

NAIDOC 2016 Poster

Songlines Tie All Aboriginal People Together

Artist: Lani Balzan

"This is my passionate expressions of a spiritual connection to the land. Songlines Tie All Aboriginal People Together.

Songlines criss-cross and go east and west and they go north and south and they go diagonally and they backtrack according to the journeys of the ancestors. They create a kind of cultural network of stories that ties all of Aboriginal People together. This is what my painting is representing, you can see all the songlines coming together creating our nation.

The Dreaming stories are presented as elaborate song cycles (Songlines) that relate to a specific place, group and individual. Dreamtime ancestors made Songlines as part of the creation story. They provide a map of recording the landscape and represent the relationship between the land, sea and the people." - Lani Balzan



NAIDOC Week 2016 Theme: Songlines: The living narrative of our nation

NAIDOC Week Award Recipients:

- **Person of the Year:** Professor Chris Sarra. A Goreng Goreng man, he has championed the improvement of educational outcomes for Aboriginal people throughout his career.
- **Sportsperson of the Year:** Jade North
- **Female Elder of the Year:** MaryAnn Bin-Sallik
- **Male Elder of the Year:** Robert Francis Isaacs
- **Artist of the Year:** Geoffrey Gurrumul Yunupingu
- **Youth of the Year:** Elijah Douglas
- **Lifetime Achievement Award:** Stephen Page
- **Caring for Country Award:** Manymak Energy Efficiency Project (NT)
- **Scholar of the Year:** Layneisha Sgro
- **Apprentice of the Year:** Montana Ah-Won

Yandaarra Aunty Grace Roberts Community Awards Recipients:

- **Aunty Grace Roberts Memorial Award:** Not appointed to lack of nominations
- **Community Worker Award:** Michelle Sinclair
- **Community Organisation Award:** Coffs Harbour Local Aboriginal Land Council

Events of Significance

- In 2016, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peak organisations came together to release the Redfern Statement. The Statement was an urgent call for an end to budget cuts and the restoration of funding to the Indigenous Affairs Portfolio.
- The first State of Reconciliation in Australia Report was published, providing a national framework to track progress and guide future efforts toward reconciliation.

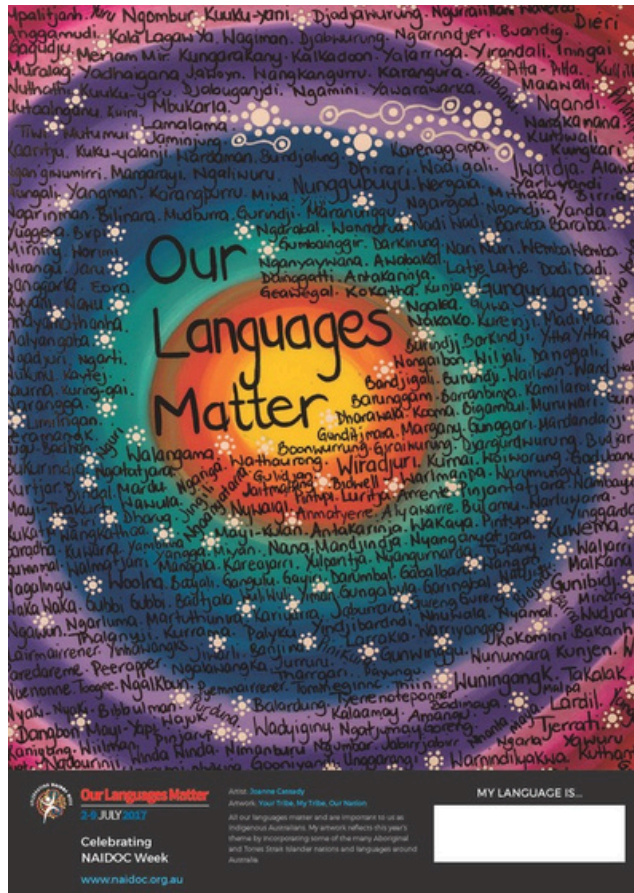
NAIDOC 2017 Poster

Your Tribe, My Tribe, Our Nation: Our Languages Matter

Artist: Joanne Cassady

This poster by Joanne Cassady celebrates the diversity and importance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages.

