



2024

Artistic Plan

Acknowledgement of Country

Barkly Regional Arts acknowledges the traditional custodians of the Barkly region, both past and present, the Warumungu, Mudburra, Jingili, Wakaya, Wambaya, Waanyi, Walpiri, Warlmanpa, Alyawarr, Anmatyerre and Kaytetye people on whose lands we work. We pay our respects to the Elders of this land, past, present, and emerging.

We further acknowledge the value of Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander art, design, music, and performance as being fundamental to Australian cultural and creative expression. We hold the cultural aspirations and expressions of the Aboriginal artists we work with in the highest esteem and acknowledge the richness they bring to our organisation.



*Above: Jessie Beasley holds bush medicine seeds on Alyawarr Country. Image courtesy of Jesse Marlow.
Cover: 'Bush Potato' by Aileen Long, 2023.*

Our Story

Established in 1996, Barkly Regional Arts fosters access, development, and recognition of arts in the Barkly, delivering arts programmes in Tennant Creek and surrounding communities.

The Barkly region is spread across 320,000 sq.km of the Northern Territory. The region consists of Tennant Creek, eight remote communities and seventy family outstations. Home to sixteen Indigenous language groups, Traditional Ownership of this area includes the Alyawarr, Binbinya, Gurindji, Jingili, Kaytetye, Mudburra, Ngarnga, Wakaya, Wambaya, Warlmanpa and Warumungu peoples. Many people continue to reside on traditional lands and retain strong connections to Country and culture.

The Barkly region is home to a challenging socio-economic environment. It is isolated, and the climate is brutal. The effects of intergenerational trauma mean the community is subject to disproportionately high rates of addiction, chronic illness, crime, illiteracy, over-crowding, and unemployment. The median age at death is 56, compared to a national median of 81.¹ Local services do not meet the needs of the community, there is a deficit in education, financial, health, housing, legal, social welfare, and youth services.

The arts are a shining light in challenging socio-economic conditions, providing social, spiritual, and financial benefits to a diverse cross-section of the community.

Barkly Regional Arts provides Barkly residents with **access** to the arts through the delivery of ongoing visual arts and music programmes as well as an annual programme of arts exhibitions, projects, and events.

The visual arts and music programmes are focused on supporting artists as they **develop** their creative practice and move toward artistic excellence.

Our programming of exhibitions and events gives our artists a platform to showcase their work leading to increased **recognition** of arts from the Barkly.

¹ Public Health Information Development Unit, 'Social Health Atlas of Australia,' 2023.

Vision

The Barkly is a vibrant, thriving, and creative community. Arts programmes positively transform lives.

Purpose

To foster **access, development,** and **recognition** of the arts in the Barkly.

Values

Excellence
Integrity
Inclusion

Pujalli Dancers perform at Desert Harmony Festival 2022. Image courtesy of Andre Sawenko.



Goals

Barkly Regional Arts' 2024 – 2028 Strategic Plan identifies seven goals which respond to its organisational purpose and guide the organisational strategy.

Access

- Continue to grow and advocate for Indigenous arts workers, artists and audiences.
- Activate spaces which offer ongoing opportunities for community members to participate in the arts.
- Facilitate events which offer opportunities for community members to engage with the arts.

Development

- Facilitate ongoing professional development opportunities in the arts.
- Develop and maintain the operational strength and integrity of the organisation

Recognition

- Create opportunities to present work of artistic merit which builds recognition for artists and amplifies the distinctive cultures of the Barkly region.
- Contribute to the national conversation by creating content and programmes which reflect local stories, experiences, and knowledges

