

Godinymayin
Yijard Rivers
Arts & Culture Centre

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Annual Report

July 2015–June 2016



Katherine Regional Cultural Precinct Godinymayin Yijard Rivers Arts & Culture Centre

Purpose

The purpose of our organisation is to develop and professionally manage the Godinymayin Yijard Rivers Arts & Culture Centre, to promote and nurture the arts and cultural identities of the Katherine Region and its people.

Vision

Our vision is to build a stronger Katherine Region and connected community through the recognition of our separate and shared histories and the living of our cultures today through our art, learning programs and celebrations.

Values

Two Way Learning

The Centre is underpinned by the 'two way' learning philosophy, which refers to the practice of drawing on two necessarily separate domains of knowledge; a mixing of western and Indigenous knowledge systems.

Respect and Recognition of our People

We ensure, in all our dealings, that we respect and value the inherent worth and needs of our artists, customers, stakeholders and staff, based upon principles of trust, fairness, equity and ethical action with respect for cultural protocols, individual rights, cultural and creative diversity.

We recognise our people as a valued resource for their collective knowledge and skills and we will continually improve their capacity and acknowledge achievements.

Our Region

We acknowledge that the Katherine region includes many people living in remote locations with diverse cultures and lifestyles, and we will be inclusive of the people of the whole region.

Teamwork

We work together in a supportive team based environment and encourage participation, involvement, partnership and unity to achieve our common goals.

Communication

We are committed to clear, honest and open communication and consultation, with our internal and external communities, to ensure the dissemination of information on policies and changes in our priorities.

Quality of Service

We commit to continuous improvement of our services, being responsive to the needs of our communities based upon principles of respect, courtesy and high standards of professionalism.

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Chair's Report

This year has seen the extension of the Centre's arts program to include a number of very successful external events. Special mention goes to the Territory Day celebration funded by the Northern Territory Government, *K-town's Dance Massive*. Whilst run in conjunction with the Centre's already busy exhibition and performing arts program, these externally focused events provide us opportunities to stimulate grass roots art and culture activity in our community that we may not otherwise access through Centre based programs, and is an important component in further embedding the Centre into the daily life and routine of the community.

Work has continued on developing and updating Governance practice and procedure for the Centre and the Board has approved and finalised the Governance Charter of the Katherine Regional Cultural Precinct Limited. The next step in this process will be the review of the existing Business Plan against the aims stated in the plan for the first five years of operation of the Centre, and the development of a new Business Plan for the next three years.

On behalf of the Board, I wish to give special thanks to the Director, Suzanne Fermanis, and to the Centre's staff for their accomplishments this year. The additional external work was handled with no substantial increase in labour resources and so was completed on top of normal workloads. We are lucky to have such a dedicated and tight-knit

crew committed to undertaking the Centre's activities. I wish to welcome Sophie Rayner to the Centre in her new role as Curator. Sophie is already having a positive impact in our community gallery K space by drawing in a new audience. I also wish to congratulate Caroline Lindsay in her performance in her new role as Venue and Publicity Officer. Venue hire and management is an important part of the Centre's functionality and has been well managed by Caroline as part of her new extended roles and responsibilities.

Casting an eye to the future, I see the way forward for the Centre is to continue to strive for excellence in content and standards but also to incorporate community activity and participation at all levels. In some aspects, these two objectives may seem to conflict but one of the fundamental goals of this organisation is to show strong leadership in this regard and to prove that we can achieve high standards in both content and execution, whilst at the same time foster community participation and appreciation in art and culture. I also think that now is the right time to be driving this change in our community and is an opportunity that must be taken up.

Again, I look forward to the coming year and, in particular, to the extension of our ongoing outreach program.

Craig Lambert
Chairman

Board

Chair

Craig Lambert

Staff

Suzanne Fermanis, Director
Caroline Lindsay, Venue and
Publicity Officer
Sophie Rayer, Curator and
Acquisitions Manager
Jayne Nankivell, Project Officer
Janet Schultz, Finance and
Human Resources Officer
Andrew Anzac, Michelle Turvey
and Alison Wright, Casual

Members

Bill Harney, Wardaman
David Katherine, Jawoyn
Jessie Brown, Dagoman
Jo Nicol, NTG
John de Koning, NTG
Lisa Mumbin, Jawoyn
Robert Jennings, KTC
Sally Winbirr, Wardaman

Director's Report

It is often remarked that as we get older every year gets shorter and what an appropriate adage for the 2015/2016 year.

It was a year full of intense activity and some spectacular highlights.

