

ANNUAL REPORT

2019



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CROSSROAD
ARTS

Vision:

Arts for all

Mission:

Through leading inclusive arts experiences, we will co-create new narratives with artists with disability that aim to change perceptions and shape the sector of the future

Values:

DIVERSITY: respect and embrace difference

SOCIAL JUSTICE: access and participation in the arts as a human right

FREEDOM: to express yourself creatively and culturally.

INTEGRITY: acting honestly and valuing trust

AUTHENTICITY: enable individual expression through collaboration

INCLUSIVE: arts for all

Company History

Throughout Crossroad Arts' proud 20 year strong history the company has established itself as a leader in inclusive arts practice in Queensland.

Our mission is to provide access to creative expression through inclusive arts programs and practice to achieve our vision of 'arts for all.' We achieve this through the delivery of highly visible & innovative multi arts programs that capture and promote the essence of our regional voice.

We work with communities to celebrate diversity and culture. We ensure the challenges and ambitions of the community are central to the narratives being shared and developed with a specific focus on those with disability.

We create access points for unique partnerships with art and non-art organisations locally, in remote and regional western Queensland communities and across the Asia Pacific region.

We push beyond boundaries of social isolation, discrimination and inequity to contribute and cultivate the sector to create a sense of inclusiveness that celebrates art as a force of intrinsic good and a key ingredient for a better and more vibrant society.



Photo: Celeste Heward



I enjoy being part of Crossroad Arts because it is part of my future.

- James Penny
Performer

By collaborating with our community, unique stories are uncovered and unlikely partnerships are formed.

We use these threads to connect the community, create vibrant spaces and experiences that strengthen the overall health and wellbeing of our region.

We create relevant and unconventional works that continue to agitate, spark discussion and promote Mackay as a leading inclusive destination that gives voice to stories that need to be heard.

Acknowledgement to Country:

Crossroad Arts acknowledges and pays respect to the past, present and future Traditional Custodians and Elders of Australia. We deeply respect the Traditional peoples ongoing connection to Country and the continuation of cultural, spiritual and educational practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

In Mackay, we acknowledge the Yuibera and Yuwibara people and their Elders past, present and emerging.

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Cover photo: Leah McLean
Cynthia Gregg at LOOSE ENDS

Ambassador/Artist In Residence's Report



Hey everyone, I would like to invite you to all look back to the previous years work with us at Crossroad Arts and remember all the amazing times we have had together.

We moved from the old Parish Hall to Split Spaces late in 2018 where we stayed for most of 2019 but at the end of 2019 we moved into the new office in the city heart of Mackay which administers all the activities for the local community.

Crossroad Arts was delighted to receive the David Bow memorial award for Outstanding Community service from the Port of Mackay Rotary Club in August for raising awareness of inclusive arts to local businesses and creating opportunities for artists with disability around the regional town of Mackay. The award honours the late David Bow who was a great community leader and founder of the club. I wrote a speech and thanked them for this recognition.

Alison, Wanda and I attended the Art Synergy conference in Clermont and Emerald. It was an opportunity to advocate for increased disability arts opportunities and accessibility. I also talked about how we can assist the disability community with artistic opportunities and assisting artists with disability to connect in regional areas.

Our *Tune IN* workshops happened in May, they focused on writing and storytelling. I worked directly with Georgia Cranko, Angela Peita, Mathew Bing and Matthew Tandy to create original poetry and stories.

I also met Debbie Hoare who was living in Calen, she happens to be blind and can read multiple types of Braille. We shared stories one afternoon at the old office.

As part of our major production *An Unconventional Tour* I did a performance where I walked up a lane with my cane while one of my poems was being narrated, then I signed "breathe in" four times and then typed it all out on my braille display while Georgia Cranko signed and more poems were read out and music was played. This performance was called *Breathe In*.

Alison, Mat and I attended the Arts Ablaze Conference at Kooralbyn where people shared ideas and performances, some based on disability and accessibility for services from around Australia. I also held a workshop showing how I do photography and some history of my arts practice.

Crossroad Arts in partnership with Dancenorth, La Boite Theatre Company and Dean Walsh held *C.R.U.S.H.* which went over a weekend in October and involved dance and movement and storytelling, we held a short performance at the end. The most fun part of *C.R.U.S.H.* was participating in some dance moves which included the four types of dances representing different patterns like apple, bowl, firework and wind.

LOOSE ENDS was the final show of the year at the foyer of the MECC where Mat, Autumn and I did a hip hop inspired performance with a strange device called "makey makey" that was connected to some pads that I tapped on and played music.

I am excited for 2020 and I hope that it will be really fun for the audience to see our different performances and better understand our work.

Brenden Borellini
Ambassador/Artist in Residence



Everyone should have opportunity to perform and share their stories with the world.

- Brenden Borellini
Ambassador/Artist in Residence

Chair's Report



As Chair of the Crossroad Arts Management Committee for the 2019/2020 period it gives me great pleasure to provide this report. The past twelve months have been a very busy time with planning, preparation and growing at all levels of the organisation. Our CEO/ Artistic Director Alison Richardson has continued to lead the organisation not only through her artistic vision but also through her strong advocacy and commitment to bring social change for inclusiveness in our communities. The relocation of the organisation to its now permanent home in Wood Street has provided a great opportunity to increase the visibility of Crossroad Arts and provide an easy welcoming 'drop in' hub for all visitors. Many thanks to the Mackay District Freemasons for their support with this move. Under Alison's direction our artistic programs have continued to grow with strong audience support for all performances. Our Artistic Associate, Autumn Skuthorpe who has a long involvement and commitment to Crossroad Arts continues to be an integral member of our leadership team with sharing and directing the vision and goals of the organisation.