The artwork reflects the many Nations and languages across Australia.



NAIDOC Week 2017 Theme: Our Languages Matter

“All our languages matter and are important to us as Indigenous Australians. My artwork reflects this year’s theme by incorporating some of the many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander nations and languages around Australia.”

- Joanne Cassady

NAIDOC Week Award Recipients:

- **Person of the Year:** Patrick "Patty" Mills. A Muralag man from the Torres Strait, and Ynunga man from South Australia, he is a sporting legend, known for his accomplishments in basketball.
- **Sportsperson of the Year:** Amanda Reid
- **Female Elder of the Year:** Faye Carr
- **Male Elder of the Year:** Alex "Ollie" George
- **Artist of the Year:** Elverina Johnson
- **Youth of the Year:** Latia Schefe
- **Lifetime Achievement Award:** Dianne Ryder
- **Caring for Country Award:** Minjerribah Moorgumpin Elders-in-Council Aboriginal Corporation (QLD)
- **Scholar of the Year:** Dr James Charles
- **Apprentice of the Year:** Sharee Yamashita

Yandaarra Aunty Grace Roberts Community Awards Recipients:

- **Aunty Grace Roberts Memorial Award:** Sue Tomkins
- **Community Worker Award:** Racheal Morris
- **Community Organisation Award:** Bularri Muurlay Nyanggan
- **Academic Achievement Award:** Jasmine Hovermann
- **Sports Achievement Award:** Cassey Lynwood
- **Arts and Cultural Pursuits Achievement Award:** Tony Dootson
- **Youth of the Year Award:** Charlotte Bedford.

Events of Significance

- 2017 marked several important anniversaries: 50 years since the 1967 Referendum, 25 years since the Mabo decision, 20 years since the Bringing Them Home Report, 10 years since the Northern Territory Intervention.
- In 2017, the Uluru Statement from the Heart was released, calling for constitutional recognition through a First Nations Voice to Parliament and a process of truth-telling about Australia's history.

NAIDOC 2018 Poster

Tarmunggie Woman

Artist: Cheryl Moggs

"Witnessing historic and horrific atrocities against our people, lands and culture. Advocating, struggling and taking up the fight for equality, justice, civil rights and social change. From the footprints of the white eye on our traditional lands, to the breast of our mothers, grandmothers to now and the future you still stand proud, strong, influential and inspiring. You are our mothers, elders, grandmothers, aunts, sisters and our daughters. You hold the knowledge, stories, language, culture and our future. BECAUSE OF YOU, We Can! Become educated, practice our culture, language and pass knowledge to our children, become leaders and trail blazers ourselves, have a dream that is possible to achieve, fuse our culture and arts into two worlds, have a place, identity and future, embed our footprints and spirit back on country, have a voice in policy direction, change the state of our identity and character that are unjust, hold our heads and be proud to be First Nations." - Cheryl Moggs



NAIDOC Week 2018
BECAUSE OF HER, WE CAN!

NAIDOC Week 2018 celebrates the invaluable contributions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women who make a difference to our communities, our families, our workplaces and our nation.

This artwork celebrates the courage and resilience of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women. From the footprints of their mothers and grandmothers across the time continuum and long history of our traditional lands and seas.

Twitter: #naidoc2018
Facebook: @naidoc2018



NAIDOC Week 2018 Theme: Because of Her, We Can!

NAIDOC Week Award Recipients:

- **Person of the Year:** Dr June Oscar (AO). A proud Bunuba woman from Fitzroy Crossing in the Kimberley, she is well known for championing the rights of her people, and for her tireless work in the preservation of ancient languages.
- **Sportsperson of the Year:** Jack Peris
- **Female Elder of the Year:** Lynette Nixon
- **Male Elder of the Year:** Russell Taylor AM
- **Artist of the Year:** Adam Briggs ("Briggs")
- **Youth of the Year:** Iamina Pitt
- **Lifetime Achievement Award:** Patricia Anderson AO
- **Caring for Country Award:** Mungalla Aboriginal Business Corporation (QLD)
- **Scholar of the Year:** Professor Michelle Trudgett
- **Apprentice of the Year:** Folau Talbot

