

MARA MILLEN YAGABILI

Many hands create



Quandamooka Arts and Culture Strategy



○
Quandamooka People have cared for these lands and surrounding islands for thousands of years.

○
Expressed through our stories, language and diverse artistic practices our Quandamooka culture remains strong.

○
Our cultural protocol, traditions and responsibilities to always protect and care for our ancestral lands, wildlife, and waters have never been ceded. We are the people of the sand and sea.

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Document title: Jandai language transcribed and named by Aunty Sandra Delaney 2019.

Front cover art work: Healing Rock Vessel #3 by Elisa Jane Carmichael
Healing rock holds pockets of bodies of water. These pockets are vessels holding stories and life. Washing in and out. Like woven vessels the rock pools hold knowledge of the past and memories. They hold the stories of the tides changing. The water changes over time but the vessels remain with the spirit of healing rock.

Acknowledgement

The Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation (QYAC) Registered Native Title Body Corporate (RNTBC) acknowledges that we operate and function on the lands of the Quandamooka Peoples.

We pay our respect to these lands that provide for us.

We acknowledge and pay respect to the Ancestors that walked and managed these lands for many generations.

We acknowledge our Elders who are our knowledge holders, teachers and leaders. We acknowledge our youth who are our hope for a brighter future and who will be our future leaders.

We acknowledge and pay our respect to our members who have gone before us and recognise their contribution to our people and community.

We acknowledge and thank the Elders, artists, arts workers and community members who have shared their wisdom and given their time to the development of this strategy.

Thankyou to the Quandamooka Artist Reference Group for guiding the development of this Arts and Culture Strategy.

Aunty Maree Goebel
Aunty Rene Clarey-Tippo
Aunty Sandra Delaney
Aunty Sonja Carmichael
Adam James
Belinda Close
Delvene Cockatoo-Collins
Libby Harward
Megan Cope
Nix Gross
Simon Carmichael





QYAC CEO, Cameron Costello, Image by Courier Mail

Foreword

Arts and cultural expression have always played a vital role in Aboriginal society and is at the heart of the Quandamooka People's connection to our land and sea country. This strategy is built upon the continuation and enhancement of traditions and practices of the oldest living culture in the world. Our cultural practices, knowledge systems and creative expression provide a source of great strength, resilience and pride.

With the talent of our Quandamooka artists already at the centre of the Australian arts and cultural landscape, the value (cultural, social and economic) this strategy will bring for our families, communities and the broader society can not be understated. Our ideas are forward thinking and fierce – a cultural centre showcasing contemporary First Nations arts on Minjerribah (North Stradbroke Island); an innovative educational campus providing 'a place to hear, think and understand' (Minjerribah Ganaba), the iconic Quandamooka Festival providing an immersive cultural and multi-arts experience for

locals and visitors; Jandai Wularaba (Place of Jandia Language) supporting the language and dialects of Quandamooka People to be woken up in the community; and Salt Water Murriss, an independent traditional owned gallery space providing an essential pathway for our emerging artists to explore and develop.

This strategy reflects a partnership that will enable achievement of our vision for the future, to bring people together whilst continuing our living culture and strengthening our community.

Cameron Costello
QYAC CEO



Message from the Minister

Mara Millen Yagabili - the Quandamooka Arts and Culture Strategy 2023 - is an important step towards an exciting future for this beautiful and vibrant South East Queensland region.

The Strategy, to be delivered through the Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation Board, recognises and celebrates the rich culture of the Quandamooka people of the waters and lands around Mulgumpin, Minjerribah, the Southern Moreton Bay Islands and South Stradbroke Island.

This initiative lays the platform for a coordinated and cohesive approach to establishing the area as an Indigenous arts and culture epicentre, showcasing and developing local Quandamooka arts, artists and cultural practitioners, and providing strong economic and social outcomes for the community.

The Queensland Government is at the forefront of supporting First Nations arts and culture. We want to showcase our State's unique Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and stories, and to nurture connections, understanding and appreciation among Queenslanders and visitors alike.

The Strategy will underpin significant local arts and culture initiatives, including the annual Quandamooka Festival, celebrating culture, country and people, and the construction of the Quandamooka Art Museum and Performance Institute (QUAMPI) on Minjerribah, due for completion mid-2021.

This is part of the critical work being undertaken to increase the cultural, social, environmental and economic development outcomes for the Quandamooka people as the community transitions from a mining-based economy, and addresses opportunities to genuinely engage and connect with First Nations culture.

I look forward to a bright and prosperous future for the Quandamooka People and artists.