During the past twelve months our wonderful Ambassador and Artist in Residence Brenden Borellini has continued his work and involvement with Crossroad Arts. Many thanks to Arts Worker Matt Bing who has been a key support to Brenden during this period. We must also recognise and acknowledge the significant support provided through the Tim Fairfax Family Foundation (TFFF), and in particular, Executive Officer Samantha Jorgensen over the past year. Funds provided by the TFFF have assisted with building and strengthening the capacity of the organisation at all levels. This has included the recruitment of a new team member, Lesa Walker who has come on board in an administrative role. The skills and abilities that Lesa has brought have really anchored and strengthened our administrative processes.

Our Management Committee has continued to work hard to share their skills and expertise with the governance of the organisation to ensure its ongoing viability and support for its future. Many thanks to Vice Chair David Conway, Secretary Traci Lietzke, Treasurer Gavan Porter, and Directors Mark Taylor and Tracey Heathwood. We were also very happy to welcome Brian Tucker, who is held with great respect across the Arts and Cultural Communities. Brian has had a long association with Crossroad Arts as our

Auditor for many years. In addition, we also welcomed Patricia Ely, a primary school teacher supporting the disability sector. Patricia is one of three Auslan (sign language for the deaf community) interpreters in the Mackay region. Over the past year our Management Committee has spent significant time working on strengthening governance processes and documents. We have been very fortunate through the support of the TFFF to participate in a number of governance workshops which was facilitated by Elizabeth Jameson from Board Matters.

2019 definitely was the year for planning, and again Crossroad Arts was very well supported through being one of five arts organisations nationally to be provided with a mentoring opportunity through Creative Partnerships Australia. We were extremely fortunate to have Jade Lillie as our Mentor. Jade is an extraordinary leader, practitioner and advisor in community engagement practice and strategy across many sectors, but with significant experience in the arts sector. Jade played a key role, providing guidance and support to Alison and the team and the Management Committee particularly through facilitating our strategic planning process, the future vision for the organisation and the development of the Crossroad Arts Strategic Plan for 2021-2024. (Please check out our website for more details about our Plan).

Finally, but certainly not lastly, I must make mention of the wonderful participants and their families. It is the mission and goal of all who are involved and support Crossroad Arts to ensure your voices are heard and your stories are told. You **ALL** are truly who hold us to the **Vision** of Crossroad Arts and **Arts for All**.

Marie Cameron
Chair of Management Committee



Artistic Director/ CEO's Report

Through an initiative from Creative Partnerships Australia we were fortunate to have the wonderful Jade Lillie as our mentor this year.

Jade posed the following question to both Management Committee and staff - 'As a company when do you feel the most POWER-FULL?'

We reflected on this and questioned when do we have the greatest impact? What is it that we do that enacts change on an individual and societal level?

We decided that it is the realisation from our performers, artists and participants that they have the power to create a great piece of art or theatre and that this in turn has the power to transform, shift and change thinking from all those who experience it. This year our performers and artists were central to the original new works that they co-created as part of either our *LOOSE ENDS* evening or our major production, *An Unconventional Tour*. Both were sell out events where we embraced the richness of diversity and aimed to challenge preconceptions and thinking around difference.

We also identified that we feel power-full when we provide opportunities and pathways for people with disability to be in leadership roles, are placed as the expert and in positions of influence. We believe this is when true change can occur. Our *Visible Threads* project and our *C.R.U.S.H* weekend intensive saw two of our performers, Natasha Tomlinson and our Artist in Residence/Ambassador, Brenden Borellini in positions where they were leading workshops to school students, interstate guests and community members. To further challenge conventional power dynamics Brenden also gave keynote speeches and ran a Masterclass in braille, hand signing and photography.

However, there was one stand out moment this year where I could readily see the impact and vital importance of our work, where we indeed did feel power-full.

This moment was two days before the Opening Night of *An Unconventional Tour*. Someone had cruelly defaced our street gallery taking to the portraits with a knife. Our unconventional gallery consisted of large scale vinyl



At Crossroad Arts we accompany people and advocate for radical adjustments to assist in navigating an inaccessible world. We become a mouthpiece for those that are often unheard and provide visible platforms for self expression.

- Alison Richardson
Artistic Director/CEO

portraits of our community members, from those that have experienced mental health issues, homelessness, are new migrants or have disability - so vulnerable members of our community.

As the word spread about the incident the support from not only the Mackay community but from those outside of our community was immediate and effective fuelled by outrage and passion to see the gallery reinstated. Within 24 hours people and businesses had donated more money than we needed to reprint the portraits and we were back on track for our Opening night, where the season played to sell out audiences.

Unfortunately, this incident demonstrated to us that our work is still needed and is critical in challenging those that feel that it is acceptable to intimidate and threaten those that are less powerful than themselves.

Often it is in a crisis when a community is at its finest. We rally, we organise and come together in support and solidarity. It is at these times where we realise the power that we each possess and if we harness this collective energy, act on it and support each other with compassion and resilience each of us can become agents of change.

In 2019, as with every year our rehearsal rooms, workshops and productions were our small expressions of how we'd

like the world to be. Our spaces were full of diverse bodies, minds, communication styles, personalities, ages and genders all mixing together with respect, openness, compassion and a sense of play and creativity.

To be in a position to be able to create these experiences and opportunities and then to be able to be inside of them, soaking it all up and bearing witness to it unfolding is a privilege and one I don't take for granted.

At Crossroad Arts when we all rally together to organise and present arts experiences that promote a more inclusive and harmonious world is when we can all feel power-full and it is also when my heart is the most full.

A huge thank you to everyone who has been on this wonderful journey with us this year - to the Management Committee, our funders, performers, project partners, parents, volunteers and my exceptional colleagues. Each of us play our important role as we leave our mark on and nurture our little patch of the world in the heart of Mackay.



Artistic Associate's Report

2019 was another year "on the move" for Crossroad Arts - from moving homes, travelling on dusty outback roads and touring audiences through our city's heart!

We delivered high quality artistic programs, performances, events and workshops in collaboration with the whole community here in Mackay, with people from remote Central and Western Queensland and with our new friends from across the country.