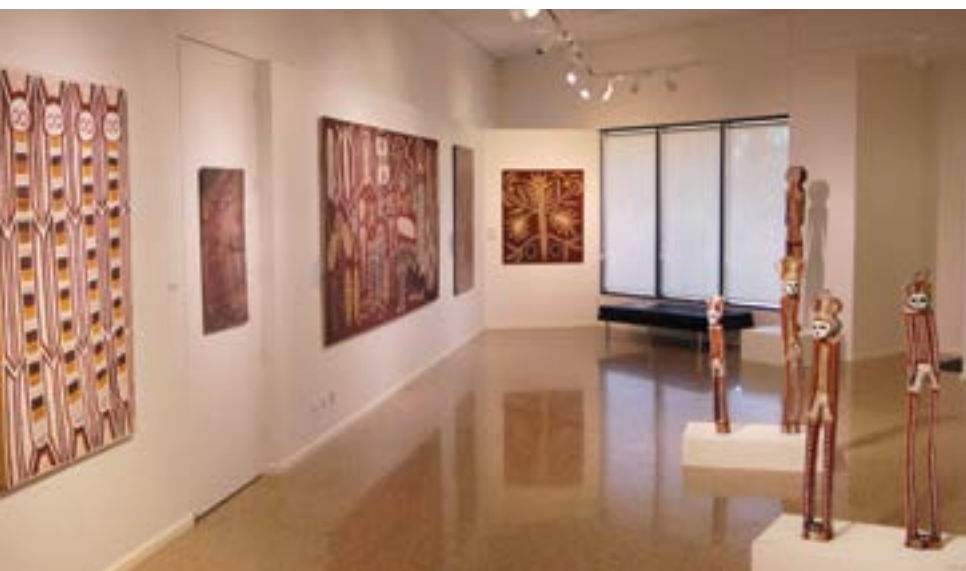
Who could forget the looks of delight on the faces of the audience at *K-town's Dance Massive*, as their own Katherine region story was celebrated before their very eyes? *K-town's Dance Massive* was our first produced large-scale dance event. Nor will I forget the remarks of a visitor who, after being immersed in our exhibition *Yidumduma Bill Harney: Bush Professor* sought me out to congratulate our centre on curating a 'brilliant' exhibition that helps achieve reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians. We were thrilled to hear the Federal Department of Communications and the Arts (Visions of Australia), recognised the value of the exhibition by providing funding to go towards a national tour of the exhibition commencing in September 2016. These two artistic projects successfully straddled the community engagement/excellence spectrum.

Another arts project of significant note was the film *Big Rivers: West to East*, produced by GYRACC, conceived by Clare Armitage (GYRACC Australia Council for the Arts Curatorial Fellow 2014–15) and directed by filmmakers Harry Sanna and Charles

Taperell. The film, launched at the opening of an exhibition of the same name in March 2016, highlights the social and economic benefits of arts centres in remote communities. Its development is an example of how our centre can add value to the admirable work of arts centres in Indigenous communities in the Katherine region.

These three projects were produced on top of our core exhibition and performing arts program. The exhibition program included *Holding Silence*, an exquisite and gentle exhibition of the works of twelve NT artists all of whom paint 'en plein air', *Jan Milner Cole: mid career survey*, showcasing the powerful works of one of Katherine's most talented artists and the ever-loved *Katherine Prize* celebrating 40 years of operation. Our performing arts program included a mix of events: those that dealt with cross-cultural issues; *Sugarland*, *Head Full of Love* and *Bilarni*, those embraced by the community hungry for access to high quality performances; *A Night with Melbourne City Ballet*, two popular comedy shows; *Aboriginal Comedy Allstars* and Isaac Lomman's *Comedy Hypnosis REWIRED!* and two performances by internationally acclaimed physical theatre company Circa.

A particularly pleasing outcome this year was the significant increase in audience numbers. Our audience numbers reached 4,500, a 98% increase



from the previous year.¹ We attribute this to a number of factors: being increasingly embraced by the local community, a growing understanding of the needs of our local audience, and more targeted use of social media.

The last year has also seen a concerted strategy to engage our local community. We want the people of the Katherine region to embrace GYRACC as 'their own'.

Our strategy over the past year has been to target school children as they are the audience of the future. We engaged all but one of the Katherine schools in *K-town's Dance Massive*, implemented a visual arts pilot program with two primary schools, and worked in partnership with the NT Music School and Katherine Regional Arts and provided significant in-kind support to *Katherine Beat 2016 'Riversong'*.

We are also working to engage new audiences, in particular the pastoral and RAAF Tindal communities.

Our community engagement strategy also helps build the artistic skills of the community. We want to build on the community's considerable individual artistic talent and provide them with opportunities

to grow and develop. GYRACC, together with Katherine Regional Arts, are working towards helping to build a foundation. We know there is a wealth of potential artistic talent in the town and the remote communities and we want to work towards mobilising this talent to the next level.

I would once again like to thank the Directors of the Board of Management for their assistance and guidance to me during my first year as Director. In particular I would like to thank our Chairperson, Craig Lambert, who has given of his time and wisdom unflinching throughout the year.

Finally I would like to take this opportunity to thank the GYRACC staff, all of whom have contributed their considerable expertise, unflagging enthusiasm and plain hard work to produce a magnificent program that encapsulates our values and vision. We are helping to build a reconciled Katherine community through arts and culture but we know it is early days and there is much that still needs to be done. We are all excited by that challenge.

Suzanne Fermanis
Director

¹ It could be argued this percentage increase is skewed because of the large audience at *K-town's Dance Massive*. However even if we subtract this audience the increase is 69%.



Artistic program

The artistic program included:

- Six exhibitions in the main gallery which included a variety of mediums, such as quilting and sculpture. Two exhibitions featured Indigenous and non-Indigenous artists together and four celebrated quintessential Territory stories and/or artists. *Yidumduma Bill Harney: Bush Professor* featured the extensive knowledge and skill of longstanding GYRACC Board Member and Wardaman representative, Bill Harney. The exhibition will begin to tour nationally in September 2016.
- Four exhibitions in the K space gallery, three of which showcased and offered professional development to artists from the local community over a range of mediums, including painting, sculpture and photography. The remaining exhibition *Hot Shots* was a touring selection of work by NT music photographers.
- Eleven performances including theatre, comedy, physical theatre and dance. One performance, *Cypher*, was a touring production from Darwin-based independent producer Britt Guy, three shows were based on Katherine stories (*Bilarni*, *Katherine Beat* and *Sugarland*) and four were cross-cultural (*Sugarland*, *Katherine Beat*, *Bilarni* and *Head Full of Love*).