The Hon. Shannon Fentiman MP
Minister for Employment and Small Business and
Minister for Training and Skills Development



Our vision for arts and culture

Bringing people together,
continuing our living culture and
strengthening our country and
community



Six Strategies

Our six strategies, when delivered together, will enable us to achieve our vision for the future.

1. Inspiring artists and arts workers
2. Strengthening arts and cultural practice
3. Elevating artists locally, nationally and internationally
4. Sharing culture and educating through the arts
5. Practicing arts for sustainability and innovation
6. Embedding Quandamooka creative leadership

We have outlined specific actions for each of these strategies on pages 25-30.

But first, we have provided information about our People, our Country and history; the background for creating this strategy; what we are already doing; and the challenges and opportunities ahead of us.

Quandamooka People

Today, Quandamooka People continue to operate under our distinct system of laws and customs. Our interests are expressed through the 12 family groups which form the Quandamooka People and are represented on the Elders in Council and Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation (QYAC) Board.

The Quandamooka People are a First Nation of Traditional Owners from Moreton Bay in South East Queensland.

The Quandamooka People are made up of Nunukul (Noonuccal), Goenpul and Ngughi and are the biological descendants of the following 12 family groups who identify as:

1. Nellie / Lilly Kidgeree
2. Mary Indoole Compignie
3. Elizabeth Ruska
4. Charlie Moreton (Dandruba)
5. Sidney Rollands (Kingal / Winyeeaba)
6. Lillian Lyons (Dungoo)
7. King Billy Toompani
8. Juno (Gonzales)
9. Liza Jungerboi (mother of Rose Martin nee Bain)
10. Tommy Nuggin (Gendarieba)
11. Tilly (mother of Tommy Dalton, Richard Dalton and Henry Lea);
12. Kindarra

On 4 July 2011, the Quandamooka People were recognised within the Australian legal system under its Native Title Laws. In the 2011 Determination in the Federal Court, Justice Dowsett stated:

"I have not come here today to give anything to the Quandamooka People. These orders give them nothing. Rather, I come on behalf of all Australian People to recognise their existing rights and interests, which rights and interests have their roots in times before 1788, only some of which have survived European settlements. Those surviving rights and interests I now acknowledge."





The traditional estate of Quandamooka Country comprises the waters and lands of and around Mulgumpin, Minjerribah, the Southern Moreton Bay Islands and South Stradbroke Island.

Quandamooka Country crosses the boundaries of four Queensland Local Governments. It includes the mainland from the mouth of the Brisbane River, Wynnum, Chandler, Lytton, Belmont, Tingalpa, south to Cleveland taking in Redlands Coast, and further south to the Logan River.

Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation

The Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation (QYAC) was established in 2011 under the *Native Title Act 1993* as the Prescribed Body Corporate to manage the rights on behalf of all native title holders. Over the past nine years QYAC has been delivering on the Indigenous Land Use Agreement as directed and authorised by the Quandamooka People.

QYAC is also working on priorities that build on the native title outcomes to support a strong future for Quandamooka People. This includes the development and delivery of a coordinated approach to the revitalisation, maintenance and exploration of art and culture.

Minjerribah Futures

Sand mining on Minjerribah will end in 2019. *Minjerribah Futures* is the State Government's investment in assisting the economic transition of Minjerribah to a sustainable future as a globally recognised eco and cultural tourism destination, supported by expanded research and education activities.

Over the next 3 years (2019-2021), the economic transition will be assisted by the delivery of a range of projects dedicated to:

- developing a sustainable, eco and cultural tourism industry
- celebrating arts and culture
- expanding education and training opportunities
- supporting economic development and growth





Quandamooka Festival, Image supplied by QYAC

What do we mean by arts and culture?

80% of Australians believe that Indigenous arts are an important part of Australia's culture

Connection to our land and sea country is at the heart of our culture. Our cultural practices, knowledge systems and creative expression have underpinned our way of life for thousands of years. They are our source of strength, resilience and pride. They are the process of remembering the laws and stories of country and community.

Culture is what connects and identifies us. Arts and culture are at the core of our identity, and it renews and regenerates communities at large. Artistic and creative expression for creating beauty or in an educative context is equally important. Whatever the driver, our arts activity is inextricably linked to our culture and country.

The value of Quandamooka arts activity for our families, communities and the broader society is important culturally, socially and economically.