We continued to uncover the unique possibilities of performance making through the telling of unconventional stories on unconventional stages. Our work invited audiences to examine the relationships we have with ourselves and with each other and we did this in public and intimate spaces. We critically unpacked our unspoken and quiet biases and framed new perceptions of otherness and of difference.

The support from our audiences as demonstrated in consistent sell out events, excellent survey results and increased participation of new participants and artists affirmed that Crossroad Arts continues to make a significant contribution to the development of new and original arts and cultural experiences in the region.

The Australia Council for the Arts Future Leaders program also afforded me the opportunity to exchange with changemakers from across Australia and Asia Pacific. During my residencies I was very keen to promote Crossroad Arts and our collective #mackaypride with other arts and cultural leaders. It was a deeply engaging professional development experience that I recommend to practitioners and artists from our region to consider applying for to ensure that our nuanced voice continues to be represented across the sector.

Embracing the opportunities that present themselves through change, we replanted our roots and strengthened our foundations with a revised Strategic Plan and goals for 2021-2024. It was clear throughout our Strategic Planning sessions that Crossroad Arts is driven by an inclusive approach across all facets of the organisation - from our artmaking to our governance and operations; our Vision - "Arts for All" is shared.

A special note of thanks to our volunteers who busy themselves in the background to support our events, take to the streets with flyers and jump in without hesitation to assist with pack downs, cleaning and carting equipment across sites. Our small team (and bodies) thank you!



We create relevant and unconventional works that continue to agitate, spark discussion and promote Mackay as a leading inclusive destination that gives voice to stories that need to be heard.

Crossroad Arts offered rigorous professional development and training opportunities and regular employment of artists with disability. Through this work we addressed a major gap in the sector and raised the national visibility of our organisation as well as the wider ecology of inclusive arts.

The creative meeting points and potential future collaborations as a result of these opportunities will only further amplify a broad range of voices to enact systemic change.

Ever present across the globe there is a need to take time to celebrate our vibrant communities, build connections with our neighbours and work together to build a better and more just society. Collaboration through art making is a radically gentle platform in which, despite our differences, we can achieve this!

Autumn Skuthorpe
Artistic Associate

- Autumn Skuthorpe
Artistic Associate

Artistic Development

Crossroad Arts is passionate about creating opportunities for people with disability who are serious about developing their skills in contemporary performance. We offer artistic development programs that ensure people grow as artists by providing rigorous, skills-based training in collaboration with professional artists.

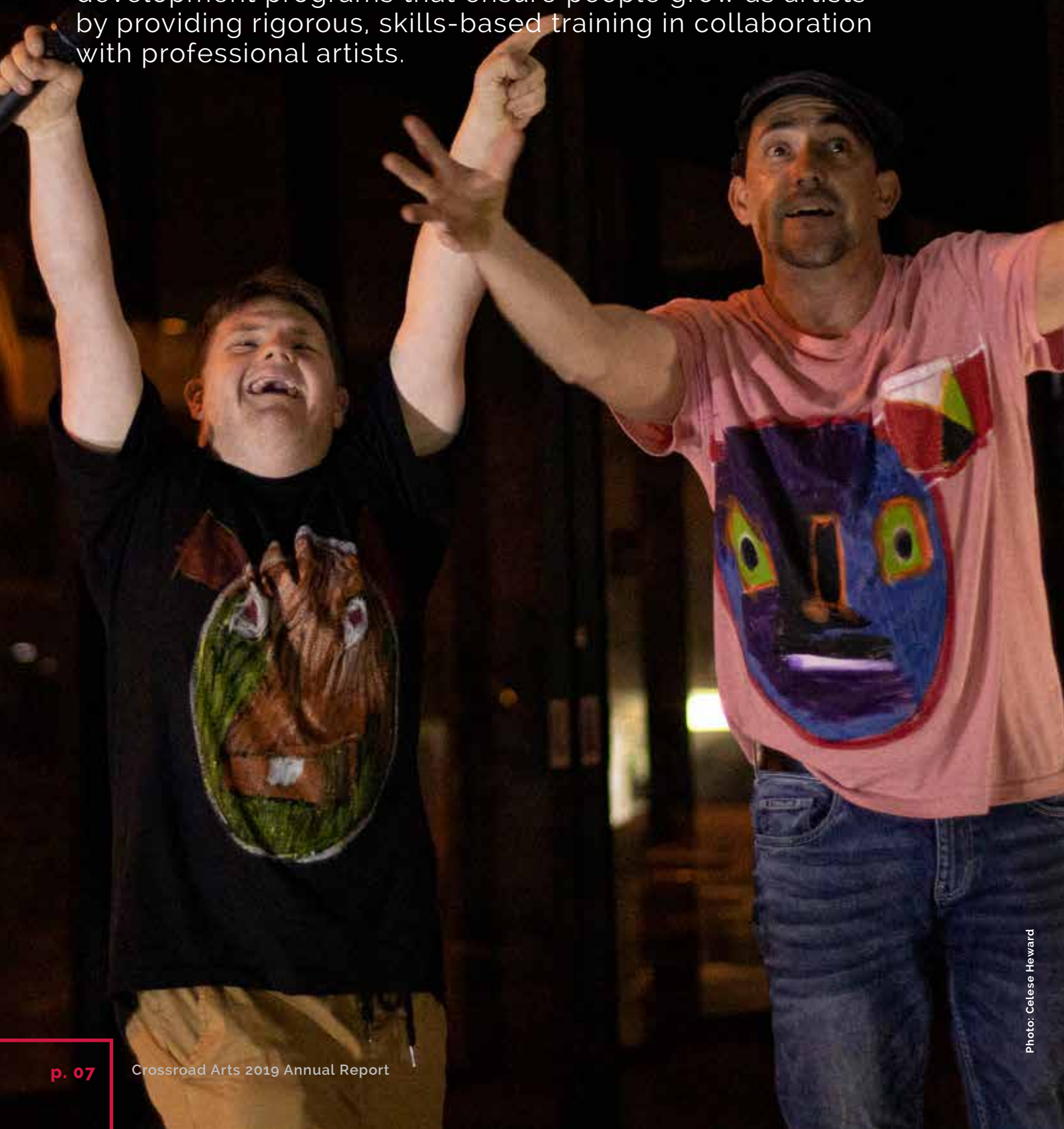



Photo: Celese Heward

Artist In Residence



One of the most important things is that I would like to keep working as an artist for Crossroad Arts and to push hard with my work in providing more access and support to people with disability.