- Three public lectures that included topics on Indigenous art and spirituality.
- Sixty-two workshops: 59 for *K-town's Dance Massive* and three managed by Katherine Regional Arts (two for hip-hop performance *Cypher* and one for theatre production *Head Full of Love*). Gross numbers exceeded 1,860.
- Two public forums in preparation for *WOW (Women of the World) Festival Katherine*, September 2016.
- One produced event, *K-town's Dance Massive*, the signature event for Territory Day celebrations.

Special events

During the last year GYRACC has staged two special events:

K-town's Dance Massive

K-town's Dance Massive was a large scale community dance project that celebrated the cultural diversity of the Big Rivers (Katherine) region. It aimed to build social cohesion and develop skills in dance and production for Katherine region residents.

A group of highly regarded national and NT professional artists (dancers, choreographers and filmmakers) including Bec Reid, Indigenous Hip Hop Projects, Tracks Dance (David McMicken,



Tim Newth, Kelly Beneforti) and Nick Power were employed to develop the work.

The live dance performance was interjected with four pre-recorded videos, which highlighted the beauty of the land, the pride locals have in Katherine, the passion people feel for dance/movement and the importance of Australian Football League for young people.

Over 70 locals performed in the event, close to 50 people were involved in the production of the videos, and 1,652² young children and community members (gross) participated in 59 workshops in the four weeks leading up to the event.

The cast included young people, old people, Indigenous people, non-Indigenous people, people from remote Indigenous communities, passionate Australian rules football people, proud RAAF Tindal people and of course people from the pastoral industry, including a horse!

A number of dance styles and sporting prowess were on show; hip hop, contemporary, ballet, Zumba, Bollywood, jive, rock and roll, boot scooting, traditional Indigenous, Australian Football League, judo and roller derby.

Close to 2,500 people attended the event, unprecedented in Katherine.

2 1428 school children and 224 community members

K-town's Dance Massive was a resounding success. Audience members and participants walked away feeling proud to be a Territorian and of their role in moulding a culture rich in diversity, legends, heroic tales and colourful characters.

'Congratulations it was a triumph'

Audience member

'That (K-town's Dance Massive) has done more to build social cohesion than any other event we have ever had'

Audience member

'I had no idea what I was getting myself into but it was one of the most amazing things I have ever done in my life'

Participant

Yidumduma Bill Harney: Bush Professor (6 May – 16 July)

Yidumduma Bill Harney's exhibition, a celebration of the work and knowledge of one of the last fully initiated Wardaman elders and a man regarded by many as a national living treasure, was perhaps GYRACC's most significant event since opening. This is because Australia's north is one of the few places on the planet that retains a 'living Indigenous culture'. The exhibition, curated by Darwin-based Margie West AM, was multi-layered and included paintings, carvings, video, rock art



tour and a public lecture. Approximately 300 people attended the opening on 6 May, 1,703 tourists and local people visited the exhibition, close to 50 people attended a public lecture given by Margie West, 19 people (most of whom were interstate or international tourists) went on a rock art tour led by Yidumduma and 201 Katherine school children attended 12 workshops at GYRACC led by Paul Taylor, an educationalist who has worked with Yidumduma over the last 25 years.

Visitors were unanimous in their praise:

Wonderful absolutely inspiring

100/100 absolutely awesome, draws you in – thanks

Deadly

Best exhibition I have seen to this day (interstate visitor)

The exhibition attracted significant national media coverage, including in the *Indigenous_ Northern Aboriginal art from the Kimberley and Top End* issue of *Artlink*, June 2016.

So successful was the exhibition that GYRACC received notification in March 2016 that our funding application to Visions of Australia to undertake a national tour from 2016–2018 was successful.

Community engagement

Robust and extensive community engagement is crucial to GYRACC's success. We want the community to embrace the centre as their own.

We began our community engagement strategy in earnest this year with a particular focus on young people as they are the audience of the future.

K-town's Dance Massive

K-town's Dance Massive, our first major produced arts event included an extensive community engagement strategy. Over 1,650 young people and community members participated in 59 workshops in the four weeks leading up to the event. Over 70 locals performed in the event and close to 50 people were involved in the production of four performance videos.

Learning Landscapes: Education program

23 May 2016 – 22 July 2016

In 2016 we instigated a pilot visual arts education program that aimed to educate the next generation in our cross-cultural philosophy. We targeted two local primary schools: MacFarlane Primary School (predominantly Indigenous students, many of whom are from remote communities) and Casuarina Primary School (largely non-Indigenous students, with 46% from RAAF families).



Curator Sophie Rayner, in close consultation with personnel from the two schools, developed a five week off-site education program between May and July. The program received positive feedback from the schools, *'Your art lesson was a hit on Friday. My students loved it. You did a great job in leading this'*. The work produced during this period will be exhibited as part of the Katherine Prize in July – September 2016.

Katherine Beat 2016 'Riversong'

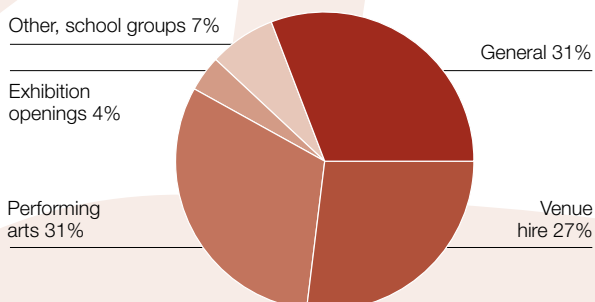
GYRACC provided in-kind support (venue and equipment hire and staff) to NT Music School to stage the first Katherine Beat. The performance was presented in the Centre's outside amphitheatre with ancillary events (pop up performances, videos and exhibition) occurring throughout the foyer and auditorium. The event helped engage local primary and secondary school students with our Centre.