First Nations arts practice has a strong relationship with both cultural maintenance (such as speaking a First Nations language or recognising homelands) and mainstream outcomes (such as education and employment). Those who are disenfranchised from both are the least likely to create art. Action is needed to ensure access to the empowering benefits of the arts for all First Nations people.

Australia Council for the Arts
Living Culture: First Nations arts
participation and wellbeing

Arts is central to identity, and, as noted by the Australia Council *at the heart of our nation's identity are the uniquely Australian stories of the longest continuous art and culture makers on Earth.*



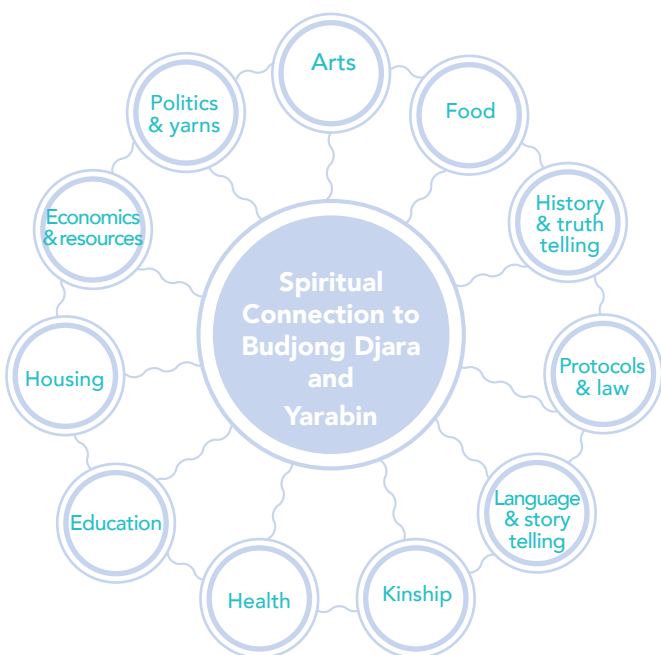
Ngali Ngariba - We talk Libby Harward 2019, Garden of Earthly Delights, July - Dec 2019. Image by Mathias Völzke Photography

Culture

Arts is part of culture, but culture is more than arts. Culture is a complex, communal and intrinsic way of describing our whole life. We recognise the challenge of developing an *Arts and Culture Strategy* in a way that provides focus, but also contextualises arts and culture in a First Nations community. This diagram shows the multiple parts of culture with a spiritual connection to mother earth and sea at the core. The second diagram shows the parts of culture that are explicitly included in this strategy. It is important to remember that culture is continuously evolving.

Arts

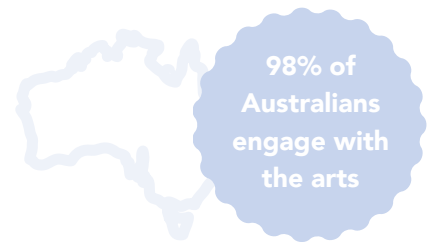
Arts include traditional, contemporary and classical practice, including all new forms of cultural expression applied across all art forms. Arts have the power to celebrate our culture through story-telling. We tell the stories of our Country and songlines through practices and forms that continue our kinship and custodianship of Quandamooka. This strategy is focused on arts as an expression of culture.





Quandamooka Clay Map Making 2017 by Delvene Cockatoo-Collins, Image by Nikki Michail

A connected approach to arts and culture



This Arts and Culture Strategy is one of five key strategies aimed at increasing the cultural, social, environmental, and economic development outcomes for Quandamooka People as we transition from a mining-based economy on Minjerribah. The other strategies are:

- Sustainable Tourism (completed)
- Education, Training, Employment, and Small Business Innovation
- Fisheries, Forestry and Food
- Sustainability - including energy, water, waste

Whilst this Arts and Culture Strategy has a connection to each of these, it has specific alignment to the Sustainable Tourism Strategy and the Education, Training, Employment, and Small Business Innovation Strategy.