- Brenden Borellini
Artist in Residence

Long-time Crossroad Arts performer and photographer, Brenden Borellini, was employed as an artist one day per week where he worked alongside an Artist Support on creative projects taking place throughout the year. As an artist who is deafblind Brenden brings a unique perspective to his work and a voice that is often not heard.

Advocacy and speaking engagements:

Brenden represented Crossroad Arts across the central Queensland region to advocate for inclusive arts practice and support a network of artists with disability as part of Artsynergy. These engagements took place in Clermont and Emerald and provided an opportunity for artists who face barriers due to their geographical isolation to discuss access and inclusion in the arts more widely.

As a result of a previous speaking engagement at the Port of Mackay Rotary Club to promote programs and events they awarded Crossroad Arts the David Bow Memorial Award for outstanding community service. Brenden accepted the award and spoke again about how important access and inclusion is for people with disability and thanked them for this recognition.

Community Development:

Brenden was invited to deliver a 3D photographic masterclass and participate in the Access panel discussion as part of the Arts Ablaze regional conference and festival in October. Brenden was able to raise the profile of Crossroad Arts programs and connect with other organisations from across the state.

Brenden also enjoys his role as a co-facilitator within Crossroad Arts programs and delivered warm up workshops as part of the *C.R.U.S.H* weekend alongside colleagues Natasha Tomlinson and Alison Richardson.

As part of *LOOSE ENDS* Brenden devised a new work and performed at the major fundraiser of the year *LOOSE ENDS*, which coincided with International Day for People with Disability.

Artistic Development:

During the *Tune IN* workshop weekend exploring spoken word, slam poetry and hip hop, Brenden worked closely with acclaimed Sydney poet and performer Georgia Cranko and Brisbane workshop facilitator Angela Peita.

This meeting informed a creative development that later resulted in a performance as part of *An Unconventional Tour* called *Breathe IN*.

Breathe IN utilised alternate forms of communication and engaged sold out audiences nightly. This work will be further developed with the aim to tour.

Artist in Residence: Brenden Borellini

Artist Supports: Mathew Bing, Alison Richardson and Autumn Skuthorpe

Dates: 15th of February - 13th of December



It was fantastic, this was the second Crossroad Arts performance I've seen and they both blew me away.

- Audience member

An Unconventional Tour



Dates:
July 24-27, 2019



Venue: Various venues across Mackay's CBD



Audience attendance: 240

An Unconventional Tour was our major production for 2019. It was an accessible walking/ moving tour that took our sell out audiences down laneways, through gardens, across car parks, into unconventional gallery spaces and peering through shop front windows all led by rollicking rolling skating tour guides! *An Unconventional Tour* was the second tour in our three part *UNCOVERED* local touring series, where we aim to uncover and present untold stories.

We wanted to disrupt, make noise and be seen and heard whilst embracing the unconventional and what better place to do this than in the heart of the City! Through our new video works performances, exhibitions and sound installations created by a cross section of the community from those with disability to those that have experienced homelessness we aimed to shift perspectives and challenge people's thinking around their potential biases unconscious or otherwise. We also explored people's responses when it came to discomfort around those different to themselves.

By working right across the community we formed relationships with local businesses, services and

organisations as we tried to find and negotiate locations, venues, power, storage etc etc. We certainly felt like we 'cracked open' the company to new audiences, supporters and potential sponsors. This fantastic community spirit left us feeling extremely appreciative and grateful for being apart of such a supportive community.

Unfortunately we did have a vandalism incident two days before opening night where portraits of our participants were defaced that were displayed in a laneway. The incident, whilst being horrible affirmed to us that the work we do is vital to try and curb these attitudes and continue to make visible those that can often be invisible. It was encouraging and heartwarming to see the outpouring of support that local businesses, the media, individuals and council gave to this incident. The silver lining from this destructive act was that many more people now know of the work of Crossroad Arts.

We sold out each night with a total audience of 240 people and the response from the community was overwhelmingly positive.



Photo: Alison Richardson



Fantastic tour. It really changed my perspective

- Audience member

Director/Producer/Collaborator: Alison Richardson.
Co-Producers: Autumn Skuthorpe and Melissa Larsen.
Production Manager: Jessic Schutt.
Technical Assistants: Jim Cullen & Greg Shaw.
Videographer & Digital Artist: Brenden Hayles.
Photographer: Celese Heward.
Sound Designer: Matt Tandy.
Front of House Coordinator: Lesa Walker.
Auslan interpreters (Saturday July 27): Anna Duncan & Amy Dyson.
Deaf consultants: Tony Moore, Jennifer Magnussen and Hannah Rasmussen.
Audio describer (Saturday July 27): Imogen Yang.
Artist Support: Lauren Heitman.
Welcome to Country: Philip Kemp.
Tour Guides: Annalise Mawer & Breanna Deguara.

Performers/Co-Collaborators: Josh Clarke, Matt Deane, Georgia Knoll, Ricky McDonnell, Sally Morley, Natasha Tomlinson, Joanne Tunnah, Brenden Borellini, Georgia Cranko, Mat Bing & Matt Tandy.

Hidden Diaries

Hidden Diaries was an Artist in Residency program that fed into our major production *An Unconventional Tour*.

Hidden Diaries was an opportunity for three of our core performers Natasha Tomlinson, Georgia Knoll and Matt Deane to reside for part of a week within a local Mackay business. Businesses involved in the residency needed to work one on one with people so that the themes of 'uncomfortability' and 'unconscious bias' could be explored through the artists interaction with those that came through their doors. A local tattoo/barber shop, hairdresser and cafe were selected and the artists conducted recorded interviews with clients, customers and staff and also personal video diaries that formed part of the sound score of *An Unconventional Tour*. This final piece took place within the cafe of one of the residencies.