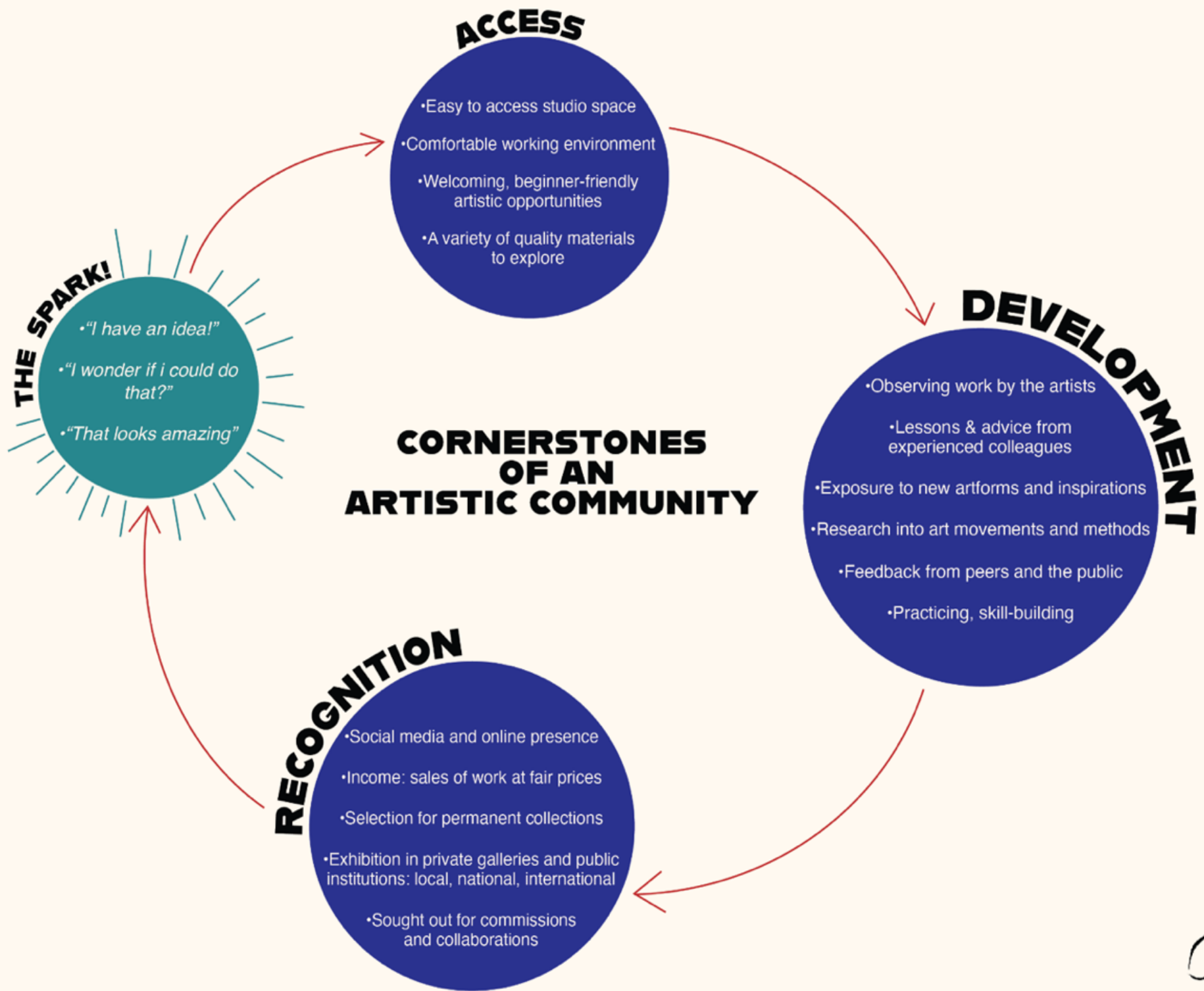


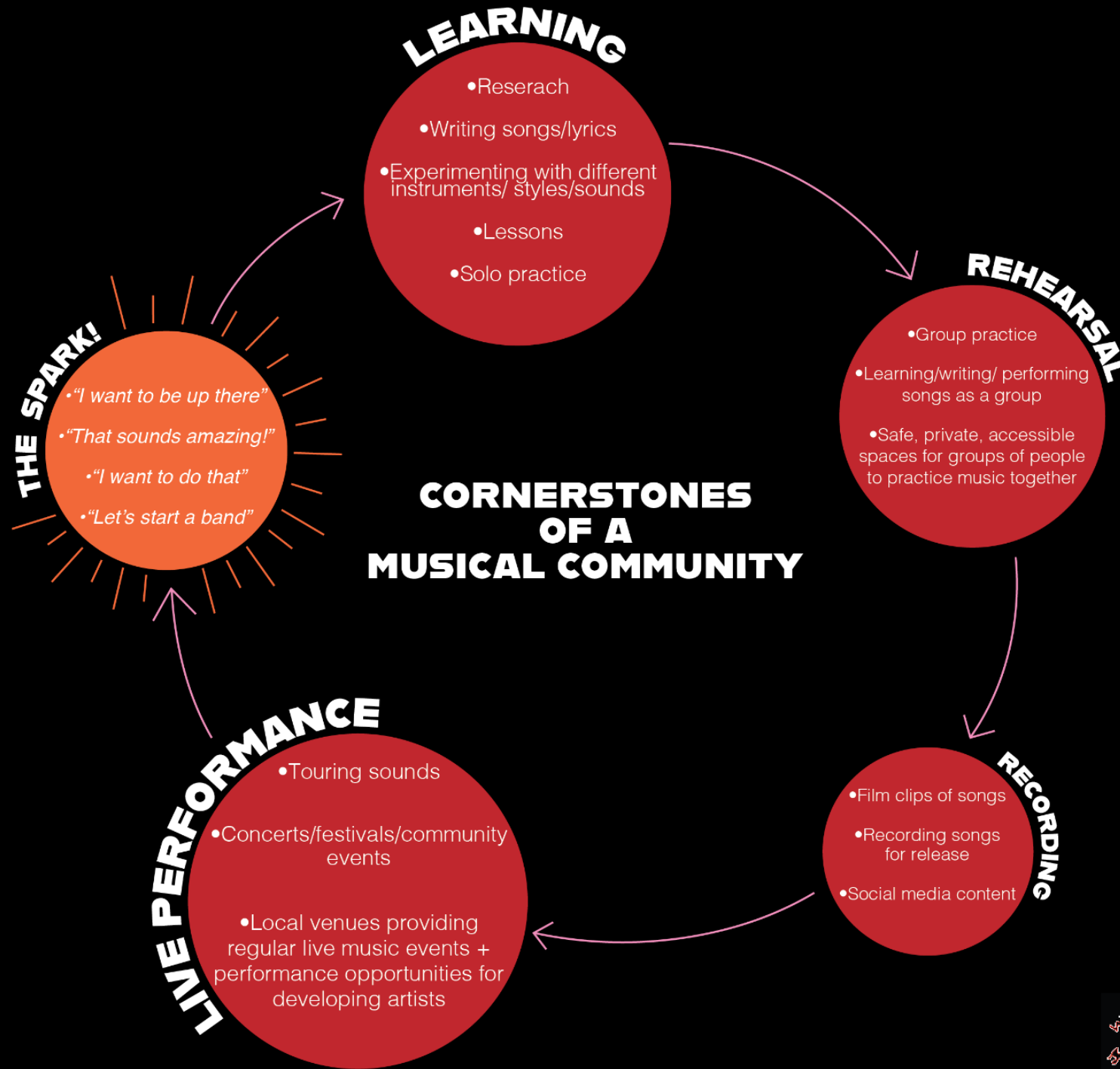
Objectives

Barkly Regional Arts' 2024 Artistic Plan is designed to meet the following objectives:

- Our activities are guided by the vision, purpose, values, and goals articulated in our 2024 – 2028 Strategic Plan.
- Our team and stakeholders share knowledge and understanding of our artistic programme and feel valued in their contribution to the organisation's strategic goals.
- Our activities are collaborative and multi-disciplinary.
- Our programme is adaptive to opportunities and changing circumstances.
- Our activities support the creative, commercial, and critical success of our artists.

Desert Eagles perform at Desert Harmony Festival, 2022. Image courtesy of Barkly Regional Arts.