Gudjundabu Marumba Gubiyiyanya, Tourism for a Glad Tomorrow, is the five-year strategy for sustainable tourism on Quandamooka Country. The vision for the tourism strategy is a global ecocultural tourism destination built on a foundation of Quandamooka culture and sustainability. Synergies between the Tourism Strategy and this Arts and Culture Strategy include:

- The establishment of QUAMPI, the arts and culture centre
- Development of the Quandamooka Festival as an iconic Queensland event
- Development of product that will showcase Quandamooka arts and First Nations contemporary arts programming at QUAMPI

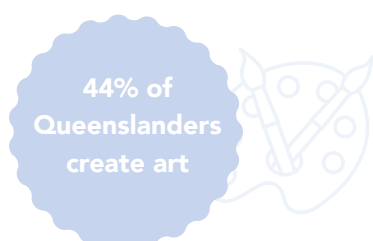


QUAMPI Impression by Cox Architects

The Arts and Culture Strategy will also align closely with the Education, Training, Employment and Small Business Innovation Strategy. The construction of QUAMPI and the continued growth of the Quandamooka Festival as an iconic event will demand an ongoing supply of highly trained arts administrators and high-quality Quandamooka art work for exhibiting, performing and selling. Therefore, appropriate training and development pathways for artists and arts workers will be fundamental to the success of both the Tourism Strategy and the Arts and Cultural Strategy.

Minjerribah Ganaba (a place to hear, think and understand) is the new education, training and business development centre on Minjerribah at the site of the old high school. The space is being redesigned and programs are being developed to meet individual learning needs and respond to opportunities across a range of industries. In relation to arts and culture, Minjerribah Ganaba provides opportunity for:

- Centres of excellence for traditional cultural practice such as weaving, carving, song and dance.
- Contemporary arts innovation, experimentation and technology
- Expansion of Jandai language reclamation
- Artist career planning and business development





Foundations

The aspirations of Quandamooka People to practice our culture and share our cultural expression through arts is not new.

This work is acknowledged and reflected in this Arts and Culture Strategy. In accordance with best practice community protocols and process, this strategy has been developed through conversations and workshops with Elders, Traditional Owners, businesses, community organisations and Minjerribah residents.

Furthermore, an Artist Reference Group was established to guide and ground the development of this Arts and Culture Strategy.

- 1995**
One Mile Minjerribah Master Plan, incorporating a Culture Centre Plan (North Stradbroke Island Housing Cooperative)
- 1997**
Planning and Management Study
- 1998**
Combined Forum
- 2007**
Quandamooka Aboriginal Community Profile and Action Plan
- 2008**
Indigenous Community Policy (Redland City Council)
- 2010**
Indigenous Knowledge Centre Feasibility Study, October (Redland City Council)
- 2011**
Indigenous Land Use Agreement, includes history, language, culture, tradition and arts (Redland City Council)
- 2016**
Economic Transition Strategy announced, including support for a Minjerribah Cultural Centre and Quandamooka Festival
- 2018**
Gudjundabu Marumba Gubiyiyanya Tourism for a Glad Tomorrow strategy released, including immersion of Quandamooka Culture (language, art, dance, food and cultural protocol) throughout tourism products on Quandamooka Country
- 2019**
Additional investment secured to establish Quandamooka Arts Museum and Performance Institute (QUAMPI)



Megan Cope presenting a floor talk for her exhibition Yunggulba (Floodhide) at Redland Art Gallery, Cleveland. Courtesy of the artist and Redland Art Gallery.

Our place in the region

National and State context

Demand for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts has increased in past decades to occupy a niche in the European, North American and Asian markets. In a national context, Australia has a competitive arts and cultural industry, and is supported by the state, territory and federal governments.

With a comparatively small but diverse Queensland population spread across the significant physical area of the state, arts and culture in Queensland is an amalgamation of regions, artforms and cultures. Home to 28% of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population, Queenslanders highly value Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts and culture. Looking to Far North Queensland, there is significant investment in the creation, presentation and celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts and culture compared to the investment in the South East.

In Queensland, and nationally, people are most likely to attend a music event or festival



In South East Queensland

South East Queensland is home to approximately 69% of the total Queensland population, and features two major cities; Brisbane and the Gold Coast. Interestingly, Brisbane is the only capital city in Australia without a First Nations arts or cultural centre, even though 79% of South East Queensland residents believe that First Nations arts are an important part of Australia's culture. That being said, these vibrant cities are home to numerous opportunities for collaboration and partnership, with large-scale events such as Brisbane Festival, Brisbane Writers Festival, BIGSOUND, Clancestry at QPAC, the Asia Pacific Triennial and emerging small to medium Indigenous led organisations such as BlakDance, Karul Projects, Digi Youth Arts, BlakLash and Inala Wangarra.

With its relative distance from major cities and airports, Minjerribah is not only a destination for international and interstate visitors but is also accessible to the South East Queensland population as a day experience. This provides an opportunity for Minjerribah to become a regional hub of Indigenous arts and culture in South East Queensland, establishing the region as an arts and culture epicentre; a place for generating and showcasing Quandamooka artists and cultural practitioners.