Below outlines each Artist in Residence's location and the level of engagement:

The Cutting Room (local hairdresser) - Natasha Tomlinson
6 hour residency over three days / Interviewed 5 people / Engaged approximately 15 people getting their haircut.

Gold Empire Tattoo & Barber - Matt Deane
7 hour residency over three days / Artistic Director, Alison Richardson interviewed four people on behalf of Matt / Engaged approximately 20 people - these were tattoo artists and people getting tattoos and haircuts.

9th Lane Grind Cafe - Georgia Knoll
7.5 hour residency over three days / Interviewed 9 people / Engaged approximately 60 people in the cafe through clearing tables and serving food.

Community Development

Community is our driving force. Everything we do as a company is underpinned by the belief that creating artistic works that challenge assumptions through inclusive collaboration ultimately builds stronger communities.

Workshop Program

Music, movement and performance

Throughout the 4 term program student's developed new skills, friends and supported each other as a group. For many it was an opportunity to grow confidence in performing in front of others for the first time, adapting to significant change, collaborating with people with diverse access requirements in a social setting and expressing themselves through the creation of films.

The 7-12 year old class delivered a number of outcomes as part of their end of term celebrations including; a showing where they ran the workshop class for their family and friends and the creation of a short film featuring their own animations.

Similarly our friends in the 13-17 year old class developed skills in mask making, creation of films and visual art works. The works created were exhibited at the CQU gallery which was attended by family, friends and members of the public. A major outcome for the 13-17 year old class was developing an original film and performance that was included in the annual *LOOSE ENDS* event. For some of the participants it was the first time performing in front of a sell out crowd of 200 people.

Workshop DATES



Term 1
Tuesday February 5th - Wednesday April 3rd

Term 2
Tuesday April 23th - Wednesday June 26th

Term 3
Tuesday July 16th- Wednesday September 18th

Term 4
Tuesday October 8th - Wednesday December 11th



Venue
Split Spaces, Building 4, Level 2/92
Sydney St, Mackay QLD



Attendance
59 participants across 40 weeks

Facilitator:
Co-Facilitators:

Autumn Skuthorpe
Jessica Newman,
Mathew Bing and
Kara Day



Visible Threads

Mackay



Workshop Dates: 12th of March - 28th of May
Tour Dates: 24th July - 27th July



Workshop Venue: Homefield, Bluecare 87/95 George St,
Mackay QLD 4740
Tour Location: Shop 3, The Dome, Victoria Street



Participants: 13
Volunteers: 14

Over 10 weeks students from Mackay District Special School and residents from Homefield Aged Care Centre came together to not only meet and learn about each other but also engage in a shared creative activity together - portraiture photography.

They worked alongside each other to learn skills in composition, lighting and photoshop. Each of the portraits were then transformed into mini quilts with the colours and materials decided upon by the students and residents. Stories and chats over morning tea were also shared as each group got to know each other in a creative context.

The result was a multi media exhibition of quilted portraits and projection showing the process from photo to quilt in a highly visible location within Mackay's city heart as part of Crossroad Arts major production *An Unconventional Tour*.

Mackay District Special School participants: Taylor Ah Wang, Dylan Arthur, Logan Donovan, Madyson Dutton, Noah Griffin, Bryce Jackson, Daisy Parnaby, Scarlett Smith, William Strudwick and Malachi Williams.

Homefield residents: Maureen Elliman, Ina (Fay) Hughes, Patricia Laker, Henry Vianna.

Project Manager: Autumn Skuthorpe.

Digital Artist/Video Design/Co-workshop facilitator: Donna Robinson.
Quilting artist/ Co- workshop facilitator: Kara Day.

Quilters: Bucasia Beach Quilters, Allison Day, Kara Day and Shelley Engwirda.

Thank you: Wendy Stream, Peter Aay, Fiona Richmond from Bluecare, Leanne Kulmar and the support staff from Mackay District Special School, Allison Day, Gina Whatuira, Hayden Tunnicliffe, Shelley Engwirda, Zarra Linnane, the Bucasia Beach Quilters and financial assistance from Dept. Communities, Disability and Seniors.



Students became more engaged as the project continued and were joining in more to the activities and socialising more.

- Teacher, Mackay District Special School

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Focus IN

As one of the 'feeder' projects for our major production, *An Unconventional Tour* we engaged local professional photographer Leah McLean to run free portrait photography workshops within three Mackay services (as listed below), our 13-17yr after school group and also with our Friday evening Crossroad Arts performers. Artistic Director, Alison Richardson also interviewed participants on the themes of *An Unconventional Tour* - unconscious bias, difference and uncomfortability.

The participants learnt skills in composition, connection and lighting and were also offered the opportunity to take photos of each other in a portable studio style set up that Leah brought along to their service.

A relaxed environment allowed participants to drop in and out of the workshop was established which enabled people to participate to the best of their ability or engage in a way that suited them.

The staff at each service were really welcoming of the idea to be providing something new and different for the clients/participants outside their usual routine and also have the chance to do something meaningful and engaging together.

Each portrait was turned into a large wall vinyl that formed an unconventional street gallery as one of the stops on *An Unconventional Tour*. The audience was invited to walk through the street gallery and listen via headsets to a soundscape that had snippets of interviews from the participants based on the themes of the production.

An interview that was conducted with one of the participants, Rod of the Horizon's Club was very powerful. He spoke with insight and wisdom about isolation and the need for connection, particularly when it comes to people experiencing mental health issues. His interview was turned into its own stop on the Tour, situated in the garden outside the Horizon's Club, called 'Rod's Story.' The piece concluded with the audience exploring the garden and each receiving a small potted herb grown that was grown by the Mackay Community Gardens.

