



SHARING STORIES
FOUNDATION



ANNUAL REVIEW
2024-2025



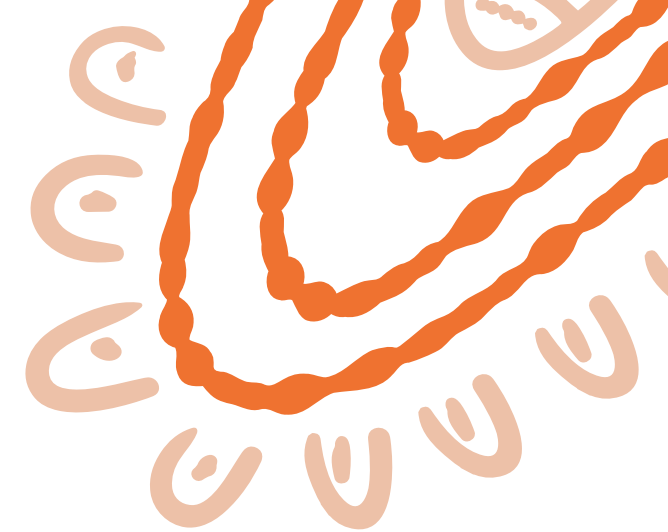
**SHARINGSTORIES FOUNDATION ACKNOWLEDGES THE
TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE MANY LANDS ON
WHICH WE LIVE, WORK AND CREATE.**

We pay deep respect to Elders past and present, and to the knowledge systems, stories, and languages that have been shared across generations. We recognise the sovereignty of First Nations Peoples and honour the enduring strength, ingenuity and custodianship of Country that continues to this day.

SharingStories Foundation is privileged to work in close collaboration with communities, custodians, artists and storytellers and young people across this continent. These partnerships are at the heart of our work. They inform and guide our approach to arts, education and digital media.

We are committed to listening, learning and walking together with respect and care, in support of intergenerational cultural exchange and the celebrating the diversity of First Nations voices.

**ALWAYS WAS,
ALWAYS WILL BE.**



SHARINGSTORIES FOUNDATION

SharingStories Foundation is a not-for-profit art organisation led by a First Nations CEO and governed by a Board with majority First Nations representation.

Through our unique, innovative, and community-led approach, we support the goals and aspirations of First Nations communities.

OUR VISION

Strong, connected First Nations young people and communities across this continent, and all Australians caring for culture and Country.

OUR MISSION

SharingStories Foundation serves as a culturally safe partner delivering community driven media arts initiatives that build capacity for cultural continuity, production and distribution of rich outcomes.

Tammy Choolburra, Warrgamay Traditional Owner, 2024. Photograph by Cian Sanders.



CHAIR REPORT

GINA MILGATE



On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am proud to present this reflection on another year for SharingStories Foundation. In 2025, SharingStories Foundation continued to evolve and grow, delivering impactful work, grounded in community leadership and cultural knowledge. It has been a year defined by strong partnerships, creative collaboration, and meaningful contributions to education and cultural preservation across the nation.

The cultural authority and knowledges so generously shared by our community partners are at the centre of our work. It is this foundation that ensures our projects remain respectful, authentic, and community-led. The Board acknowledges and honours the trust placed in us by these communities, and we remain deeply committed to upholding that trust in everything we do.

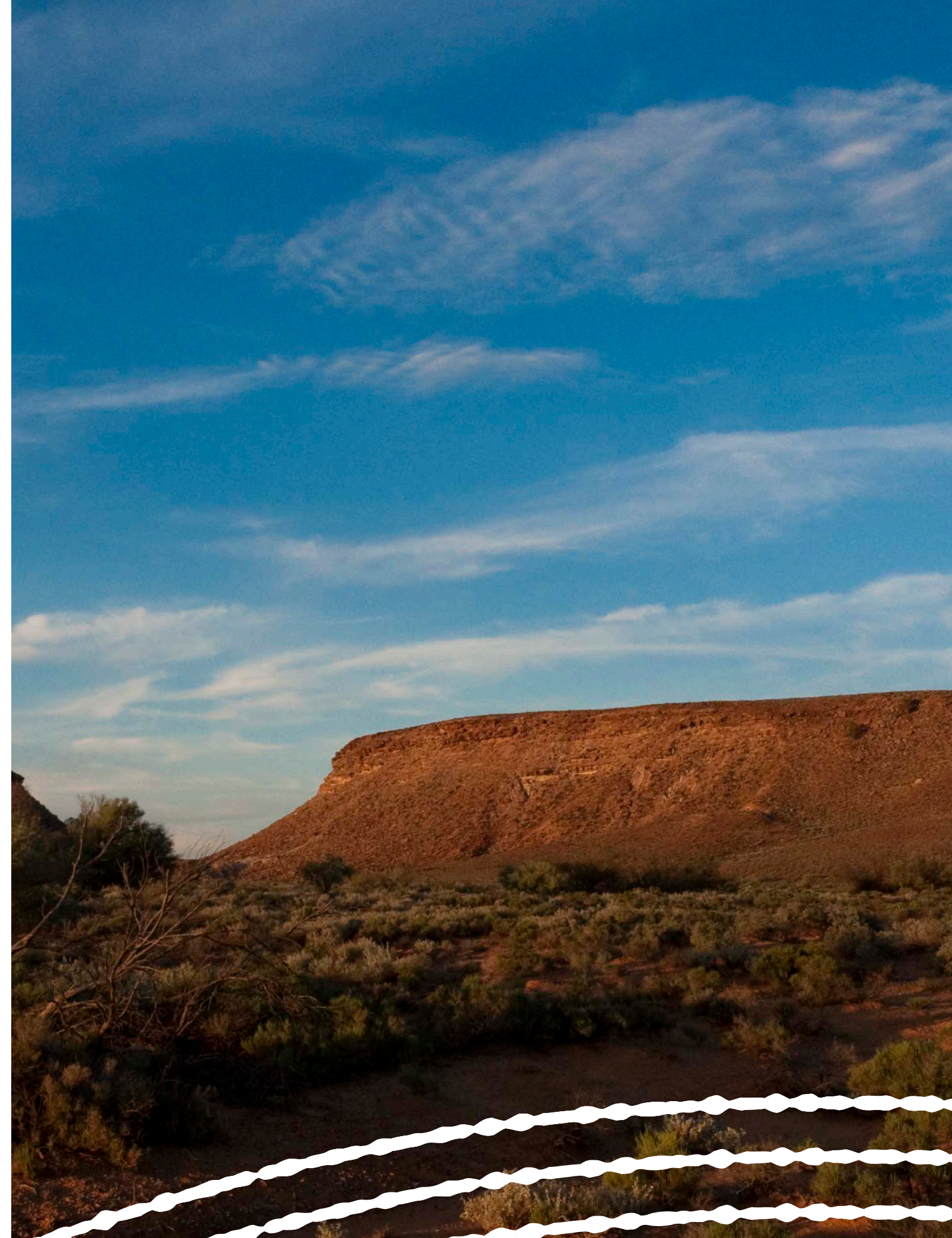
One of the year's most significant acknowledgements came as a national accolade: being named a finalist in the 2025 NAIDOC Awards. This recognition affirms the integrity of the Foundation's work and