Elisa Jane Carmichael with her artwork from the exhibition Gathering Strands at Redland Art Gallery, Cleveland. Courtesy of the artist and Redland Art Gallery. Image by Nikki Michail.

Building on what is already happening

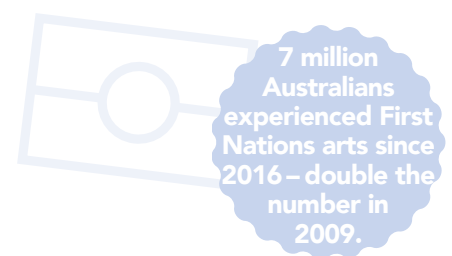
There are well over 60 practicing Quandamooka artists and arts workers across diverse artforms in both contemporary and traditional form. Many of these artists are living on Quandamooka Country or close by. Importantly, there is a strong commitment to work together to build on the work of Elders and artists past, and continue to create an arts and culture legacy for Minjerrabah.

Our Quandamooka artists are already at the centre of the Australian arts and cultural landscape.

- Our visual artists are represented in public and private collections throughout the country.
- Our curators have a growing reputation nationally and internationally.
- Our performers are directing, making, choreographing and performing in mainstage festivals, major performing arts organisations, small to medium organisations and all over the country touring in shows nationally and internationally.

- Our arts producers and administrators are working with the most successful festivals, organisations and institutions in the country.
- Our poets are amongst the world's most famous.
- Our arts workers are working with children and Aboriginal and Torres Strait communities across the country to explore, strengthen and consolidate their identity and creativity.

The timing for the development of an overarching Arts and Cultural Strategy is ideal. There are a number of arts initiatives of scale that will benefit from a coordinated approach to the arts ecology to ensure success in moving Minjerrabah to an economy underpinned by eco and cultural tourism.





Circles of life, weaving by Aunty Senja Carmichael, Quandamooka Festival 2018
Image Supplied by QAC

- QUAMPI is the new Contemporary Arts and Cultural Centre due for completion in mid 2021. A significant site has been earmarked overlooking Moreton Bay and the Queensland Government has already committed \$9.5M to construction. With further resourcing, QUAMPI will present a permanent collection of contemporary art and artefacts that tell the stories of Quandamooka culture and artists. It will also include a performance and functions space, café and outdoor dance circle.
- Minjerribah Ganaba, (a place to hear, think and understand) is a training centre focused on supporting career development of the Minjerribah community. The facility provides the perfect platform for artists to upskill in terms of language, arts practice and business skills. The refurbishment of the old high school will be completed in mid 2020 and the needs of artists has been considered in the design.
- A new strategic plan providing focus for the Quandamooka Festival that provides an immersive cultural and multi-arts experience for locals and visitors.
- Jandai Wularaba (Place of Jandai Language) supports the language and dialects of Quandamooka People to be woken up in the community. While the impact of colonisation on language has been significant, language is alive within the spirit of our people; it is embedded on Country and still remembered and used today. There is a strong commitment to reclamation and relearning of Jandai language.
- Salt Water Murriss is an independent organisation owned by Traditional Owners and includes a gallery space, gift shop and small workshop area. It supports and profiles Quandamooka artists, providing an essential pathway for emerging artists to explore their practice and develop their skills.



6 out of 10
Queenslanders
believe that
Aboriginal and
Torres Strait Islander
arts are well
represented



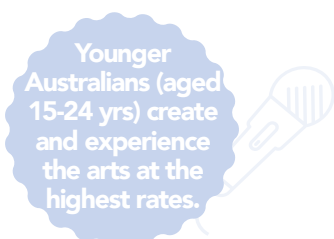
Opportunities

Quandamooka artists

- The majority of artists living on Minjerribah are creating work from their homes, while some have small commercial spaces. The space at Salt Water Murriss also includes a small work area. The old Sibelco sheds next to the QUAMPI site present an opportunity to develop shared artists spaces and spaces where works of scale can be created in both visual and performing arts.
- Many artists leave Minjerribah to further their career. There is potential to re-imagine Minjerribah as a hub for not only Quandamooka artists, but for First Nations artists and arts workers locally, nationally and internationally.
- There is significant interest among other First Nations festivals to establish artist collaborations and exchanges across the country.