Yandaarra Aunty Grace Roberts Community Awards Recipients:

- **Aunty Grace Robberts Memorial Award:** Jenny Skinner
- **Academic Achievement Award:** Deakin Walker
- **Sports Achievement Award:** Tanisha Wallace
- **Youth of the Year Award:** Corey Warn

Events of Significance

- Victoria becomes the first Australian state to pass Treaty legislation when it passes the Advancing the Treaty Process with Aboriginal Victorians Act 2018 (VIC).

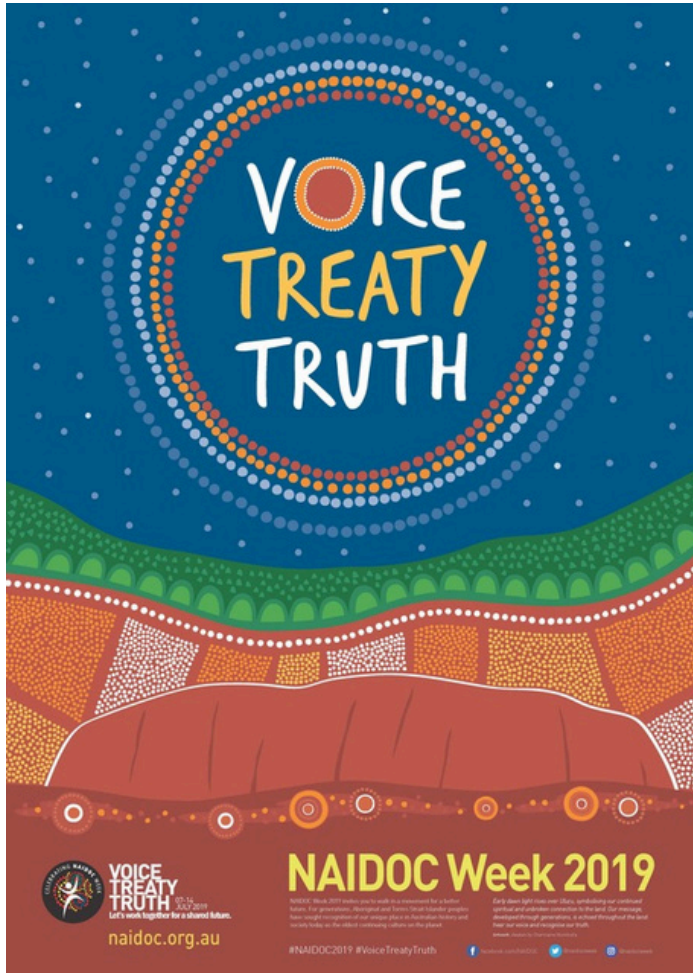
NAIDOC 2019 Poster

Awaken

Artist: Charmaine Mumbulla

"Dawn light stretches across Uluru promising hope and new beginnings. The circles at the base of Uluru represent the gathering of many people from different nations to consult and discuss new ways of moving forward, resulting in the Uluru Statement from the Heart.

A new day and a new beginning calls for a new way of moving forward as a nation."
- Charmaine Mumbulla



NAIDOC Week 2019 Theme: Voice Treaty Truth - Let's work together for a shared future

NAIDOC Week Award Recipients:

- **Person of the Year:** Dean Duncan. A proud Kamilaroi man, he is a champion of diversity, social justice and equality.
- **Sportsperson of the Year:** Shantelle Thompson
- **Female Elder of the Year:** Thelma Weston
- **Male Elder of the Year:** Greg Little
- **Artist of the Year:** Elma Gada Kris
- **Youth of the Year:** Mi-kaisha Masella
- **Lifetime Achievement Award:** David Gulpilil Ridjimiril Dalaithngu
- **Caring for Country Award:** Littlewell Working Group
- **Scholar of the Year:** Professor Michael McDaniel
- **Apprentice of the Year:** Ganur Maynard