Below is who we engaged through this project:

George St Neighbourhood Centre's World Cafe group (migrant women's group) - **Participant numbers: 12**

Selectability's Horizon's Club (people who have experienced homelessness or disadvantage) - **Participant numbers: 12**

Multicap Disability Service (people with disability) - **Participant numbers: 9**

Our 13-17yrs workshop program participants (young people with and without disability) - **Participant numbers: 8**

Our Friday evening Crossroad Arts performers (young adults with disability) - **Participant numbers: 7**



Photo: Alison Richardson



Photo: Alison Richardson

Photographer and Workshop Facilitator: Leah McLean

Sound Designer: Matt Tandy.

Producer: Alison Richardson.

Photography and interviewees: Lesley, Dean, Jeanette, John, Anthony, Roco, Josh, John Jnr, Ashley Robertson, Rodney Sorensen and Des Dahms.

Bertha Archer, Edyta Konopka, Kamla Singh, Elanie Rothenberger, Ruth Bell, Kitty Yuen, Coralie McKenzie, Ela Maglente, Georgine Crawford, Caley Twitchett, Shannon Armstrong and Rosie Martin.

Warren Gardner, Melissa Petersen, Anne Cairns, Giovanni Faletto, Daniel Foster, Michael Turnbull, Michael Matsen, Megan Curran.

Sebastian Cali, Logan Kajtar, Jack Woodley, Chris Malone, Cameron Savage, Yolanda Porter.

Josh Clarke, Matt Deane, Georgia Knoll, Ricky McDonnell, Sally Morley, Natasha Tomlinson, Joanne Tunnah.



Photo: Alison Richardson

Tune IN

Tune IN was another project that fed into our major production, *An Unconventional Tour*.



Dates:
May 24- 26, 2019



Attendance: 70 participants (8 interstate, 1 international) partaking in 14 workshops with 3 professional artists across 3 days. 1 public outcome with 50 audience members in attendance

Tune IN was a wonderful three days of spoken word, poetry, breakdancing and beatboxing led by Morganics, Anisa Nandaula and Angela Pieta, three highly skilled, accomplished and professional artists from Brisbane and Cairns. Several of the poems that were created over the weekend were converted into transparent braille adhesive that covered four shopfront windows on Mackay's mainstreet as part of *An Unconventional Tour*. The Mackay locals that participated in the workshops were also offered the opportunity to perform their poem as part of the Tour as well. Billy Dyer, a local young performer and musician was delighted to be able to perform his poem, a tribute to his best friend at the 'hip hop corner' each night of the Tour.

To assist in raising the profile of Crossroad Arts outside of the region and open up national networking opportunities we committed some funds to enabling those with disability from interstate the chance to attend the workshop by paying for their flights and accommodation.

These subsidies provided an invaluable opportunity to those with disability who are often on a low income the opportunity to be involved in something at a national level and also for some it provided an experience away from home in a supported and safe environment.

Sydney based performers, Digby Webster, James Penny and their support, Steve Wilson-Alexander attended *Tune IN*. Georgia Cranko, also a performer and writer from Sydney was afforded the time to work with Angela and also Brenden on their collaboration for their performance piece in *An Unconventional Tour*.

A group of dancers from Alstonville Dance Studio in Northern NSW also attended. Suzanne Whiteman who runs the dance school attended with two students from her school and also Darren Green, a very accomplished dancer and writer who identifies as having disabling mental health issues. He expressed that due to his long hiatus from the arts he found

it extremely beneficial for his health and said he would not have been able to attend if we didn't provide the funds.

Morganics also ran workshops at Mackay District Special School and Northview Public School. Both schools were very appreciative of the opportunity and was a wonderful chance for us to connect with the schools particularly Northview Public School which is something we had been wanting to do for some time.

As a group we also spent time socialising over dinners and had outings together such as to the beautiful Cape Hillsborough. These allowed deeper connections to be made and also a chance to explore the natural wonders of our region.

It was also serendipitous that a small group of people in Mackay only a month before our workshops had started a spoken word/poetry evening called *Heard Words* at a local pub.

We were able to partner with *Heard Words* and have this evening as an informal outcome for our performers/poets at the end of the weekend and also another chance to socialise and spend time together.

Tune IN weekend intensive attendees: Matt Deane, Ricky McDonnell, Georgia Knoll, Natasha Tomlinson, Logan Kajtar, Sacha Davis, Anna Kahler, Kara Day, Mat Bing, Brenden Borellini, Georgia Cranko, Matthew Tandy, Steve Wilson - Alexander, Digby Webster, James Penny, Suzanne Whiteman, Darren Green, Billy Dyer, Gemma Kubelka, Racheal Trindall, Alison Fiyen, Corbin Jasper, Cath Jefferies, Iver Kroeger, Jemima Kroeger, Fynn Kroeger, Eliza Kroeger, Anita Kroeger, Neil Kroeger, Tisha Pope, Ellie Pope, Chloe Pope, Ayva Grant, Zeya Grant, Tammie Cunningham, Olivia Cunningham and Rachael Cunningham. Students from Mackay District Special School and Northview Public School.

For *An Unconventional Tour* - poems were contributed and read by: Billy Dyer, Georgia Cranko, Darren Green, Gemma Kubelka and Suzanne Whiteman. **Digital Artist:** Brenden Hayles. **Sound Designer:** Matt Tandy



C.R.U.S.H.

Community. Regional. Up Skill. Haven



Dates:
Friday October 11- Sunday October 13



Venue:
Senior Citizens Hall, 58 MacAlister St Mackay.

This year we started an exciting partnership with two of QLD's leading arts organisation, Dancenorth a leading contemporary dance company from Townsville and La Boite Theatre Company which is Australia's longest continuously running theatre company based in Brisbane.

We also collaborated with independent artist, choreographer, dancer and researcher with disability, Dean Walsh from Sydney to produce a dynamic 3 days of workshops in contemporary movement, performance and theatre making.