The local community

- Language is an expression of people, culture and land. Language is key to individual and collective identity. There is significant opportunity to support a language learning and teaching strategy that builds language into the daily lives of Quandamooka People. However, this relies on people having the cultural knowledge needed to unlock and teach language.
- In 2016, one third of Aboriginal people (31%) living on Minjerribah were under 15 years old, compared with 12% of non-Aboriginal people. This means that Aboriginal people will dominate new entrants to the workforce over the coming years, and job creation will become particularly important. There is potential to generate employment and small innovative business as part of a growing arts and cultural industry.
- Arts can not only ignite curiosity, arts engagement can also heal and build communities. The complex challenges of Native Title have had an adverse impact on some relationships within the community and families. Working together to create, celebrate and share arts and culture will have a positive impact on rebuilding fractured relationships.





Tourists and visitors

- Research indicates an increase in audiences wanting to better understand Aboriginal culture. This has the potential to translate into an increase in tourists looking to Minjerribah for an authentic cultural experience.
- In 2012, just under half (48%) of all overseas visitors attended at least one cultural event in Australia, with 58% reporting visiting a museum or art gallery, 19% reporting experiencing Aboriginal art, craft and cultural displays, and only 9% as visiting an Aboriginal site or community.
- Minjerribah visitor numbers are gradually increasing year on year, as are the number of events that attract visitors. The potential to value-add to these events through performance opportunities and visual arts sales will help support economic outcomes for artists and arts workers.
- Positioned in close proximity to two international airports, Minjerribah is only 25 minutes by water taxi, or a 50-minute trip on a vehicle ferry.
- There are limited Indigenous experiences available for visitors to Brisbane and the Gold Coast, and no iconic 'must do' Indigenous experience for international visitors. QUAMPI will attract the high value traveller to Minjerribah, leveraging the growing visitor numbers in Brisbane, the Gold Coast and the Redlands Coast.
- Minjerribah is at the door-step of the Brisbane CBD. Less than 40 minutes by car to the water taxi makes an island day trip to experience Quandamooka culture very doable.

Partnerships

- There is an ideal opportunity to collaborate with existing community and arts organisations on Minjerribah, including Salt Water Murriss and the North Stradbroke Island Historical Museum for complementary programming and exchange.
- There is an opportunity to support Jandai Wularaba to include language as foundational to all arts and culture initiatives.
- There is significant support being offered by the Brisbane and the broader Queensland arts and cultural industry to support emerging and established Quandamooka artists and arts workers through mentorships and other opportunities. Existing resources can be harnessed, which will require a dedicated person to broker opportunities between existing mainland organisations and Quandamooka artists and arts workers.
- An opportunity exists to build a collection of Quandamooka arts and artefacts that can be toured nationally and internationally. Additionally, there is potential for reciprocal cultural exchange with other First Nations.
- Partner universities and cultural institutions to position Minjerribah as a First Nations Arts Innovation Hub



Pressures and challenges

Protecting cultural and intellectual property

- Cultural protocol needs to be established at the core of arts and cultural initiatives. This includes recognition of Quandamooka People's family knowledge and intellectual property with benefits returning to Quandamooka People.
- Artists need to have a working understanding of Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property rights – for themselves, their families and the broader community. Intellectual Property needs to be embedded in contractual arrangements with artists and families.

Quality and quantity of art

- The imminent opening of QUAMPI in mid 2021 includes a permanent gallery for showing Quandamooka art and artefacts. The North Stradbroke Island Museum has a small collection of Quandamooka artefacts, however, there is not an existing collection of exhibition ready, high-quality Quandamooka works to show in the QUAMPI gallery.
- The University of Queensland Fryer Library and the Queensland Museum hold Quandamooka art and artefacts in their collections. With family permission, there is potential to negotiate lending arrangements or return of objects as appropriate.
- A collection of Quandamooka Art will need to be developed over time, however there is pressure to have a collection of works ready for the QUAMPI opening within 18 months. This will require the establishment of an acquisition fund.
- Commissioning of new visual and performing arts will need to commence immediately to ensure readiness for QUAMPI opening and ongoing exhibition.

One in four Australians give time or money to the arts, reflecting their value in our lives.



Aunty Renee Clarey with her weaving from the exhibition Gathering Strands at Redland Art Gallery, Cleveland. Courtesy of the artist and Redland Art Gallery. Image by Nikki Michall

Sustainable arts and cultural practice

- There are a limited number of artists earning a 'full-time' income from their practice. Artists do not necessarily see themselves as creative entrepreneurs or small business owners. Likewise, tailored training and development for artists and arts workers in small business is limited.
- Professional development pathways for emerging and mid-career Quandamooka artists across multiple artforms are unclear. There is significant potential for professional development collaborations with mainland arts and cultural organisations, however there is currently no dedicated staff to bring this to fruition.