Other

The centre has also begun to target the pastoral and RAAF communities, eager to engage them as key stakeholders. We involved RAAF Base Tindal in the theatre production *Sugarland*, *K-town's Dance Massive* and undertook a *WOW (Women of the World) Festival* consultation with RAAF personnel and partners on base. We are making headway in engaging the pastoral community.

Visitation

We welcomed more than 14,700 visitors through its doors in 2015/16. This figure (14,722) represents close to a 21% increase (2,552) from 2014/15 (12,170).



General visitors and performing arts audiences had equal figures, each with 31% of the total visitation numbers.

As with previous years and typical tourist trends in the Top End, the dry season months (May–September) saw the greatest number of general visits to the centre. July 2015 and June 2016 had the highest monthly attendance, averaging 783 visitors each month.

The performing arts program attracted an audience of over 4,500. This represents a 98% increase from the previous year.³ Most performing arts events were presented at the Centre but this year GYRACC produced an event off-site, *K-town's Dance Massive* at the Katherine Showgrounds on 1 July 2015.

Our venue hire operations saw many interstate and regional Northern Territory visitors come to the Centre to attend a wide range of events including workshops, conferences, expos and private functions. Venue hire attendance figures (4,021) represent 27% of total attendance.

As with previous years, while general visitation is lower in October–December, venue hire attendance figures peak in this period due to the large number of venue hire bookings for end of year functions. The average monthly venue hire attendance during this period in 2015 was 611, compared to an average of 173 in the months July–September 2015.

Staffing and recruitment

During the year there have been some staff movements: sadly we said goodbye to Clare Armitage, Australia Council for the Arts Curatorial Fellow who finished her fellowship in August 2015; Sophie Rayner was employed as our new Curator and Acquisitions Manager; Caroline Lindsay was promoted from Front of House/Shop/ Administration to Venue and Publicity Officer and Janet Schultz joined our team as Finance and Human Resources Officer.

Core staff numbers have remained the same at 3.3 EFT: Suzanne Fermanis, Director, Caroline Lindsay, Publicity and Venue Officer, Sophie Rayner, Curator and Acquisitions Manager, Jayne Nankivell, Project Officer and Janet Schultz, Finance and Human Resources Officer.

We have continued to employ Andrew Anzac on a casual basis to undertake gallery installations and maintenance work.

This year we have employed more casual staff, mainly for our independent project *K-town's Dance Massive* but also to assist with consolidating our financial policies and procedures.

At this stage we have only one Indigenous staff member, Andrew Anzac, however we aim to increase our percentage of Indigenous employees over the coming years.

The Director was invited to present at Dana Waranara in Brisbane in December 2015 (developed by Blak Dance and Performing Lines) to help develop Indigenous dance in Australia, and the Association of Northern Kimberley and Arnhem Aboriginal Artists (ANKAAA) Conference in Katherine in November 2015. The Director also attended the Map 2016: Essentials for Arts Business Conference hosted by Arts NT in April 2016.

Godinymayin continues to have a small but dedicated group of volunteers.

Funding

The Northern Territory Department of Arts and Museums, through Arts NT, remains as GYRACC's principal financial supporter.

The Katherine Town Council continued to provide funding of \$30,000 for operational expenses, \$17,000 to curate the Katherine Prize 2015 and \$20,000 to present performances of excellence.

There was a significant increase in income from other NT Government departments due to funding received from the Chief Minister's Office to manage Territory Day celebrations.

Earned income from venue hire, box office, bar sales and shop increased by 11% from the previous financial year.

Income from foundations and not-for-profit funders increased by 14%, which is partly attributable to the increasing depth of our programming (*Yidumduma Bill Harney*, *Bush Professor* and *K-town's Dance Massive*).

Industry development, partnerships and stakeholder engagement

Industry development

The launch of *Big Rivers: West to East*, a short film that celebrates the unique character of four remote Katherine Region arts centres: Durrmu Arts (Peppimenarti), Merrepen Arts (Daly River), Djilpin Arts (Beswick) and Ngukurr Arts (Ngukurr) helped to contribute to the promotion of artwork from remote Indigenous communities. Our retail outlet is increasingly showcasing the work of Indigenous art centres, providing income for these centres and their artists.

Partnerships

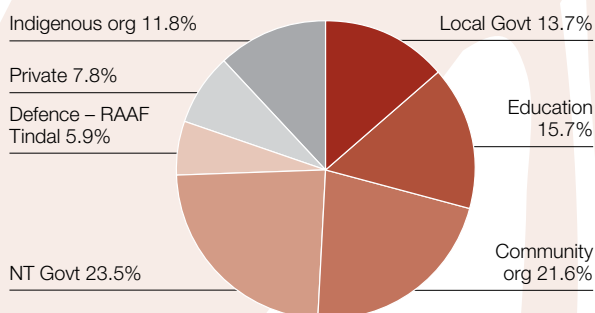
GYRACC continues to partner on a regular basis with Katherine Regional Arts, working closely on many of the performing arts events, with Katherine Regional Arts organising the workshops. The partnership between NT Music School, Katherine High School, Katherine Regional Arts and GYRACC that resulted in the *Katherine Beat 2016 'Riversong'* is one we hope will continue over future years. We also partnered with Tracks Dance (Darwin), Katherine Town Council and Festivals NT when producing the highly successful *K-town's Dance Massive*. Planning is already underway with these partners to work on future projects. We are pleased to continue our partnership with Katherine Town Council, a key stakeholder in building the community through arts and culture.

Stakeholder engagement

Arts NT is GYRACC's key financial stakeholder. We are committed to providing Arts NT with regular updates to elaborate on our program and demonstrate the economic and social benefits to the community.

Venue hire

The venue hire operation has continued as an integral part of the Centre, bringing in a diverse number of people for a wide range of events across different community sectors.