the strength of our relationships across diverse regions and language groups. Under the steady and inspiring leadership of CEO Sharon Williams and her dedicated team, the Foundation has delivered a year of strategic advancement. New partnerships have been established, long-standing collaborations have deepened, and the development of co-created educational resources has continued to enrich classrooms and community spaces.

The Board would like to thank the supporters, funders, and partners who make this work possible. Your ongoing investment enables us to innovate while staying grounded in our values. Through your support, SharingStories continues to support communities protect, practise, and share their cultural heritage on their terms.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you for walking alongside us on this journey. We look forward to continuing this work as we honour the strength, diversity, and continuity of the world's oldest living culture.

Arkaroo, Adnyamathanha Country, 2021. Photograph by Liz Thompson.





CEO REPORT

SHARON WILLIAMS



As I reflect on my first full year as CEO of SharingStories Foundation, I'd like to acknowledge the unwavering commitment of our community partners. They so generously share their cultural knowledge, making SharingStories a robust and trusted organisation.

I am also incredibly grateful to work alongside such a dedicated team and stakeholders; your collective efforts are truly the driving force behind our success.

This past year has been a period of significant expansion for SharingStories. We ventured beyond our traditional focus on creative arts and education into fee-for-service projects. A notable achievement was our collaboration with the Wet Tropics Management Authority and the Rainforest Aboriginal Peoples –

the Traditional Custodians of the Wet Tropics of Queensland World Heritage Area – to create the Rainforest People Country Culture interactive map.

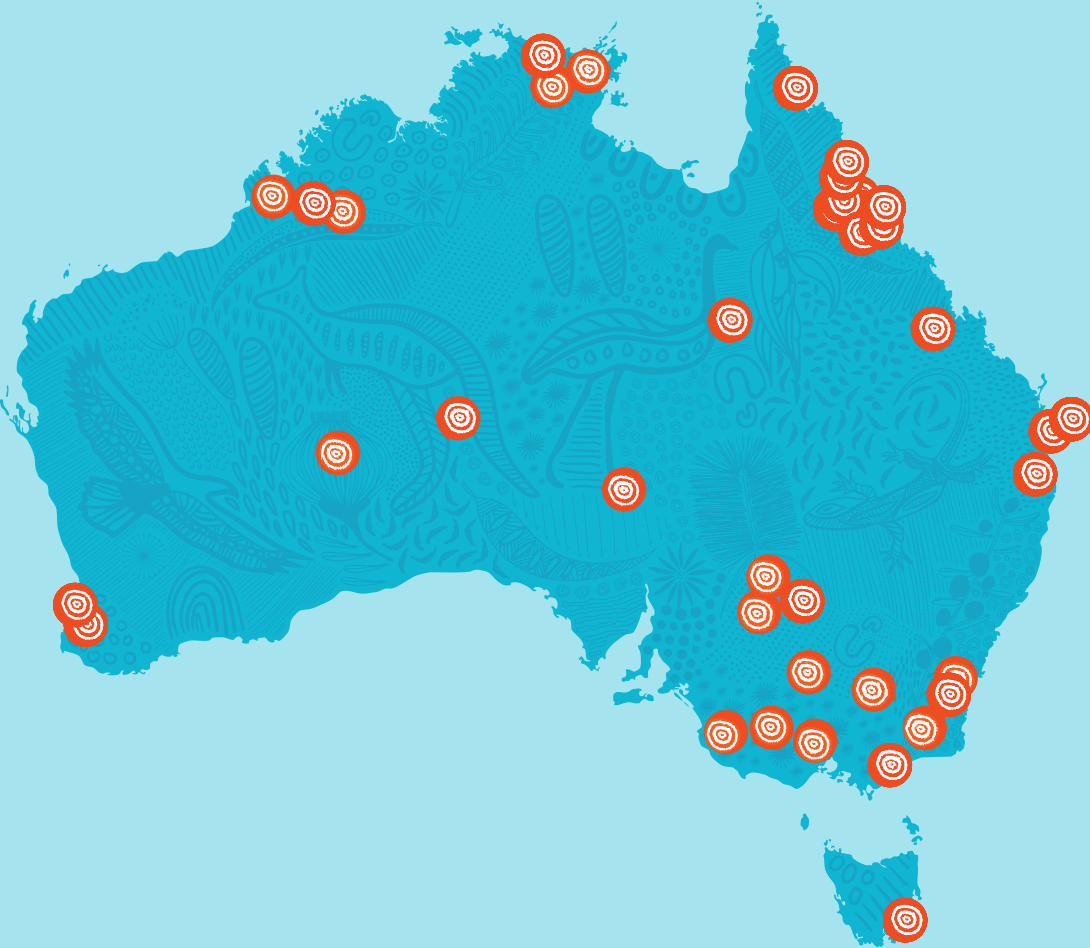
Under the guidance of the SharingStories Board and the diligent efforts of our team, we have been privileged to receive and been entrusted with cultural knowledge from a greater number of Traditional Custodians this year than ever before.