C.R.U.S.H was a weekend intensive suitable for all bodies, minds and levels of artistic experience - from raw beginner to highly accomplished performers, and/or dancers. Our expert facilitators ensured that everyone felt creatively nourished and included with the weekend feeling like a microcosm of what we'd like the world to be - open, inclusive, accepting and playful! Each facilitator presented sophisticated ideas and concepts that were executed by

each participant at 'their 100%' culminating in short showing on the Sunday afternoon to an appreciative audience.

C.R.U.S.H also provided the opportunity for Crossroad Arts performers, Natasha Tomlinson and Brenden Borellini to co-facilitate the warm up on the first day and introduce people to hand signing. Additionally, we were also excited to be able to include Yoga sessions from local Yoga studio, Neighbourhood Yoga, run by Julieanne Bergmann. Julieanne is also an accomplished dancer who also participated across the weekend as a participant and support.

We are thrilled that we have now laid the foundations to have *C.R.U.S.H* as an annual event that highlights Mackay as an inclusive destination which creates a hot house of creative activity over a weekend in October. All three parties expressed their eagerness to be involved again in 2020 and are keen to see how it can further grow and develop.



Photo: Leah McLean



Photo: Jim Cullen



Attendance:

Day 1- Workshop 1- 22 / Workshop 2- 14 / Workshop 3- 14

Day 2- Workshop 1- 14 / Workshop 2- 7 / Workshop 3- 8 / Workshop 4- 14

Day 3- Workshop 1- 15 / Workshop 2- 8 / Workshop 3- 8 / Workshop 4- 15

It was great to see the reach extend beyond Mackay as we had 4 participants from interstate. We hope to see this increase overtime. They were generously housed by one of our performers family who own a beach house which added to their visit to the Tropics!



Fantastic, thank you for bringing this to Mackay.

- C.R.U.S.H participant



Beautiful to see communities coming together - everybody is equal - respect of others - no barriers.

- Audience member



LOOSE ENDS

Kooky. Social. Inclusive.



Date:
Friday December 6



Venue: Mackay Entertainment & Convention Centre, Alfred St, Mackay



Audience attendance:
200

LOOSE ENDS was initiated in 2018 to address the gap for inclusive night-time activities in the CBD for young people with disability. It was also designed to be a place for people to socialise, be entertained and have opportunities to meet new and different people.

In 2019 *LOOSE ENDS* was presented in association with Mackay Entertainment & Convention Centre (MECC) as part of International Day of People with Disability (IDPWD) celebrations. The evening was once again a sold out event with audiences packed to the rafters as they enjoyed performances from over 60 artists and performers who all strutted their stuff in celebration of diversity!

From live painting, burlesque and gangsta rapping to Freddie Mercury tributes, karaoke and dance marathons- the evening had it all!

It was very pleasing to see all sections of the community come out in support of inclusive arts in Mackay. We are

thrilled that we have been able to initiate and drive such an important event which showcases the diverse talent of not only Crossroad Arts performers but other arts groups and individuals in a fun, inclusive and kooky way!

There was also a wonderful cross-section of the community who attended including people who attend day services and group homes, young children, people with intellectual and physical disability and the Deaf community. The atmosphere was relaxed and very inclusive with people mixing together, meeting someone new and having a drink while enjoying live performance.

LOOSE ENDS is also our annual fundraiser where through raffles, a prize wheel, live painting auctions and sponsorship opportunities on the evening we were able to make close to \$9,000 which will go towards creating creative opportunities for ALL those in our community.



Photo: Leah McLean



Photo: Leah McLean



Photo: Leah McLean



Absolutely excellent evening- great variety and quality in the entertainment. Very, very inclusive and well delivered.

- Audience member

Welcome to Country: Deb Netuschil nee Hazeldine.

MCs: Georgia Knoll, Christopher Malone and Alison Richardson.

Auslan interpreter: Anna Duncan.

Gypsy Soldiers: Pat Gill and Natasha Hardiman.

Live Painters: Dave Conway, Melissa Petersen supported by Brigitte Zimmermann, Nekea Blagoev, Ryan Vella, Cynthia Gregg.

Performers: Matt Deane, Tash Tomlinson, Josh Clarke, Billy Dyer, Georgia Knoll, Eli Skuthorpe, Mayor Greg Williamson, Brenden Borellini, Mat Bing, Autumn Skuthorpe, Ethan Azzopardi, Cameron Savage, Yoli Porter, Chris Malone, Seb Cali (Han Solo), Sebastian Franetovich, Bryce Jackson, Billy Dyer, Manic Mandy from Mackay, Ella Segretti and Lauren Heitman.

Choir of Unheard Voices: Angela Zischeke, Helen Danguard, Robert Gladwood, Amy Drew, Allie Eva, Tracey Gilbert, Larrie Murchie, Joshua Clarke, Natasha Tomlinson, Kristy Bourke, Tabitha Tyrell, Kathy Lewis, Dean Kane, Margaret Ross.

Groove Movers: Kristy Bourke, TJ Straw, Tracy Stevens, Tracy Wyng, Dan Payne, Noni Luck, Ellie Robertson, Tegan O'Keeffe, Jaime Mason, Bree Downing, Tilayna Johns, Preston Taylor, Lauren Heitman.

Strictly Wheelchair Dance Group: Maddison Hunt, Kellie Evans, Lincoln Best, Christopher Murphy, Emily Broadbent supported by Kathy Said, Lauren Carey supported by Kay Marchant, Jessica Peel supported by Bronwin Tomarra, Pauline McMurtrie, Peter Sumpter.



Outreach

Our Outreach Program is committed to working with regional and remote communities, giving them access to the arts. We achieve this through collaboration with rural and remote Queensland communities.



Photo: Donna Robinson



Photo: Donna Robinson



I loved going out to Winton with the crew from crossroad arts. A great experience and helped me gain confidence with speaking in front of students

- Natasha Tomlinson
Co-facilitator

Visible Threads

Winton



Workshop Dates:
3rd of June - 6th of June (12 x workshops)
Public projection at Outback Festival:
24th of September - 27th of September



Participants: 360
Volunteers: 24

Our Outreach Program is committed to working with regional and remote communities, giving them access to the arts. We achieve this through collaboration with rural and remote Queensland communities.