In the 2015/2016 period there were 51 venue hires, the same number as the preceding year. There has been a marked increase in the number of people attending the Centre for venue hires; with 4,021 people compared to 3,394 last financial year. This figure accounts for 27% of total visitors.

The largest sector hiring the venue was the Northern Territory Government with 23.5% of the total number of hires. Combined with community organisations and education providers, these three sectors constitute just over 60% of the total hires for the year. We have seen an increase in representation from the Northern Territory Government, local government, education providers and community organisations. There was a 5.9% increase in representation from community organisations, cementing our reputation as a professional and affordable venue to hold community events. There was a drop in hires from Indigenous organisations, from 21.6% to 11.8%, but this is not concerning as a number of hires represented in the community and education sectors had a high number of Indigenous people

attending (e.g. Clontarf Foundation). For the first time, this year we have given Defence (RAAF Tindal) hires their own category, as we would like to track their involvement with the Centre as our relationship with RAAF Tindal continues. This in turn strongly correlates with a decrease in Federal government hires, as Defence hires have historically been included in the Federal government sector.

As a continuing trend from last year, many clients are booking the Centre for annual events. Examples of this are the Australia Day Ceremony on 26 January hosted by the Katherine Town Council and the Katherine Regional Mining and Exploration Forum held in late May. We are pleased to have been chosen as the venue for the 2015 Welcome to Tindal Expo on 30 January, organised by the Defence Community Organisation (RAAF Tindal). This was the first year the Expo was held in town rather than on the RAAF Tindal base, and attracted around 400 stallholders and attendees. We were also the chosen venue for the 2015 NAIDOC Ball held on 11 July, a fabulous black tie dinner with entertainment for 100 guests, the majority of whom were Indigenous.

The venue hire operation continues to function efficiently and effectively, providing every event with a very high level of service and attention to detail, and consolidates our reputation as a professional and functional venue.

Shop

The Gallery Shop continues to be a vital part of the Centre, providing an outlet for local and regional NT artisans to display and sell their craft while also giving locals and visitors a unique 'go to' to purchase special gifts and souvenirs. One of our suppliers stated *'the quality of my work has increased through the roof because I have to keep producing'*

The Gallery Shop sells a range of high quality goods by Indigenous and non-Indigenous suppliers: books, jewellery, homewares, fabrics and clothing. The revenue from the shop constituted 44% of total income, an increase from the previous year (36%).

Artistic Program July 2015 – June 2016

Visual Arts program



40th Katherine Prize

31 July – 5 September 2015

The Katherine Prize, now in its 40th year, is a non-acquisitive annual award open to all Northern Territory based Indigenous and non-Indigenous artists. The winner of the 2015 Katherine Prize Brian & Jeanette Lambert Art Award was *Kingfisher* by Darwin-based artist Alison Worsnop. The Dr Peter and Kathleen Short Craft Award was given to *The Holy Mussel* by Zoe Crowder. Judged by Tim Rollason, then Director of Araluen Arts Centre.



Jan Milner Cole: mid-career survey

30 October – 18 December 2015

Katherine-based artist Jan Milner Cole has been painting aspects of life around the Top End for many years. This survey of her work, including landscapes, portraits and images of outback lifestyles was drawn from personal collections in the region and presented a comprehensive picture of this artist's varied body of work. This was the final exhibition curated by GYRACC inaugural director Cath Bowdler.



Holding Silence

11 September – 24 October 2015

Twelve NT artists presented unique visions of the experience of being in and responding to country in the Northern Territory. Most of these artists from Darwin, Katherine and Alice Springs paint 'en plein air' and present fresh and immediate images of landscapes that have moved them.



Australia Wide Four

28 January – 5 March 2016

Australia Wide Four is the fourth touring exhibition developed by the Ozquilt Network Inc and featured work by former Katherinite and inaugural recipient of the Katherine Arts Community Service Award, Kerry Taylor.



Big Rivers: West to East

11 March – 30 April 2016

Big Rivers: West to East included an exhibition and the launch of a short film that celebrates the unique character of four remote Katherine Region art centres: Durrmu Arts (Peppimenarti), Merrepen Arts (Daly River), Djilpin Arts (Beswick) and Ngukurr Arts (Ngukurr). Film produced by GYRACC and directed by Harry Sanna and Charles Taperell. Curated by Clare Armitage, GYRACC Australia Council for the Arts Curatorial Fellow 2014–2015.



Yidumduma Bill Harney: Bush Professor

6 May – 16 July 2016

One of the last fully initiated Wardaman elders, Yidumduma Bill Harney is regarded by many as a national living treasure; the quintessential Renaissance man using his paintings, carvings, songs and storytelling to communicate his Indigenous knowledge to the world. Curated by Margie West AM.

K space Community Gallery



Hot Shots

31 July – 5 September 2015

Presented by Music NT, *Hot Shots* is an annual music photography competition that focuses on the wealth of music talent – and music photography talent – in the NT. It celebrates original music in the Territory through the eyes of ‘the punter’.



Flight Risk

28 January – 5 March 2016

Flight Risk was a beautiful and compelling exhibition, which highlighted the plight of many Northern Territory endangered bird species. Featuring works by local artists Helen Aland, Sharon Davies and Mandy Tootell in a range of mediums including prints, ceramics, fibre works and paint on fabrics.



The Art of Rarrk

11 September – 24 October 2015

This exhibition presented a selection of new works by Katherine artist Manuel Pamkal, showing his delicate and precise style of rarrk, the parallel lines and cross hatching which feature heavily in Indigenous art from the Arnhem and Katherine regions. This is Manuel's second solo exhibition in the K space at Godinyamayin, following on from his successful *Dalabon Art* exhibition in 2013.