Looking ahead to 2026 our focus remains on cultivating this trust as we continue to collaborate with First Nations partners, both established and new. We approach this journey with considerable enthusiasm and firmly believe that, with your continued support, SharingStories' greatest achievements are still to come.

Patrick, Purnululu School, 2023. Photograph by Michael Torres.



OUR PARTNER COMMUNITIES



- Adnyamathanha
 - Amanbidji
 - Anangu
 - Bangerang
 - Barkandji/Paakantji
 - Buluwai
 - Bundjalung
 - Dulabed Malanbarra
 - Yidinji
 - Dunghutti
 - Garthallala
- Ghungalu
 - Gija
 - Gimuy
 - Girramay
 - Giringun
 - Gugu Badhun
 - Gunaikurnai
 - Gunditjmara
 - Gunggandji
 - Mandingalbaw Yidjnji
 - Jaara
- Jirrbal
 - Kalkarindji
 - Kimberley Region
 - Liya Dhälinymirr
 - Ndjebbana
 - Ngaanayatjarra
 - Ngiyampaa
 - Noongar/Nyoongar
 - Nyikina-Mangala
 - Pitta Pitta
 - Quandamooka
- Trowenna
 - Umpila
 - Wägilak
 - Wamba-Wamba
 - Warrgamay
 - Wurundjeri/Woi Wurrung
 - Yirrganydji
 - Yirrkalä
 - Yuin

OUR YEAR IN NUMBERS

Community Engagement

1134
engagements with community members

34
First Nations communities involved

389
engagements with Custodians/Elders

712
young people receiving knowledge

658
hours of cultural production

33
hours of language learning and teaching

12
members of SharingStories team

45%
First Nations staff

57
Delivery Partners

Sharing Numbers

194,689
reach through instagram & facebook

338,636
Linkedin Impressions

30,000
Website Users

520,554
in-person exhibition visitors

6,100
users of online books, discoverymaps, panels and deep maps users

2,100
downloads of Mungo Stories: Walk Together app

5,000
Jajoo Warrgnara users of community content

2,500
vimeo views

66,000
Jajoo Warrngara page views



ADNYAMATHANHA

Same Like Yesterday

In 2025 we were one of only five national organisations to receive funding from Visions of Australia to tour the 'Same Like Yesterday: Virkuthalypila and Other Stories From Our Country' production with the Adnyamathanha artists and producers.

The 30-minute immersive projection-installation offers an unforgettable journey through Adnyamathanha Country, during which six senior Adnyamathanha women and two young women travel through Ilkura (the Flinders Ranges) in the footsteps of Virkuthalypila, the Two Women from the Yura Muda (Dreamtime).

'Same Like Yesterday' tour logistics are well underway with the show opening on Adnyamathanha Country in Leigh Creek, then travelling to Lea Memorial and Middleback Theatres in Port Augusta and Whyalla, then onto Riverside Theater and the Museum of Contemporary Art in New South Wales. Next year, the show will be presented at venues in the Northern Territory. We have been busy working with

Adnyamathanha artists and Custodians on the planning of the tour, as well as creation of a comprehensive catalogue that will be available at venues.

In recent months, SharingStories has worked with the Adnyamathanha Custodians involved to create a comprehensive set of teacher resources that support pre and post show learning about Adnyamathanha culture and Country in relation to the work. These resources are supported by an online map housing the story, animations, art work and photography in a dynamic interactive environment.

We have been working with our delivery partners to design a series of public programs with a strong focus on education, alongside Q&A sessions with artists and curated spaces and experiences that extend beyond the installation itself.

Touring a large-scale creative work is a new initiative for the organisation, and we're excited to be collaborating with such outstanding partners on this venture.

Shaunaya, Same Like Yesterday: Virkuthalypila and Other Stories from Our Country, 2019.