Yandaarra Aunty Grace Roberts Community Awards Recipients:

- **Aunty Grace Robberts Memorial Award:** Lloyd Lynwood
- **Academic Achievement Award:** Michelle Sinclair
- **Community Organisation Award:** Aboriginal Chronic Care – 48 Hr Follow Up Team
- **Sports Achievement Award :** Lily Pade
- **Arts and Cultural Achievement Award:** Kimberly Duncan
- **Youth of the Year Award:** Jada – Lee Brunton

Events of Significance

- Ken Wyatt was appointed as Minister for Indigenous Australians, and Lind Burney was subsequently appointed the shadow minister, a first in cross-party support on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander issues.
- Ash Barty won the French Open tennis. An Australian woman had not won since 1976, when Evonne Goolagong Cawley was ranked second in the world.

NAIDOC 2020 Poster

Shape of Land

Artist: Tyrown Waigana

"The Rainbow Serpent came out of the Dreamtime to create this land. It is represented by the snake and it forms the shape of Australia, which symbolises how it created our lands. The colour from the Rainbow Serpent is reflected on to the figure to display our connection to the Rainbow Serpent, thus our connection to country. The overlapping colours on the outside is the Dreamtime. The figure inside the shape of Australia is a representation of Indigenous Australians showing that this country - since the dawn of time - Always Was, Always Will Be Aboriginal Land." - Tyrown Waigana

NAIDOC Week Award Recipients:

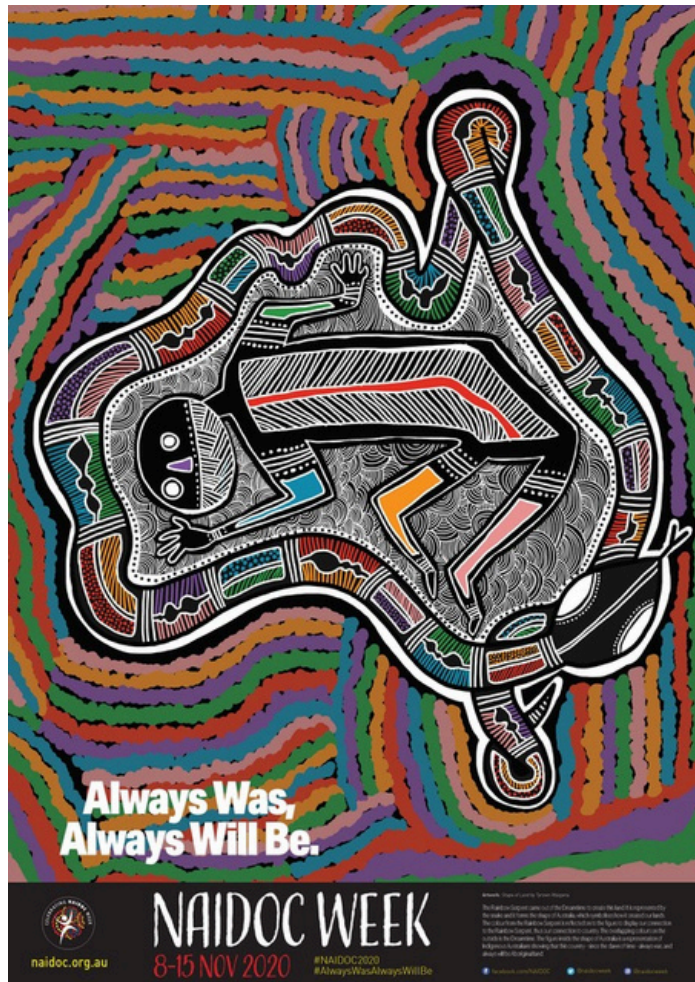
- The National NAIDOC Awards were not held in 2020 due to the impact and restrictions of the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, no official National NAIDOC Person of the Year was awarded that year.