Activity Plan

Activity	Date	Description	Strategic Goal
Album Release: Desert Eagles	March	Winanjikari Music Centre will produce Desert Eagles' third album.	<p>Create opportunities to present work of artistic merit which build recognition for artists and amplifies the distinctive cultures of the Barkly region.</p> <p>Activate spaces which offer ongoing opportunities for community members to participate in the arts.</p> <p>Contribute to the national conversation by creating content and programmes which reflect local stories, experiences, and knowledges.</p>
Song Writing Workshops: Elliott, Tennant Creek and Ali Curung	March	Music icons Coloured Stone will deliver song writing workshops in schools and with local musicians followed by a local concert in Elliott, Tennant Creek and Ali Curung respectively	<p>Facilitate events which offer opportunities for community members to engage with the arts.</p> <p>Activate spaces which offer ongoing opportunities for community members to participate in the arts.</p> <p>Contribute to the national conversation by creating content and programmes which</p>

			reflect local stories, experiences, and knowledges.
Hip Hop Workshop	April	Hip Hop workshops will be delivered at Tennant Creek High School and Tennant Creek Youth Centre.	Facilitate events which offer opportunities for community members to engage with the arts. Activate spaces which offer ongoing opportunities for community members to participate in the arts.
Painting Workshop: Epenarra	April	Marc Gooch will deliver a two-week creative development workshops in Epenarra.	Facilitate ongoing professional development opportunities in the arts. Activate spaces which offer ongoing opportunities for community members to participate in the arts. Continue to grow and advocate for Indigenous arts workers, artists, and audiences.
Painting Workshop: Canteen Creek and Tennant Creek	April	Renowned artist Marina Strocchi will deliver creative development workshops in Canteen Creek and Tennant Creek.	Facilitate ongoing professional development opportunities in the arts. Activate spaces which offer ongoing opportunities for community members to participate in the arts.

			Continue to grow and advocate for Indigenous arts workers, artists, and audiences.
Desert Eagles Tour	May	Desert Eagles will celebrate the release of their third album with a local tour, presented by Barkly Regional Arts. The tour will begin with a show in Tennant Creek before travelling to feature in Nguku Festival, Elliott with additional gigs in negotiation.	<p>Create opportunities to present work of artistic merit which build recognition for artists and amplifies the distinctive cultures of the Barkly region.</p> <p>Facilitate events which offer opportunities for community members to engage with the arts.</p> <p>Continue to grow and advocate for Indigenous arts workers, artists, and audiences.</p>
Nguku Festival	May	BRA will collaborate with the Arid Lands Environmental Centre to produce one-day arts and music festival celebrating nguku <i>water</i> , in Elliott.	<p>Facilitate events which offer opportunities for community members to engage with the arts.</p> <p>Contribute to the national conversation by creating content and programmes which reflect local stories, experiences, and knowledges.</p> <p>Create opportunities to present work of artistic merit which build recognition for</p>

			artists and amplifies the distinctive cultures of the Barkly region.
Solo Exhibition: Aileen Long, Paul Johnstone Gallery	May	An exhibition showcasing works by Aileen Long will show at Paul Johnstone Gallery in Darwin.	Create opportunities to present work of artistic merit which build recognition for artists and amplifies the distinctive cultures of the Barkly region.
Group Exhibition: Japingka Gallery, Perth	May	An exhibition showcasing works by sisters, Magdalene Foster and Pammy Foster will show at Japingka Gallery in Perth.	Create opportunities to present work of artistic merit which build recognition for artists and amplifies the distinctive cultures of the Barkly region.
Barkly Artist Camp Arts Worker Development Day	May	Arts workers from across the Barkly region will have the opportunity to participate in a professional development day during which they will receive up-to-date training in the technical elements of art centre management.	Facilitate ongoing professional development opportunities in the arts. Continue to grow and advocate for Indigenous arts workers, artists, and audiences.
Barkly Artists Camp	May	BRA will collaborate with Desart to deliver Barkly Artists Camp, artists from around the Barkly region will be invited to participate in a series of workshops over three days.	Facilitate ongoing professional development opportunities in the arts. Continue to grow and advocate for Indigenous arts workers, artists, and audiences.
Fire Garden	May	BRA will collaborate with the Village Festival to present Fire Garden, a multi-media outdoor theatre spectacular.	Facilitate events which offer opportunities for community members to engage with the arts.