“One of the best moments for me was being out on Country with my family, listening to stories from Elders and learning about the land we come from. It made me feel proud and more connected than ever to my culture. Seeing my younger cousins learning too made me realise how important these workshops are for the next generation. It wasn’t just about learning — it was about healing, connecting, and feeling strong in who we are.

- Bangerang Mentee



BANGERANG

Mentorship and Digital Development

In 2024-2025, SharingStories Foundation collaborated with the Bangerang Community and young people on the Bangerang Cultural Mentorship Program as well as developing the Bangerang Aboriginal Corporation website.

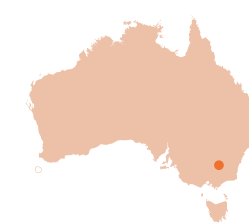
The Bangerang Cultural Mentorship Program supported the creation of intergenerational storytelling, language sharing, and cultural content for their community-owned archive. Young people took part in workshops on cultural heritage and conservation, language, and cultural burning and fire management. They also participated in creative projects including working with shields and possum-skin cloaks. Bangerang Custodians and mentors, including Roland Atkinson, Anne Atkinson and Casey Atkinson, guided

these sessions. These workshops allowed young participants to develop skills while strengthening their cultural identity and connection to Country.

The development of the Bangerang Aboriginal Corporation website was another key collaboration with SharingStories Foundation. The website provides a digital platform to share the history and timeline of the Bangerang community and offers pathways for new partnerships, funding opportunities, and employment in cultural heritage work. It is an accessible space for people to learn about the Bangerang community, connect with cultural knowledge, and engage with the corporation’s ongoing programs and initiatives.

Cultural Mentorship Weekend, Bangerang, 2025. Images courtesy of the Bangerang Aboriginal Corporation.





BANGERANG

School Community Partnership

The Victorian School–Community Partnership Project celebrates a dynamic collaboration between schools, First Nations Custodians, and key education partners, including Victorian Aboriginal Education Association Incorporated (VAEAI) and the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL).

The project aimed to strengthen relationships between First Nations communities and schools, and resulted in the co-creation of rich, locally grounded curriculum resources and cultural protocols. These are now available on our education platform, Jajoo Warrngara: The Culture Classroom.

Over three years, the project progressed through three strategic phases: conducting environmental scans, collaboratively developing educational resources, and capturing best practices. Schools and

Custodians worked side by side to design materials that reflected local stories, perspectives, and cultural knowledge. Teachers increased their confidence and capacity to embed First Nations content in classrooms in respectful and meaningful ways.

Our evaluation findings highlighted strong outcomes for all those involved. Teachers reported increased confidence in sharing First Nations content, as well as a deeper understanding of how to build respectful partnerships.

The Victorian School–Community Partnership Project exemplifies how collaborative, community-led approaches enrich learning, foster inclusion, and strengthen cultural identity. It showcases the power of place-based education and respectful partnerships to create lasting impact across schools and communities in Victoria.

Bangerang School Partnership Workshop, 2018. Photograph by Glen Maw.



BARKANDJI/PAAKANTYI, MUTTHI MUTTHI AND NGIYAMPAA Mungo Stories: Walk Together

From July 1 until World Tourism Day on September 27, we executed a digital marketing and publicity campaign to promote the cultural tourism app, Mungo Stories: Walk Together and encourage visitors to download the app.

Working closely with Willandra Lakes Region World Heritage Aboriginal Advisory Group, NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service and travel publicist, Sarah Shields, the campaign was a huge success!

We officially launched Mungo Stories: Walk Together on August 1 with a Community Celebration at Mungo with the three tribal groups, the Barkandji/Paakantyi, Mutthi Mutthi, and Ngiyampaa communities. On September 1 we sent out the media release and press kit and kicked off our social media campaign.

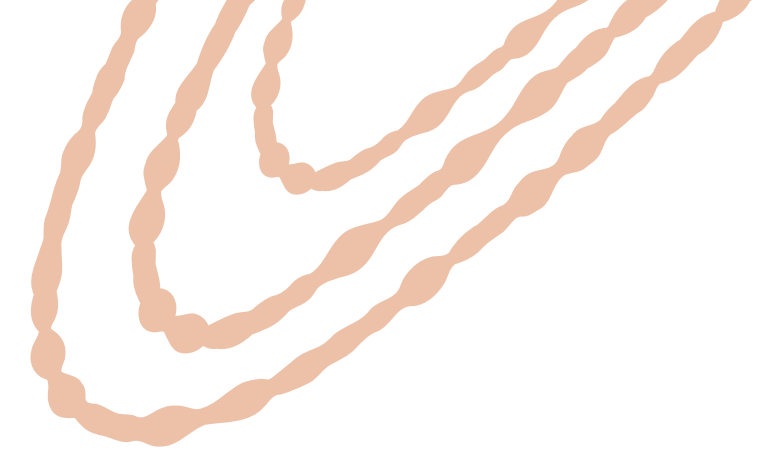
Barkandji-Paakantyi, Mutthi Mutthi, and Ngiyampaa Custodians at Mungo National Park for the community launch of the Mungo Stories: Walk Together App, 2024. Photographs by Van Sowerwine.

We had fantastic pick up from journalists with 10 pieces of coverage, including exclusives with Escape Magazine for total views of 43,000 and a story in Qantas inflight magazine delivered to their 2.8 million passengers in February.