Yandaarra Aunty Grace Roberts Community Awards Recipients:

- **Aunty Grace Roberts Memorial Award:** Kerrie Burnett
- **Aunty/Uncle Award:** Aunty Kerrie Burnett & Aunty Ruth Holten
- **Academic Achievement Award:** Opal Harvey
- **Community Business or Organisation:** Saltwater Freshwater Arts Alliance
- **Sports Achievement Award:** Marley Marr
- **Arts and Cultural Achievement Award:** Brentyn Lugnan
- **Youth of the Year Award:** Jonah Bedford

Events of Significance

- Tens of thousands of Australians attend Black Lives Matter marches in cities across the country to protest Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander deaths in custody and high rates of incarceration of First Nations peoples.
- Mining company Rio Tinto destroys two 46,000-year-old sites in the Juukan Gorge, Pilbara, and is suspended from the Reconciliation Action Plan community; Senate Inquiry held; CEO and two senior executives resign.



NAIDOC Week 2020 Theme: Always Was, Always Will Be.

NAIDOC 2021 Poster

Care for Country

Artist: Maggie-Jean Douglas

Maggie-Jean Douglas, a Gubbi Gubbi artist from South East Queensland, used the 2021 NAIDOC Week theme, Heal Country!, as inspiration for her winning artwork 'Care for Country'. This is a bright and vibrant artwork which explores how Country has cared for and healed First Nations people spiritually, physically, emotionally, socially and culturally.

"When creating 'Care for Country' I kept in mind that this meant spiritually, physically, emotionally, socially and culturally- I chose to create a bright and vibrant artwork that included the different colours of the land but showed how they come together in our beautiful country and to make people feel hopeful for the future. I've included communities/people, animals and bush medicines spread over different landscapes of red dirt, green grass, bush land and coastal areas to tell the story of the many ways country can and has healed us throughout our lives and journeys." - Maggie-Jean Douglas



NAIDOC Week 2021 Theme: Heal Country!

NAIDOC Week Award Recipients:

- **Person of the Year:** Keri Tamwoy of the Putch people, Wik Mungkan, in the community of Aurukun. She is the co-founder of the Wik Women's Group which champions for education and safety of women and children. She also has a leading role in a recent Cape York campaign to co-design strategies to combat youth sexual violence.
- **Lifetime Achievement Award:** Pat O'Shane AM
- **Female Elder of the Year:** Christabel Swan
- **Male Elder of the Year:** Ernest Hoolihan
- **Caring for Country Award:** Gadrian Hoosan (Borroloola Community)
- **Youth of the Year:** Samara Fernandez-Brown
- **Artist of the Year:** Bobbi Lockyer
- **Scholar of the Year:** Sasha Purcell
- **Apprentice of the Year:** Jarron Andy
- **Sportsperson of the Year:** Clarence "CJ" McCarthy-Groga

Yandaarra Aunty Grace Roberts Community Awards Recipients:

- **Aunty Grace Roberts Memorial Award:** Karen Roberts
- **Aunty Award:** Noelene Skinner
- **Uncle Award:** Michael Gibbs
- **Community Business or Organisation Award:** Yarrawarra
- **Sports Achievement Award:** Braith Wilson
- **Arts and Cultural Achievement Award:** Troy Robinson
- **Youth of the Year Award:** Kiera Bassett

Events of Significance

- The Yoorrook Justice Commission is established in Victoria.

NAIDOC 2022 Poster

Stronger

Artist: Ryhia Dank

Ryhia Dank, a young Gudanji/ Wakaja artist from the Northern Territory is the winner of the prestigious National NAIDOC poster competition for 2022 with her entry, Stronger.

"I created this piece after reading this year's National NAIDOC Week theme-Get Up! Stand Up! Show Up! I knew straightaway I wanted to do a graphic piece centred around our flags with text highlighting what we have been through and are still fighting for" said Ryhia. "I feel that this piece being black and white allows us to focus on the details and messages in the artwork"

NAIDOC Week Award Recipients:

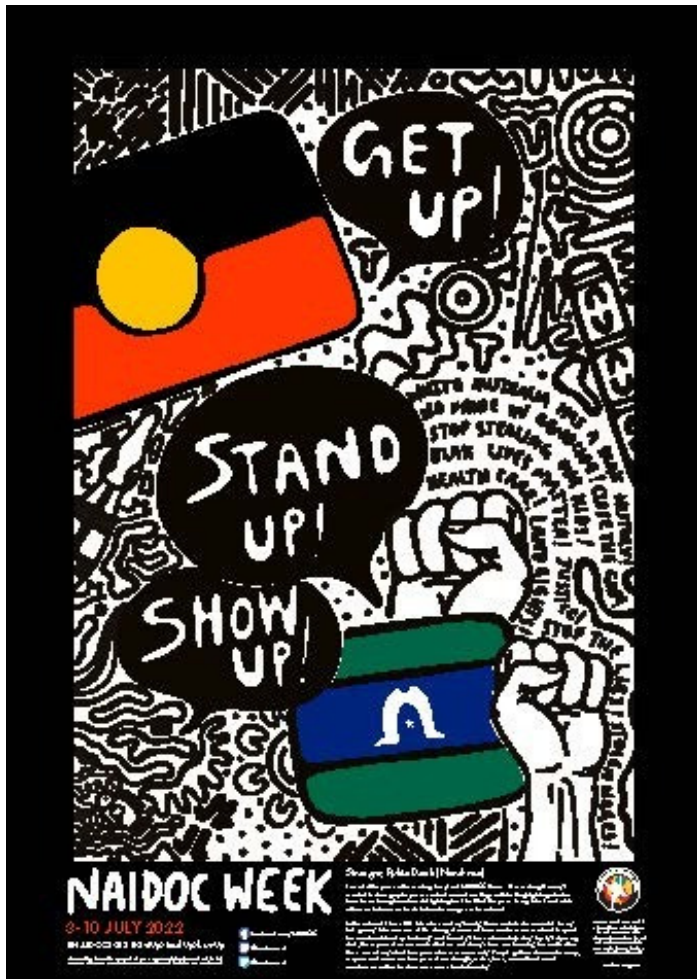
- **Person of The Year Award:** Ash Barty. A descendant of the Ngarigo people, and internationally celebrated tennis champion.
- **Lifetime Achievement Award:** Stan Grant Snr AM
- **Female Elder Award:** Lois Peeler AM
- **Male Elder Award:** Uncle Jack Charles
- **Sportsperson Award:** Buddy Franklin
- **Youth Award:** Elijah Manis
- **Creative Talent Award:** Lowell Hunter
- **Caring for Country and Culture Award:** Walter Jackson
- **Education Award:** Bronwyn Fredericks
- **Innovation Award:** The Koori Mail team and volunteers, recognised for their leadership during the 2022 Lismore floods

Yandaarra Aunty Grace Roberts Community Awards Recipients:

- **Aunty Grace Roberts Memorial Award:** Kaleesha Morris
- **Aunty Award:** Kathleen Flanders
- **Uncle Award:** Johnno Miers
- **Community Business or Organisation:** AES and Garby Elders (jointly)
- **Sports Achievement Award:** Dustin Parry
- **Arts and Cultural Achievement Award:** Mudjai Jeremy Devitt

Events of Significance

- When the Labor Party wins Federal Government, new Prime Minister Anthony Albanese promises to implement the Uluru Statement in full.



NAIDOC Week 2022 Theme: Get Up! Stand Up! Show Up!