Industry coordination and advocacy

- There is no Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts industry body or peak body that represents South East Queensland, however there are Art Centre's and peak bodies throughout Australia and their presence enables community organising and outcomes missing in South East Queensland. The lack of coordination in South East Queensland results in fragmentation of effort in advocacy and influence on policy. It also means that governments and other industry bodies do not have a single point of reference or contact around industry matters.



Our Vision

Bringing people together,
continuing our living culture and
strengthening our country and
community



Guiding Principles

The following principles underpin the Arts and Cultural Strategy:

- Abide by and uphold protocol and law including that knowledge is owned by Quandamooka families and that our families have the right to protect their intellectual and cultural property.
- Foster strong local, national and international partnerships and collaborations.
- Quandamooka People will determine which other Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and international First Nations and non-Indigenous artists, arts workers and organisations we will welcome and host on Country and partner.
- Present high-quality multi-art form works in traditional and contemporary forms.
- Benchmark against national and international excellence in Indigenous leadership and management.



Strategies and Actions

1. Inspiring artists and arts workers
2. Strengthening arts and cultural practice
3. Elevating artists locally, nationally and internationally
4. Sharing culture and educating through the arts
5. Practicing arts for sustainability and innovation
6. Embedding Quandamooka creative leadership



Yulu Burri Ba Dancers at Quandamooka Festival, Image by Mick Richards

Strategies and actions

1

Inspiring artists and arts workers

We will provide opportunities for Quandamooka People, young and old, to actively engage with and be inspired by art.

What will our community see by 2023?

- Children and young people will have many opportunities to practice and strengthen their culture and creativity in multiple locations
- An increased number of Quandamooka People actively engaged in arts and cultural activity as creators, audiences and collaborators
- Established training, development, exhibition and performance pathways for community participation, career development and leadership

Actions

1. Create opportunities for Quandamooka People to see, feel and experience arts and cultural activities and events on Country
2. Develop an annual program of exhibitions, performances, workshops and cultural exchange with guest creatives
3. Broker creative opportunities for children and young people in partnership with childcare, schools, and holiday programs
4. Coordinate training and mentoring opportunities for aspiring artists and arts workers



Yura Yalingbilla, Quandamooka Festival, Image supplied by OYAC

2

Strengthening arts and cultural practice

We will encourage and support opportunities for emerging artists through to professional artists across art forms to create traditional and contemporary work.

What will our community see by 2023?

- An increase in arts and cultural practices in the community
- An increase in art being created across multiple artforms
- Partnerships that support the commissioning of high-quality work
- First Nations reciprocal relationships and community networking

Actions

1. Deliver a cultural program that strengthens traditional practice around weaving, carving, dancing and song through Minjerribah Ganaba
2. Establish dedicated artform studio spaces, resources and equipment for artists to create on Country
3. Facilitate residencies and labs for established artists
4. Support emerging artists across a range platforms including arts development programs, artist camps, Saltwater Murriss
5. Commission work for showcasing at QUAMPI, Quandamooka Festival and elsewhere



3

Elevating artists locally, nationally and internationally

We will support artists to show, exhibit, perform and share work on Quandamooka Country and beyond.

What will our community see by 2023?

- Quandamooka artists have access to professional development pathways
- Quandamooka artists are valued and celebrated nationally and internationally

Actions

1. Develop a program of national and international artists exchanges across art forms
2. Profile artists at QUAMPI and during the Quandamooka Festival
3. Facilitate individual and market development plans with mid-career artists
4. Curate an annual program of work at the Quandamooka Festival and QUAMPI
5. Facilitate an inbound industry program of festival directors, buyers, collectors and curators
6. Support artists to pitch at industry events
7. Expose artists and arts workers to worlds best practice arts activities and events



Quandamooka Coast weaving workshop with Aunty Sonja Carmichael, Meeanjin to Minjerribah, Image by Kam Rosenlund

4

Sharing culture and educating through the arts

We will build collections and programs for sharing Quandamooka arts and culture.

What will our community see by 2023?