During the 12-week campaign, we reached over 50,000 people across our social channels, resulting in more than 2000 downloads of the app on Country and directing 59 people to the Discovery Aboriginal Ranger Tours.

Interest in the Mungo National Park and First Nations cultural tourism has increased significantly over the past few years. We look forward to monitoring the success and usage of the app over the next 12 months and repurposing the technology with other community partners.





BULUWAI, GIRRAMAY, GUGU BADHUN, GUNGGANDJI, GUNGGANDJI- MANDINGALBAY YIDINIJI, JIRRBAL, WARRGAMAY, YIRRGANYDJI



Rainforest People Country Culture Interactive Map

In the second half of 2024, the Rainforest People Country Culture interactive map was created in collaboration with the Wet Tropics Management Authority (WTMA) and Rainforest Aboriginal groups of the Wet Tropics.

Ten beautifully crafted cultural videos were shot and edited specifically for this project, which captures authentic voices of Rainforest Aboriginal Peoples.

The interactive map website highlights the diversity of First Nations cultures in the

Wet Tropics by allowing viewers to learn more about each group and experience their stories through film. During this project, we engaged with eight tribal groups to develop community profiles and videos representing the voices of the Rainforest Peoples of the Wet Tropics.

In November, WTMA hosted a community celebration for the launch of the website. It was a wonderful opportunity for all the communities to come together to watch the films and celebrate the completion of the first stage of the project.

(Top) Traditional Owners, Community Celebration and Launch, Wet Tropics, 2024. Photograph by Cian Sanders;
(Bottom) Gunggandji-Mandingalbay Yidinji Rangers, Wet Tropics, 2024. Photograph by Cian Sanders.

"I feel like it's compulsory to pass our stories and culture to the next generation. Some young people adapt and some have lost their identity and culture."

- Dunghutti Custodian



DUNGHUTTI

Strong in Self; Strong in Culture

In early 2025, SharingStories Foundation travelled to Dunghutti Country on the NSW coast to deliver a multi-stage project in partnership with Macleay Vocational College (MVC) and Dunghutti Elders and Custodians.

By collaborating with Elders and fostering the creative confidence of young people through digital media skills, the project will produce five powerful truth-telling films and a suite of culturally aligned educational resources for our education platform, Jajoo Warrngara: The Culture Classroom.

Several professional films are currently being produced with the Dunghutti Elders, including Auntie Dee Davis, Uncle Barry Vale, and Auntie Vicki Mosely-Taylor. Their stories explore themes such as their resilience, connection to Country, spirituality, and the history of Kempsey, including life on the missions. These films,

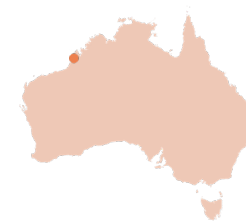
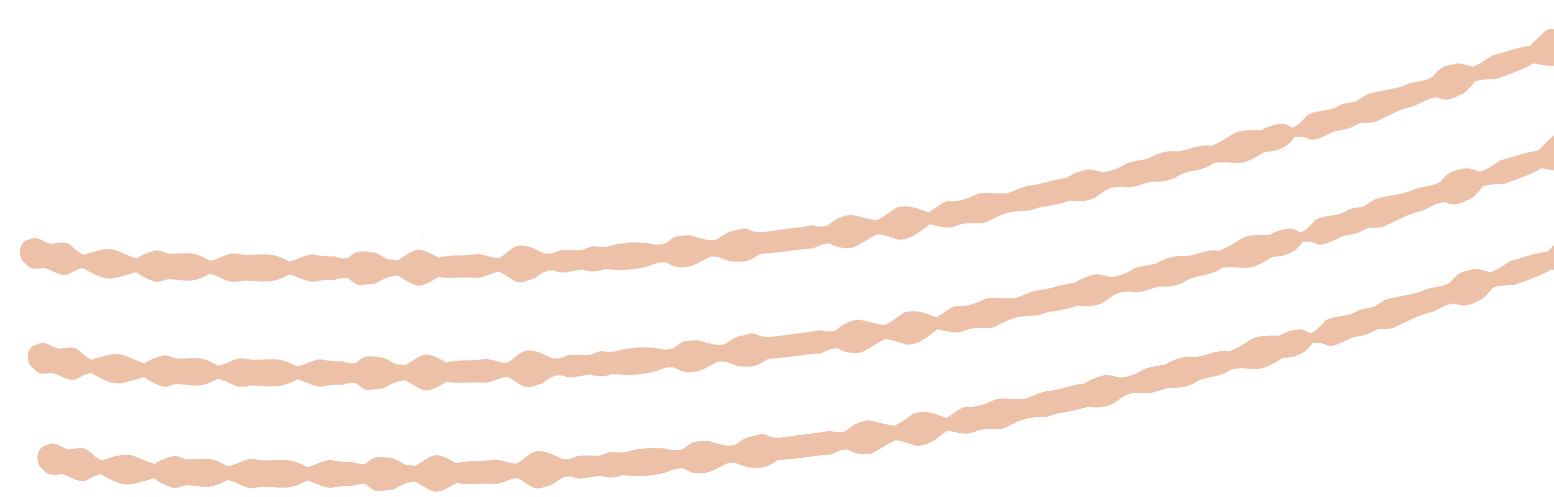
alongside the educational resources, will be shared with the school and made publicly available on our education platform, Jajoo Warrngara: The Culture Classroom.

