australia, we’re working towards a world in which the human rights of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples are respected and upheld; a world where our First Peoples have the power to determine their own strong, proud and healthy lives. We partner with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations to pursue health equality (Close the Gap), gender justice (Straight Talk) and justice (Change the Record). We believe that a partnership approach is the best way to support self-determination. That’s why we work with — not on behalf of — Indigenous organisations and stakeholders. In all our work, we seek to develop genuine and supportive relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and organisations.

“The involvement of Oxfam has been transformational in so many ways, and certainly beyond what we could have imagined when we commenced this partnership ... The game-changing elements of this project have been the embedding of an Oxfam adviser within our team; the building of trust and the ongoing formation of knowledge and skills.”

Anne Bambrook, Capacity Development Coordinator, FVPLS Victoria

Learn more about our work at oxfam.org.au/indigenous-australia
DIRECTOR OF GARMA FESTIVAL 2019
DEVELOP & LEAD

The Yothu Yindi Foundation are already looking ahead to the 2019 Garma Festival and, as part of that process, will be ramping up recruitment this coming September for a new Festival Director.

Working alongside the CEO, the Festival Director will develop and lead the artistic and cultural scope of the 2019 Garma Festival, scheduled in the first week of August, which will be in line with the direction of the Yothu Yindi Foundation’s Board and its core business.

Further information on this exciting opportunity will be announced over the coming months, but in the interim, we invite you to liaise with Killian O’Sullivan to put forward your expression of interest. Killian can be contacted on the details below. We look forward to commencing the recruitment for this pivotal role and are excited in meeting with all interested suitors over the coming months.

Contact Killian O’Sullivan at killian.osullivan@hays.com.au or 08 8943 6000.
EAST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL strives to be a recognised and respected leader in Local Government by forming partnerships, building community capacity, advocating for regional and local issues, maximising service effectiveness and linking people with information.

Congratulations Yothu Yindi Foundation on reaching your milestone 20th annual Garma event.

The Territory Labor Caucus supports the 20th annual Garma Festival and theme of ‘Yuwalk Lakaranga’ – truth-telling.
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