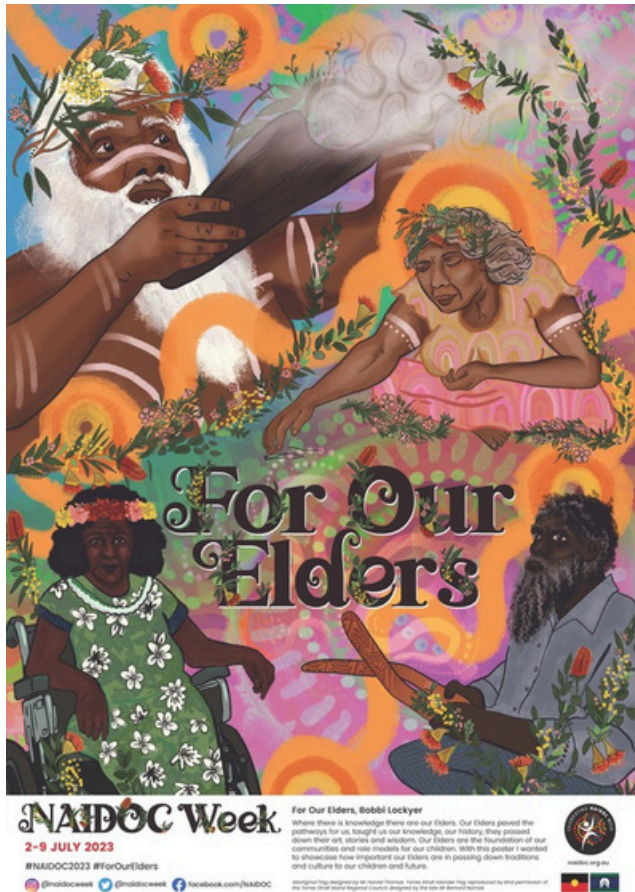
NAIDOC 2023 Poster

For Our Elders

Artist: Bobbi Lockyer

Bobbi Lockyer, a proud Ngarluma, Kariyarra, Nyulnyul and Yawuru artist, born and based on Kariyarra Country in Port Hedland, was the winner of the prestigious National NAIDOC Week Poster Competition for 2023 with her entry, For Our Elders.

"Where there is knowledge there are our Elders. Our Elders paved the pathways for us, taught us our knowledge, our history, they passed down their art, stories and wisdom. Our Elders are the foundation of our communities and role models for our children. With this poster I wanted to showcase how important our Elders are in passing down traditions and culture to our children and future." said Bobbi.



NAIDOC Week 2023 Theme: For Our Elders

NAIDOC Week Award Recipients:

- **Person of the Year:** Kelvin Kong - a Worimi man, he is Australia's first Indigenous surgeon.
- **Lifetime Achievement Award:** Aunty Dr Naomi Mayers OAM
- **Female Elder of the Year:** Aunty Dr Matilda House-Williams
- **Male Elder of the Year:** William Tilmouth
- **Sportsperson of the Year:** Donnell Wallam
- **Youth of the Year:** Courtney Burns
- **Creative Talent Award:** Rachel Perkins
- **Caring for Country and Culture Award:** Lala Gutchen
- **Education Award:** Bubup Wilam Aboriginal Child and Family Centre
- **Innovation Award:** Daniel Motlop

Yandaarra Aunty Grace Roberts Community Awards Recipients:

- **Aunty Grace Roberts Memorial Award:** Tyson Ferguson
- **Aunty Award:** Michelle Sinclair
- **Uncle Award:** Jim Hurley
- **Community Business or Organisation:** Saltwater Sisters and The Gumbaynggirr Coffs Coast Raiders Aboriginal Corporation (jointly)
- **Sports Achievement Award:** Zayden Parry
- **Arts and Cultural Achievement Award:** Matty Devitt
- **Youth of the Year Award:** Isaiha Kelly

Events of Significance

- South Australian Parliament passes the First Nations Voice Bill.
- The Queensland Path to Treaty Act passes.
- The Voice to Parliament referendum is defeated; 39.94% in favour, 60.04% not in favour.

NAIDOC 2024 Poster

Urapun Muy

Artist: Deb Belyea

'Urapun Muy', from the Kalaw Kawaw Ya dialect of the Top Western Islands of the Torres Strait, means 'One Fire'. The title of this work pays homage to Torres Strait Islanders and Aboriginal people everywhere, as we all have that one fire: our passion for our culture.

In this work, I have depicted the hands of our ancestors that have carefully dropped a burning ember on to a fire. This ember burns hot with intensity, stoking the flames, as it combines with the new fire. The linear detail shows the energy and power as cultural knowledge is transferred from our ancestors to us today. Culture is the fire that gives us knowledge, wisdom and purpose. It is our responsibility to maintain, practice, and pass on our fire to our future generations.

Afterall, Culture keeps us Blak, Loud and Proud.