Over 2 five-day visits, students participated in hands-on workshops focused on iPad filming, audio recording, storyboarding and editing. Dunghutti and Bundjalung photographer Kris Cook joined the project alongside the SharingStories team. The workshops encouraged students to find and share their voice through film, while engaging with cultural stories in respectful and creative ways.

Further visits are planned in late 2025 to support educational resource development, post-production, celebrate the students' work, and bring community together for a screening event.

(Top) Auntie Denise Davis, Dunghutti, 2025. Photograph by Kris Cook; (Bottom) Uncle Barry Vale, Dunghutti, 2025. Photograph by Cian Sanders.





KIMBERLEY REGION

Regional Media Mentorship

In 2025, SharingStories Foundation continued our ongoing project with the Regional Media Mentorship initiative in Western Australia, led by acclaimed independent filmmaker and photographer Michael Jalaru Torres.

The program continues to support the next generation of regional First Nations storytellers by building digital media skills through intensive on-Country training and working with Michael to explore photography, cinematography, drone operation, and editing. The mentorship fostered a collaborative, culturally grounded learning environment where young people developed confidence and skills through hands-on practice and storytelling rooted in community and Country.

Participants participated in two intensive weekends of creative development as part of the mentorship. The first involved travelling to Perth for workshops alongside the AFL Media team during the AFL Indigenous All Stars Weekend. They had the

opportunity to learn from industry professionals in a high-energy media environment and gained firsthand experience in event documentation, sports photography, and commercial video production.

The second intensive saw participants travel to Brisbane to meet with Sharing Stories Foundation's internal team and connect with professionals from the arts, design, and street photography sectors. This trip included workshops on printing and image-making and sessions with Indigenous curators and galleries working in the commercial and public arts space.

This project continues with one of the mentees, Halina Kolatowicz, transforming from mentee, to supported mentor with her own photography workshop in Broome for young First Nations women with a community exhibition of photographs from the workshop.

(Top Left) Halina Kolatowicz, AFL All Stars Photography Workshop, Boorloo/Perth, 2025; (Top Right) AFL Indigenous All Stars Round, Boorloo/Perth, 2025. Photograph by Halina Kolatowicz; (Bottom) Intensive Mentorship Weekend, Boorloo/Perth, 2025. Photograph by Michael Torres.



'The importance of language and place names is an essential opportunity for the retention and translation of Aboriginal geographical place names.'

In the Noongar Boodjar, there are many place names of Noongar origins: Mandurah, Quairading, Mandogalup. They are really important because it helps to connect people to Country, to knowledge and to language. So when you go around all of Aboriginal Australia, you'll see the many place names in, on and around the country."

- Dr Len Collard, Noongar Custodian



NOONGAR/NYOONGAR Welcome to Country

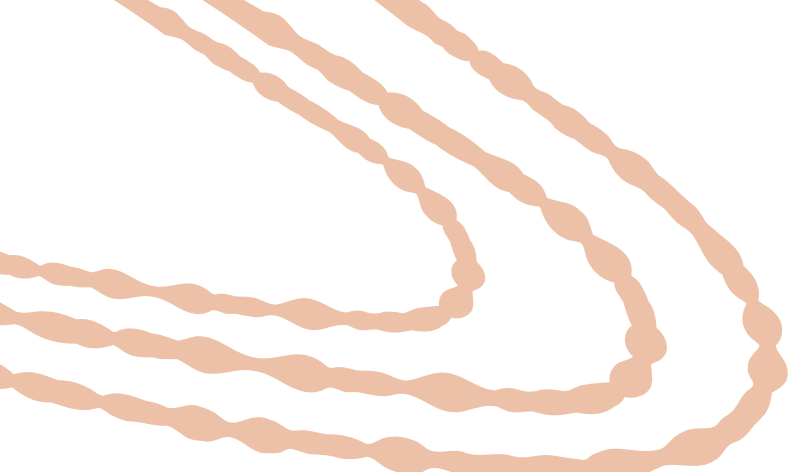
Throughout 2025, SharingStories Foundation collaborated with Noongar/ Nyoongar Elder Dr Len Collard to produce a Welcome to Country video rooted in Noongar cultural protocols and storytelling practices.

Filmed on Country at three key Nyoongar sites: Gallup, Koortandalup, Djinanginy bo and supported by SharingStories digital producers, the Welcome to Country video features Dr Collard sharing key messages about language, Country, history, and pre- and post-colonisation in the area surrounding Perth CBD.

As a fee-for-service project, the final video will be presented in the Perth office for Deloitte and used for any digital Welcome to Country content. It provides a culturally grounded and accessible way for audiences to engage with Nyoongar perspectives from the outset of each project with Deloitte in Boorloo/Perth.

SharingStories will continuing working with Deloitte on a series of Welcome to Country videos for other offices across Australia, including Kurna/Adelaide and on the Gold Coast.

(Top) Smoking Ceremony, Noongar/Nyoongar Country, 2025. Photograph by Cian Sanders; (Bottom) Dr Len Collard, Nyoongar Custodian, 2025. Photograph by Cian Sanders.



WÄGILAK

Sing the Spirit Home

Gandjalala Marangal Wudupiyan

'Sing the Spirit Home', a book and film project in production with the Wägilak community, is nearing completion.