Up on the Blade

12 March – 30 April 2016

Up on the Blade was a selection of photographs highlighting the remote campdrafting lifestyle by local artist Helen Foster. Helen was raised in a farming family and is an Agronomy Consultant and professional action photographer. Having lived in the Kimberley and Top End for most of her life, Helen is passionate about rural industries, lifestyles and landscapes.

Performing Arts program



K-town's Dance Massive 1/07/2015

Produced as part of Territory Day 2015, this large-scale dance event at the Katherine Showgrounds celebrated life in the Territory with a number of dance performances by local people, led by independent artist Bec Reid and Indigenous Hip Hop Projects.

Audience: 2,200



A Night With Melbourne City Ballet 30/07/2015

Melbourne City Ballet stunned the huge crowd with a performance showcasing their neoclassical ballet repertoire, featuring four of their artists.

Audience: 360



Isaac Lomman – Comedy Hypnosis REWIRE! 4/07/2015

This was Isaac's second visit to Katherine with his comedy hypnosis show, making stars out of volunteers in the audience using the power of their own imaginations.

Audience: 50



Circa – 46 Circus Acts in 45 Minutes 27/08/2015

Brisbane-based contemporary circus company Circa brought their fast, energetic and family friendly show to an enthralled and captivated audience.

Audience: 230



Head Full of Love 13/09/2015

A theatre performance from Queensland Theatre Company about the friendship between two women during the Alice Springs Beanie Festival, which was accompanied by an exhibition featuring a small selection of beanies from the festival. Written by Alana Valentine and directed by Wesley Enoch.

Audience: 70



Aboriginal Comedy Allstars 19/03/2016

A hilarious night of stand up comedy by four well-known Indigenous comedians, Kevin Kropinyeri, Shiralee Hood, Matt Ford and Dane Simpson, performed in Katherine for the first time.

Audience: 144



Cypher 18/09/2015

Four international b*boys took to the round 'cypher' to deliver two raw, high energy dance performances that gave a glimpse into hip hop's most important ritual. Directed by Nick Power.

Audience: 80 (day) 70 (night)



Sugarland 16/04/2016

Australian Theatre for Young People brought their hit production *Sugarland* to Katherine for the second time (last performed August 2014) before a national tour. A haunting play based on real-life events in Katherine and the issues around growing up in remote Australia. Written by Rachael Copes and Wayne Blair and directed by David Page and Fraser Corfield.

Audience: 273



Circa – Beyond 10/06/2016

The second offering from Brisbane’s Circa this year was a sumptuous blend of dynamic circus acts, cheeky feats of strength and multiple giant bunny heads set to a bewitching soundtrack.

Audience: 152



Bilarni 25/06/2016

Written and performed by Jan “Yarn” Wositzky, *Bilarni* told the story of the great yarn spinner W.E. (Bill) Harney, father of local Wardaman elder and GYRACC Board Member Yidumduma Bill Harney. Directed by Paul Hampton.

Audience: 47



Katherine Beat 2016 ‘Riversong’

17/06/2016

Presented by NT Music School, *Katherine Beat 2016 ‘Riversong’* was a showcase of creative talent from primary and secondary aged students of Katherine and the surrounding remote communities. Comprising music woven together with storytelling, dance and drama, and performed on the amphitheatre and inside the Centre.

Artistic Director: Kerry Digby.

Audience: 860 (including 210 performers)

Workshop and education program



Learning to Listen in the Land of the Lightning People

Saturday 15 August 2015

The Top End is one of the last places on Earth where rock paintings and engravings are still a vital part of living cultures, and this knowledge gives unique insights into Indigenous rock art everywhere.

Researcher David Lee presented a public lecture on the work undertaken over the last ten years with Yidumduma Bill Harney; documenting rock art sites and Bill's extensive knowledge.



Cypher

Nick Power, Artistic Director, Cypher, gave a hip-hop workshop attended by close to 100 Katherine school students. Organised by Katherine Regional Arts and presented at Godinymayin.



What was God doing for 60,000 years?

Saturday 17 October 2015

Jack Egan, Katherine teacher and theological researcher, presented a public lecture exploring the complexity of Aboriginal religion and its similarity to other world religions and what this means in a modern context.



Wardaman Rock Art Tour with Yidumduma Bill Harney

Saturday 7 May 2016 to
Monday 9 May 2016

Yidumduma Bill Harney led a tour of important rock art sites in remote Wardaman country (southwest of Katherine).

Publicity and marketing

Strategic communications continue to be a key focus of the Centre's operations.

Our key objectives are to increase visitation and improve the profile of the Centre to a local, national and international audience.

We have continued to advertise events through print media, e-bulletin and our website, and have maintained a great working relationship with local newspaper the *Katherine Times*. Additional to paid advertising, we were featured 37 times over the last year and this included full-page spreads with photographs and a number of front-page articles. Territory Day 2015 and *K-town's Dance Massive* saw four articles printed in the *Katherine Times*; a front-page article and editorial on 1 July and two separate galleries of images taken at the event. This local exposure certainly would have contributed to the 'buzz' surrounding the event, which saw an estimated 2,200 people gathered at the Katherine Showgrounds to watch the performance.

We have implemented a targeted approach to social media, as we identified that the sharing of posts and images, and tagging friends and family on Facebook is a key way that the Katherine population communicates about events in town. Melbourne City Ballet's performance *A Night with Melbourne City Ballet* on 30 July was a huge

hit on Facebook, with a reach of close to 3,200 people, 310 post clicks and 196 reactions ('likes'), shares and comments. Similarly, the film produced for the *Big Rivers: West to East* exhibition by curator Clare Armitage and filmmakers Harry Sanna and Charles Taperell gained a huge following on social media with a reach of almost 2,100 people, 118 post clicks and 67 reactions. The film was also shared by the art centres involved and broadcast on YouTube, which continued to increase the reach and interaction across social media.