NAIDOC Week Award Winners:

- **Person of the Year:** Aunty Muriel Bamblett - a proud Yorta Yorta, Oja Oja Wurrung, Taungurung, Boon Wurrung Elder, as CEO of the Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency (VACCA) since 1999, she has advocated and advanced the interests of Aboriginal children and families and has embedded culture in everything VACCA does to build resilience, self-esteem, connection and belonging.
- **Lifetime Achievement Award:** Aunty Dr Naomi Mayers OAM
- **Female Elder of the Year:** Aunty Dr Matilda House-Williams
- **Male Elder of the Year:** William Tilmouth
- **Sportsperson of the Year:** Donnell Wallam
- **Youth of the Year:** Courtney Burns
- **Creative Talent Award:** Rachel Perkins
- **Caring for Country and Culture Award:** Lala Gutchen
- **Education Award:** Bubup Wilam Aboriginal Child and Family Centre
- **Innovation Award:** Daniel Motlop

Yandaarra Aunty Grace Roberts Community Awards Recipients:

- **Aunty Grace Roberts Memorial Award:** Des Ahoy (Galambila)
- **Aunty Award:** Jenny Skinner
- **Uncle Award:** Kevin Wilson
- **Community Business or Organisation:** Jalay Jalay Dance Troupe
- **Sports Achievement Award:** Matthew Montgomery and Tigerlilly Green (jointly)
- **Arts and Cultural Achievement Award:** Darryl Lockwood
- **Youth of the Year Award:** Ace Findlay



NAIDOC Week 2024 Theme: Keep the Fire Burning! Blak, Loud and Proud

NAIDOC 2025 Poster

Ancestral Lines

Artist: Jeremy Morgan Worrall

"Ancestral Lines is a visual representation of the lines and ties that follow a generation and the songs that come with it.

When I think of the next generation I think towards my Ancestor Lucy Wright, Enoch Wright, Nonie Wright, all the way from my Nanna Audrie to my Mother Vanessa.

When I look back at my mob it helps me see towards the future, it gives me hope and strength knowing what my mob have survived through and accomplished amid adversity.

Each person in the painting depicts a series of lines akin to songlines, that represent what they know, who they were and what they have passed on, the first being that of lore (interpretive), hunting, protecting, and tracking, the second of care, weaving, fishing, and love.

The third is when we see the two combine into one, and the last two take unfinished elements of them all, to show the passing down of knowledge and care.

Above them is the essence of the land they live and protect/care for. It is a depiction of my home the cold skies of Tenterfield with the swirling clouds and giant moon, a place around the fire is where the next Generation find their strength, vision and legacy."

- Jeremy Morgan Worrall



NAIDOC Week 2025 Theme: The Next Generation:
Strength, Vision, Legacy

NAIDOC Week Award Recipients:

- **The Aboriginal of the Year:** Dr Daniel Hunt - a Jaru and Indjibarndi man who is both a General Practitioner and a Dentist. He has extensive experience in the Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation sector, served as Dentist, Deputy Medical Director, and Acting Chief Executive Officer.
- **Lifetime Achievement:** Mr Michael Long
- **Male Elder of the Year:** Uncle Harry Phillip Hall
- **Female Elder of the Year:** Aunty Rosalie Kickett
- **Sportsperson of the Year:** Miss Danielle Ponter
- **Youth of the Year:** Miss Anika Gosling
- **Creative Talent:** Ms Christine Anu
- **Caring for Country and Culture:** Wadjemup Project Steering Group
- **Education:** Professor Eddie Cubillo
- **Innovation:** Blak Brews

Yandaarra Aunty Grace Roberts Community Awards Recipients:

- **Aunty Grace Roberts Memorial Award:** Cylie Brown
- **Aunty Award:** (1) Aunty Heather Duncan (2) Aunty Shirley Duroux
- **Uncle Award:** Uncle Bryce Filewood
- **Community Business or Organisation Award:** (1) Waagay Biliinyjarl (2) Yarrawarra Arts
- **Sports Achievement Award:** Ms Cara Reeves
- **Arts and Cultural Achievement Award:** Ebony Davies
- **Youth of the Year Award:** Miss Deedee Dickson-Lockwood