With footage and teachings on Country recorded from as long ago as 2006, this language-rich work records the journey of Gandjalala the Sugarbag Hunter on Country, as shared by Senior Wägilak Cultural Custodian, the late Roy Wunyumbi.

The work is a testament to Roy's commitment to ensuring knowledge is recorded in ways that are available to future generations and teaching the broader community about Wägilak Culture and

connection to Country. Multiple artworks produced by program participants over the years in response to the knowledge shared are interpreted through animations in the film and featured in the accompanying book.

Comprehensive translations by Yinjiya Guyula provide unique insight into the Gandjalala song cycle. Ngarrindjeri editor Isaac Lindsay is working with SharingStories and the Wägilak community on the film, which will be available to audiences through film festivals and public screenings. Audio excerpts from the film will be shared with ARDS Yolŋu radio for broadcast.

(Top) Planning the journey: following the Songline and story of Wägilak Creation Ancestor, Gandjalala the Sugarbag Hunter, across Country in N.E. Arnhem Land. Photograph by Liz Thompson; (Bottom) Wägilak Custodians, Photograph by Liz Thompson.





YUIN Digital Keeping Place

The Yuin Digital Keeping Place (DKP) is an online portal housing short films, dictionaries, and cultural and historical documentation drawn from state institutions, local archives, and personal stories and collections.

Developed in consultation and collaboration with the Yuin community, the project aims to maintain and reaffirm Yuin cultural knowledge and languages, and foster a sense of belonging to a shared cultural heritage with the wider community.

SharingStories ran workshops with the Yuin Working Group throughout 2024 and 2025, meeting regularly with its nine members. Now in its third year, the group continues to direct and participate in all aspects of the project.

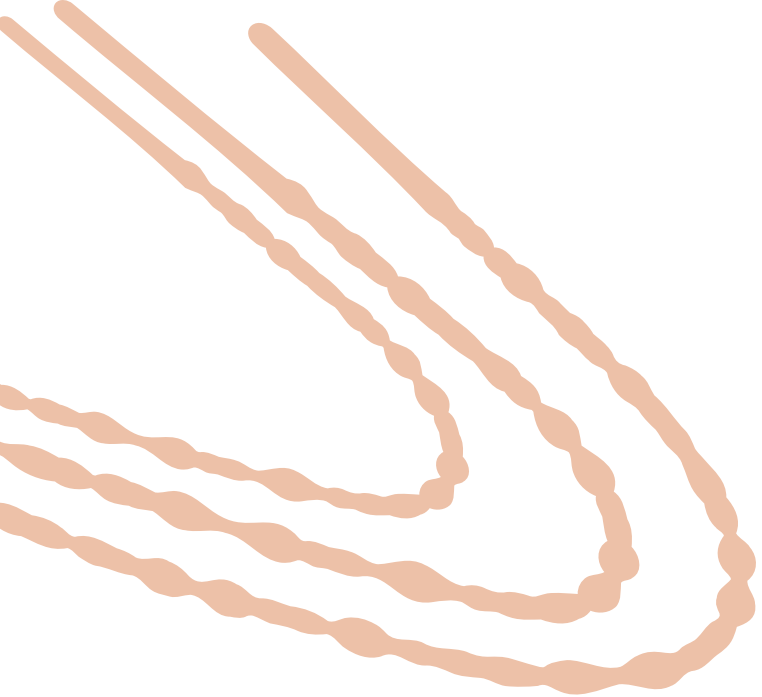
Approximately 160 short videos of community members speaking about a range of topics have been captured to

create an online experience that is more visual than text-based, a guiding principle of the Working Group. Significant work has also progressed with three online dictionaries to be housed in the DKP, with word lists completed and most audio recordings uploaded.

The working group also identified the need to engage a First Nations researcher, writer and editor to support content development. A funding variation was approved by the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA), and Bizzi Lavelle was engaged in the role.

Technical planning for the Yuin DKP began in 2024 with pro-bono partner Deloitte Digital. A five-week research and design sprint in 2025 finalised the foundations for the website build. The Yuin Digital Keeping Place will launch with the Yuin community on the Far South Coast of NSW, and online, in late 2025.

(Top) Auntie Patricia Ellis OAM, Yuin, 2025. Photograph by Cian Sanders (Bottom) Najanuka (Little Dromedary Mt), Yuin Country, 2025. Photograph by Cian Sanders.



MULTI-COMMUNITY

Song for Country

SharingStories has continued the epic production of the Song for Country project. This vibrant publication shares stories, knowledge, photographs and artwork from many of the community partners we've had the privilege of working with over the past 12 years.