This year we started 'boosting' posts on Facebook, particularly posts about upcoming events, to increase awareness of events and ticket sales. This is a very cost effective way of advertising and identifying target groups, and has resulted in a higher reach and interaction from the community with boosted posts.

The exhibition of work by local Wardaman elder and GYRACC Board Member *Yidumduma Bill Harney: Bush Professor* has lifted the profile of the Centre due to a targeted marketing campaign and exposure in the *Katherine Times*, *NT News*, *Off The Leash* and *Artlink* publications. This exhibition's national tour begins in September 2016, which will further increase the Centre's profile in the national visual arts landscape in coming years.



Feedback

'Great venue'

Reviewed 6 July 2015

A beaut place to showcase many different types of events. Have attended a few including dance and comedy acts.

Reviewed 19 August 2015

Providing a lovely venue for some great entertainment acts visiting Katherine. Staff are always very helpful.

K-town's Dance Massive

'That was extraordinary – I've never seen so many people at Territory Day'

Audience member⁴

'Congratulations it was a triumph'

Audience member

'That was by far the best Territory Day event Katherine has ever had'

Fay Miller, Mayor, Katherine

'That (K-town's Dance Massive) has done more to build social cohesion than any other event we have ever had'

Audience member

⁴ Based on previous attendance we were expecting a maximum of 800 people

'I had no idea what I was getting myself into but it was one of the most amazing things I have ever done in my life'

Participant

'Please can we do it again'

Audience member

Yidumduma Bill Harney: Bush Professor

'Very informative on culture'

'So different – wonderful stories'

Comments from the Visitor's Book

'Beautiful as always'

Jan Milner: mid-career survey, 26 November 2015

'Truly beautiful work. Amazing accompanying film too! Thank you'

Big Rivers: West to East, 22 March 2016



Financial report

Katherine Regional Cultural Precinct Ltd A.B.N. 83 151 148 104

Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income

for the year ended 30 June 2016

	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$
Income			
Revenue	3	859,002.38	951,225.54
Other income	3	–	(158.00)
		859,002.38	951,067.54
Changes in inventories of finished goods and work in progress		2,373.83	–
Raw materials and consumables used		(27,321.98)	(24,185.35)
Expenditure			
Accountancy expenses		(26,407.51)	(10,281.46)
Advertising expenses		(14,685.39)	(28,314.88)
Auditor's remuneration	4	(19,360.00)	(6,474.00)
Depreciation and amortisation expenses		(53,210.99)	(51,878.00)
Employee benefits expenses		(267,757.83)	(357,880.34)
Freight and cartage		(14,191.12)	(2,912.77)
Lease expenses		–	(2,508.33)
Other expenses		(459,955.12)	(454,957.08)
		(21,513.73)	11,675.33
(Loss) Profit for the year	5	(21,513.73)	11,675.33
Retained earnings at the beginning of the financial year		220,121.87	149,543.22
Transfer to reserves		(1,999.09)	(10,904.95)
Transfer from reserves		52,967.00	69,808.27
Profit		249,576.05	220,121.87

For notes for these financial statements see full signed audit: Appendix 1

Statement of financial position

as at 30 June 2016

	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	6	607,588.47	418,350.04
Trade and other receivables	7	46,694.42	36,928.03
Inventories	8	7,373.83	5,000.00
Other current assets	9	1,751.69	–
Total current assets		663,408.41	460,278.07
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	10	263,766.50	311,263.99
Total non-current assets		263,766.50	311,263.99
Total assets		927,174.91	771,542.06
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	11	104,374.34	71,917.21
Borrowings	12	–	19,213.91
Other current liabilities	13	266,787.43	102,884.07
Total current liabilities		371,161.77	194,015.19
Total liabilities		371,161.77	194,015.19
Net assets		556,013.14	577,526.87
Equity			
Reserves	14	306,437.09	357,405.00
Retained earnings	15	249,576.05	220,121.87
Total equity		556,013.14	577,526.87

For notes for these financial statements see full signed audit: Appendix 1

Statement of changes in equity

for the year ended 30 June 2016

	Note	Retained earnings \$	Building & equipment depreciation reserve \$	Building maintenance fund \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 July 2014		149,543			149,543
Opening balance for the year			336,308	80,000	416,308
Transfer to reserve	14		10,905	–	10,905
Other comprehensive income – movement in reserves	14		(69,808)	–	(69,808)
Profit attributable to the members		11,675			11,675
Transfer to reserves		(10,905)			(10,905)
Transfer from reserves		69,808			69,808
Balance at 30 June 2015		220,122	277,405	80,000	577,527
Profit attributable to the members		(21,514)			(21,514)
Transfer to reserve	14		1,999	–	1,999
Other comprehensive income – movement in reserves	14		(52,967)	–	(52,967)
Transfer to reserves		(1,999)			(1,999)
Transfer from reserves		52,967			52,967
Balance at 30 June 2016		249,576	226,437	80,000	556,013

For notes for these financial statements see full signed audit: Appendix 1

Statement of cash flows

for the year ended 30 June 2016

	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Employment expenses		(269,174.75)	(368,340.08)
Receipts from sales, venue and activities		105,056.83	110,298.94
Interest received		3,140.72	5,924.21
Receipts from government and other grants		869,563.09	803,868.27
General administration expenses and direct expenses		(494,420.04)	(455,894.17)
Net cash provided by operating activities	16	214,165.85	95,857.17
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments for plant and equipment		(5,713.51)	(13,900.40)
Net cash used in investing activities		(5,713.51)	(13,900.40)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Repayment of borrowings		(19,213.91)	–
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities		(19,213.91)	–
Net increase in cash held		189,238.43	81,956.77
Cash at beginning of financial year		418,350.04	336,393.27
Cash at end of financial year	6	607,588.47	418,350.04