- A growing reputation for our rich and diverse Quandamooka cultural and artistic practices
- Visitors are drawn to Minjerribah to experience Quandamooka culture through QUAMPI and the Quandamooka Festival
- Collaborations with community organisations, charity's and festivals

Actions

1. Create QUAMPI as a world class space for sharing Quandamooka culture through multiple artforms
2. Include a permanent Quandamooka gallery at QUAMPI
3. Create a regular season of Quandamooka music and performance opportunities at QUAMPI
4. Build the Quandamooka Festival as an unmissable iconic event for locals and visitors
5. Develop a collection of Quandamooka art and artefacts for showing at QUAMPI and touring circuits nationally
6. Develop partnerships with the North Stradbroke Island Museum and Saltwater Murris that enable complementary programming
7. Foster integrated digital technology to protect knowledge, document language and increase access
8. Ensure visibility of Quandamooka culture and history through public art and signage in language
9. Commission an annual program of Quandamooka performance and cultural forums



5

Practicing arts for sustainability and innovation

We will encourage language, arts and culture for social, cultural, emotional and economic well-being

What will our community see by 2023?

- More Quandamooka People will speak traditional language
- Quandamooka People will feel strong, and feel connected to place and community
- More artists and arts workers will generate a living income through their practice

Actions

1. Provide opportunities for Quandamooka People to practice art and culture for health, well-being and community connection
2. Continue to establish the Quandamooka Languages Centre to raise awareness of, and opportunities for, Jandai, Gower and Nunagal language learning and teaching
3. Support artists to develop high-quality products for sale or ticketing
4. Provide and support opportunities for selling work through QUAMPI, Saltwater Murris, Quandamooka Festival, online platforms, corporate gift-giving and at other key events held on Minjerribah
5. Broker small business planning for Quandamooka artists
6. Develop partnerships to establish Minjerribah as a First Nations Arts Innovation Hub



Meeanjin to Minjerribah, Image by Kara Rosenlund

6

Embedding Quandamooka creative leadership

We will recognise and support the experience, skill and leadership of artists and arts workers.

What will our community see by 2023?

- Quandamooka People employed in arts and cultural key decision making and enabling roles
- Artists included in formal decision making around arts and culture strategy
- Artists and the broader Minjerribah community will feel they have the information they need to engage in arts and cultural opportunities

Actions

1. Establish an Arts Advisory Sub-Committee to the QYAC Board to ensure arts knowledge and expertise in decision making
2. Provide opportunities for connection with artists practicing on Country and elsewhere
3. Collaborate with community organisations on Quandamooka Country
4. Broker training and employment opportunities for arts administrators, curators and producers
5. Provide opportunities for Quandamooka People to work in every aspect of arts administration
6. Employ an Artistic Director and other positions that are essential to delivering the Arts and Culture Strategic Plan

References

Arts Queensland (2015). Celebrating Indigenous arts and culture.

Australia Council for the Arts (2017). Connecting Australians: Results of the National Arts Participation Survey, June 2017.

Australia Council for the Arts (2017). Living Culture: First Nations Arts Participation and Wellbeing.

Australian Bureau of Statistics (2011). Arts and Culture in Australia: A Statistical Overview, 2011.

Appendix

Foundations Timeline Detail

One Mile Minjerribah Master Plan, incorporating a Culture Centre Plan, 1995 (North Stradbroke Island Housing Cooperative)

The One Mile Minjerribah Master Plan by the North Stradbroke Island Housing Cooperative included the development of a Cultural Centre Plan. The aspirations for the centre included performance spaces, keeping places, film theatre, restaurant, shop and office space.

Planning and Management Study, 1997

This study included a proposal between the then Redland Shire Council and then Quandamooka Land Council Aboriginal Corporation to develop a cultural centre.

Combined Forum, 1998

Quandamooka Aboriginal Community Profile and Action Plan, 2007

This plan proposed the development of an Aboriginal Cultural and Interpretive Centre. The centre would include a cultural interpretive centre, a keeping place for cultural materials, galleries, performance spaces, information hub, training facilities and meeting facilities.

Indigenous Community Policy, 2008 (Redland City Council)

This policy acknowledged the Quandamooka Aboriginal Community Plan and committed to the preservation and development of Quandamooka history, culture and language within an Indigenous Knowledge Centre.

Indigenous Knowledge Centre Feasibility Study, October 2010 (Redland City Council)

This study describes considerable community interest in the concept of an Indigenous Knowledge Centre to enhance the preservation of what is currently known, record cultural knowledge and history, and make available appropriate parts of this knowledge to the broader community. An iconic building in a prominent site would have benefits for the whole community.

Indigenous Land Use Agreement

The Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA) was signed by Redland City Council and QYAC in 2011. Arts and culture is embedded throughout this important document.



Prepared by Fieldworx in collaboration with the
Quandamooka Artist Reference Group.

And in consultation with the broader Quandamooka and
Minjerribah community, and arts industry stakeholders.