Our outreach project *Visible Threads* went Outback to Winton! Co-facilitator and Ambassador Natasha Tomlinson led workshops alongside Donna Robinson in drama and photography at St Patrick's Primary School and Winton State Highschool.

Students really enjoyed the drama and performance teachings from Natasha and learning new photographic skills with Donna.

The workshops culminated in a short film that was projected on the main street of Winton during their bi-annual Outback Festival. The festival attracts over 5,000 people to the remote township in Western Queensland.

The film projected featured the portraits, illustrations and poetry of the young people of Winton large scale on the main street over four nights during the festival and animated the street for festival goers.

Project Manager: Autumn Skuthorpe
Co-workshop facilitator and Ambassador: Natasha Tomlinson
Digital Artist/Video Design/Co-workshop facilitator: Donna Robinson
Artist Support: Lauren Heitman

Financial Statements

Crossroad Arts Inc. 2018/2019

Income statement for the year ended 31 December 2019

INCOME	2019	2018
Box Office & Performance	23,989	19,397
Workshops & Seminars	9,854	4,227
	33,843	23,624
OTHER INCOME		
Interest Received	545	476
Asset Sales	-	1037
Reimbursements & Recoveries	533	-
Other Revenue		
Donations & Sponsorship	8,941	4,145
In-Kind Support	94,575	50,047
	104,594	55,705
GRANTS EXPENDED		
Arts Queensland	120,000	120,000
Australia Council, 4 Year Organisation Funding	112,212	111,100
Dept. of the Premier and Cabinet, We are Queensland	2,000	14,000
Dept. of Communities, Disability Services and Seniors	70,000	-
Tim Fairfax Family Foundation	100,000	196,000
Mackay Regional Council	8,050	-
Other	2,250	1,471
	414,512	442,571
Total...	552,949	521,900

Balance sheet as at 31 December 2019

	2019	2018
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	189,951	201,493
Trade and other receivables	3,693	1,527
Prepayments	8,288	4,991
Total current assets	201,932	208,011
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Property, plant and equipment	4,502	6,569
Total non-current assets	4,502	6,569
Total Assets	206,434	214,580
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade and other payables	51,967	45,866
Unexpended Grants		
Australia Council, 4 Year Organisation Funding	-	84,106
Grant in advance - Australia Council	56,667	-
Total Current Liabilities	108,634	129,972
Total Liabilities	108,634	129,972
Net Assets	97,800	84,608
MEMBERS' FUNDS		
Retained earnings	97,800	84,608
Total Members' Funds	97,800	84,608

Independent Auditor's Report


In my opinion:

The financial report of Crossroad Arts inc is in accordance with the Associations Incorporation Act 1981 including:

1. giving a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 31 December 2019 and of their performance and cash flows for the year ended on that date: and.
2. complying with the Australian Accounting Standards.

The financial report also complies with International Financial Reporting Standards as disclosed in Note 1.

Name of Firm: Anderson Munro & Wyllie trading as Brian Tucker Audit

Name of Director: 
Billy-Joe Thomas

Address: Perth, Western Australia

Dated this 1st day of April 2020

Photo: Leah McLean



Staff and Management Committee

- Ambassador/Artist in Residence:** Brenden Borellini
- Artistic Director/CEO:** Alison Richardson
- Artistic Associate:** Autumn Skuthorpe
- Company Administrator:** Lesa Walker (from May 2019)
- Artist Support:** Mathew Bing

Photo: Leah McLean



Crossroad Arts' Management Committee

- Chair:** Marie Cameron
- Vice Chair:** David Conway
- Secretary:** Traci Lietzke
- Treasurer:** Gavan Porter

General Management Committee members

- Mark Taylor
- Brian Tucker
- Trish Ely
- Tracey Heathwood



It always feels a bit special and surreal to be in such an 'inclusive' environment, where everyone is listened to and respected equally and all contributions are valued.

- Georgia Cranko
Performer

Photo: Celeste Heward



Our Supporters

Major supporters



Community Support

Ray White, Mackay Entertainment & Convention Centre, Porters Mitre 10, Plaza Dental Jim Cullen Photography, Leah McLean Photography, Homefield Aged Care Centre Mackay District Special School, Neighbourhood Yoga, Opera QLD, The Metropolitan Hotel, Joel Bow Productions, Sorbellos, Split Spaces, Crystal Kingdom, Taylors Hotel, Rebel Nation, Mackay Regional Council, Signarama, Unique Directions, Dalrymple Bay Coal Terminal, Mackay Community Gardens, CPS Packaging.

Thank you

Many thanks to the following individuals for their support and/or volunteering their time on our projects:

Alison Fiyen, Cynthia Gregg, Karen Morley, Karen Tomlinson, Debra Knoll, Tony Moore, Anita and Neil Kroeger, Kara Day, Joel Bow, Chris Adda, Eli Skuthorpe, Jeffrey Hodgson, Reg Walker, Jeff Walker, David Conway, Melissa and Erik Larsen, Nathan Glossop, Nichole Zahra, Glenda Hobdell, Margaret Ross, Geraldine Dyer, Karen Morley, Karen Tomlinson, Helen Hawkins, Jan Hanson, Anna Kahler, T'aire Olsen, Tammy and Chris Laval, Susanna Rossi, Allison Day, Gina Whatuira, Hayden Tunnicliffe, Shelley Engwirda, Zarra Linnane, Jill Coleman, Kristy Borg, Jordan Miller, Jodie Kearns, Lee Renshaw, Katie Fox, Paul Gurney, Jade Lillie, Jennifer Magnussen, Hannah Rasmussen, Andrea Cantwell, Fiona and Sam Vuibeqa, Tania Leeson, Irene Williams, Adam Parrish, Terrianna Messina and the parents and support workers.

CROSSROAD
ARTS

**Contact
Us**

For more information on Crossroad Arts please contact:

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www.crossroadarts.com.au