For notes for these financial statements see full signed audit: Appendix 1

Profit and loss statement

for the year ended 30 June 2016

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Income		
Bar Sales	4,680.11	6,130.23
Box Office	35,682.61	19,387.98
Venue Hire	18,812.57	28,547.67
Workshops & Public Program	1,346.36	104.55
	60,521.65	54,170.43
Other income		
Interest Received	3,140.72	5,924.21
Donations	189.54	516.81
Recoveries	841.67	14,315.50
Other Revenue	–	13,260.10
Grants Expended		
Arts NT, Operational Funding	500,000.00	522,991.00
Arts NT, Travel Grants	1,363.64	3,600.00
Arts NT, Chan Exhibition 2	–	15,603.89
Arts NT, Shadow King	–	30,000.00
Arts NT, WOW Festival	–	10,000.00
Arts NT, Regional Arts Fund	–	17,200.00
Katherine Town Council, Operating Costs	30,000.00	30,000.00
Katherine Town Council, Fit Out Costs	1,999.09	10,904.95
Katherine Town Council, Katherine Prize Funding	17,000.00	16,363.64
Katherine Town Council, WOW Funding	–	5,000.00
Katherine Town Council, Festival of the Dry	20,000.00	20,000.00

For notes for these financial statements see full signed audit: Appendix 1

Profit and loss statement (continued)

for the year ended 30 June 2016

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
NT Dept of the Chief Minister, Territory Day Celebration	96,418.84	34,325.07
DFACS Office of Women's Advancement, WOW Festival	–	4,545.45
Office for Women's Policy, WOW Festival	543.78	–
Australia Council, Bill Harney Touring Exhibition	39,447.33	11,612.67
Australia Council, Curatorial Fellowship	10,979.68	41,020.32
Australia Council, Mad Hatters Parade	–	25,500.00
KRAHRS, NAIDOC Ball	2,000.00	–
Foundation for Remote & Regional Renewal, WOW Festival	–	9,090.91
Defence Community Organisation, K-Town's Dance Massive	4,545.45	5,408.18
NT Friendship & Support, Territory Day	10,000.00	–
Gordon Darling Foundation, Bill Harney Exhibition	7,000.00	–
	741,297.81	813,166.08
Loss on Sale of Non-current Assets	–	(158.00)
Gross profit from trading	28,062.84	25,687.06
	773,532.58	872,711.76
	834,054.23	926,882.19

For notes for these financial statements see full signed audit: Appendix 1

Profit and loss statement (continued)

for the year ended 30 June 2016

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Expenses		
Accounting & Bookkeeping Services	26,407.51	10,281.46
Advertising, Publicity, Promotions & Marketing	14,685.39	28,314.88
Artist & Performer Fees	101,348.42	–
Auditor's Remuneration	19,360.00	6,474.00
Bank Charges	947.76	677.03
Bar Expenses	3,998.62	4,264.25
Catering	2,389.86	–
Cleaning & Waste Disposal	28,291.90	25,469.56
Computer & IT Expenses	2,396.60	4,769.20
Consultancy Fees	4,532.95	4,927.95
Contractor Payments	12,073.30	62,368.92
Depreciation	53,210.99	51,878.00
Documentation	–	4,697.25
Doubtful Debts	4,957.00	13,700.00
Electricity	41,297.30	36,985.78
Email, Internet & Website	150.00	950.00
Exhibition Costs	31,015.74	86,348.77
Fees & Permits	2,533.82	5,967.52
Freight & Cartage	14,191.12	2,912.77
Gallery Materials	3,055.73	3,458.48
Hire of Plant & Equipment	(580.18)	5,384.99
Holiday Pay & Personal Leave, Movement in Provision	2,182.68	1,242.44
Insurance	20,455.79	27,170.14
Landscaping & Grounds	17,974.00	14,872.11
Leasing Charges	–	2,508.33
Legal Costs	200.91	640.91

For notes for these financial statements see full signed audit: Appendix 1

Profit and loss statement (continued)

for the year ended 30 June 2016

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Meeting Expenses	352.51	479.00
Motor Vehicle Expenses	838.10	1,728.64
Prior Period Expenses	–	749.40
Printing & Stationery	27,064.04	6,796.80
Prize Money	7,000.00	7,331.45
Public Program	44,538.73	–
Purchases of Minor Assets & Replacements	3,249.09	6,637.32
Rates & Taxes	21,564.79	23,796.29
Repairs & Maintenance	19,468.48	17,601.55
Royalties	–	794.24
Security Costs	9,354.67	2,654.55
Seminars, Workshops & Conferences	19,604.78	16,436.86
Signwriting	880.45	1,249.10
Staff Amenities	396.10	585.47
Staff Recruitment & Relocation	944.77	861.88
Staff Training	954.97	335.55
Subscriptions	945.45	920.91
Sundry Expenses	866.06	1,722.94
Superannuation Contributions	22,677.41	31,386.86
Telephone	6,772.62	6,164.58
Travelling Expenses	10,468.07	49,679.52
Unidentified Transactions	–	300.00
Vandalism	630.50	–
Venue Hire Expenses	5,112.70	1,660.19
Wages	241,942.77	324,915.49
Workers' Compensation Insurance	2,863.69	4,153.53
	855,567.96	915,206.86
(Loss) Profit before income tax	(21,513.73)	11,675.33

For notes for these financial statements see full signed audit: Appendix 1



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