National Indigenous Art Fair, Sydney	June	The Artists of the Barkly will exhibit at Sydney's National Indigenous Art Fair alongside art centres from across the country.	Create opportunities to present work of artistic merit which build recognition for artists and amplifies the distinctive cultures of the Barkly region.
One Frequency Festival Professional Development Programme	June	Winanjikarri Music Centres' team will participate in a professional development programme delivered as part of 8CCC Community Radio's One Frequency Festival.	Facilitate ongoing professional development opportunities in the arts. Continue to grow and advocate for Indigenous arts workers, artists, and audiences.
One Frequency Festival	June	BRA will support 8CCC Community Radio in their delivery of Alice Springs' One Frequency Festival.	Facilitate events which offer opportunities for community members to engage with the arts.
Group Exhibition: Modern Times, Melbourne	June	An exhibition showcasing paintings and objet d'art by the Artists of the Barkly will show at Modern Times Gallery in Melbourne.	Create opportunities to present work of artistic merit which build recognition for artists and amplifies the distinctive cultures of the Barkly region.
Territory Day Concert	July	BRa will collaborate with Northern Territory Major Events Company and the Barkly Regional Council to bring together local acts in celebration of Territory Day 2024.	Create opportunities to present work of artistic merit which build recognition for artists and amplifies the distinctive cultures of the Barkly region. Facilitate events which offer opportunities for community members to engage with the arts.

			Continue to grow and advocate for Indigenous arts workers, artists, and audiences.
Desert Harmony Festival	July	Desert Harmony Festival is Barkly Regional Arts' annual celebration of local arts and culture bringing together music, theatre, multimedia, and visual arts over two weekends.	<p>Create opportunities to present work of artistic merit which build recognition for artists and amplifies the distinctive cultures of the Barkly region.</p> <p>Facilitate events which offer opportunities for community members to engage with the arts.</p> <p>Contribute to the national conversation by creating content and programmes which reflect local stories, experiences, and knowledges.</p> <p>Continue to grow and advocate for Indigenous arts workers, artists, and audiences.</p>
University of Wollongong work placement programme.	July	Music students from the University of Wollongong will travel to Tennant Creek to undertake a two-week winter work placement supporting the delivery of Desert Harmony Festival.	Facilitate ongoing professional development opportunities in the arts.

Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair	August	The Artists of the Barkly will exhibit at Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair alongside art centres from across the country.	Create opportunities to present work of artistic merit which build recognition for artists and amplifies the distinctive cultures of the Barkly region.
Group Exhibition: Rita & Julie, Coconut Studios, Darwin	August	An exhibition showcasing works by Rita Beasley and Julie Beasley will appear at Coconut Studios. The show will feature paintings and immersive animation informed by the artist's works. It will further be accompanied by a youth programme.	Create opportunities to present work of artistic merit which build recognition for artists and amplifies the distinctive cultures of the Barkly region.
Desert Mob and Desert Mob Marketplace	September	Held at Araluen Centre, Desert Mob features the best works from central Australia, and will include 10 works by the Artists of the Barkly. BRA will also participate in Desert Mob Marketplace, selling works to Alice Springs locals and tourists.	Create opportunities to present work of artistic merit which build recognition for artists and amplifies the distinctive cultures of the Barkly region.
Barkly AFL Finals Broadcast	September	BRA will partner with 8CCC Community Radio to produce a live and on demand broadcast of Barkly AFL men's and women's finals.	Contribute to the national conversation by creating content and programmes which reflect local stories, experiences, and knowledges. Continue to grow and advocate for Indigenous arts workers, artists, and audiences.
Bush Bands Bash	September	BRA will collaborate with Music NT to support the delivery of Bush Bands Bash.	Facilitate events which offer opportunities for community members to engage with the arts.

			Continue to grow and advocate for Indigenous arts workers, artists, and audiences.
Group Exhibition: Cooee Gallery, Sydney	October	An exhibition showcasing paintings by senior women who led the Barkly's painting movement will show at Cooee Gallery, Sydney.	Create opportunities to present work of artistic merit which build recognition for artists and amplifies the distinctive cultures of the Barkly region.
Sarah Pope Foster: EP Release	October	Winanjjikari Music Centre will produce emerging artist Sarah Pope Foster's debut EP.	<p>Create opportunities to present work of artistic merit which build recognition for artists and amplifies the distinctive cultures of the Barkly region.</p> <p>Activate spaces which offer ongoing opportunities for community members to participate in the arts.</p> <p>Contribute to the national conversation by creating content and programmes which reflect local stories, experiences, and knowledges.</p>