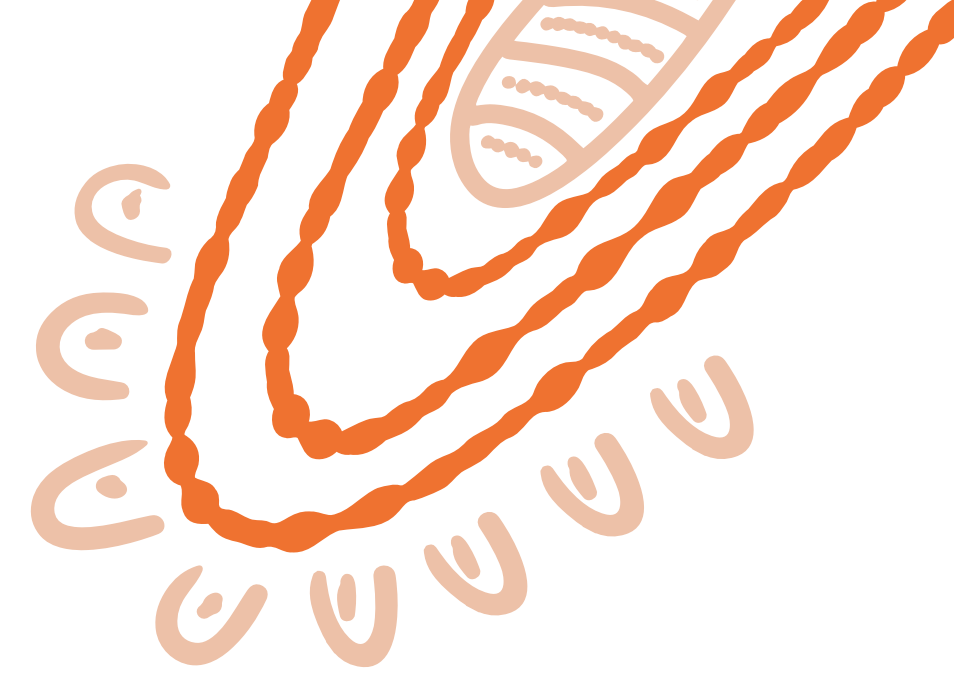
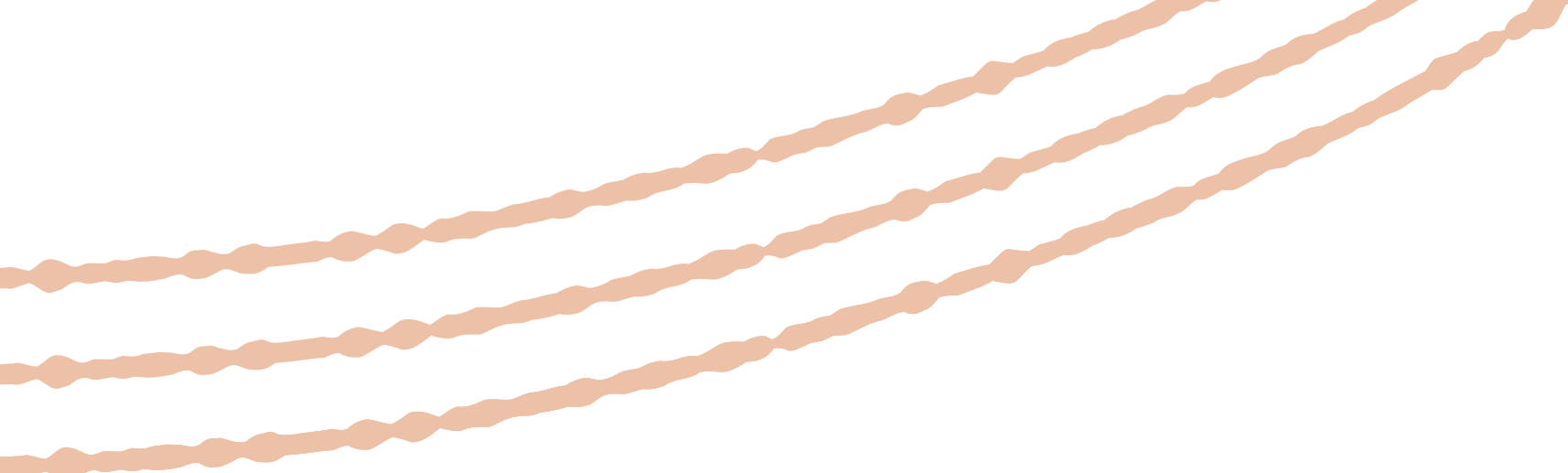
As an origin project, it traces back to relationships formed during the production of Sharing Our Stories, a series of books published in 2006 and 2009 by 14 First Nations communities in partnership with SharingStories' founder, Liz Thompson. Following this, several senior Custodians sought support to deliver community-based creative digital storytelling programs designed to build capacity for recording and passing on culture.

From the co-design and delivery of these early Digital Storytelling Programs, SharingStories Foundation grew. Now, nearly twenty years later, Song for Country brings together stories and knowledge shared by communities involved in the original Sharing Our Stories books and current community partners, enriched by photographs and artwork.

The publication, due for release in 2026, is a celebration of connection to culture and Country, reflecting the Foundation's origin story and the deep, longstanding relationships with community partners that remain its foundation. Revenue generated from this project will be shared between the participating communities and SharingStories to support ongoing work.

Djungadjunga Yunupingu with granddaughters Evony and Chenelle teaching the story of Djulpan at Nanjinyburra. Photograph by Liz Thompson.





JAJOO WARRNGARA

Keep Left Campaign

Building on the success of our research project with the University of Queensland, Holistic Approach to Embedding First Nations Perspectives, and working closely with Keep Left marketing and publicity agency, we delivered a targeted campaign to increase public awareness of Jajoo Warrngara: The Culture Classroom.

The campaign was run in two phases:

- Phase I: (1-31 July – NAIDOC Week) focused on pitching the UQ research results as a NAIDOC Week story, supported by a LinkedIn advertising campaign.
- Phase II: (1 September–31 October, leading up to World Teachers’ Day) included a LinkedIn advertising campaign, teacher association newsletters and social media posts, SharingStories Facebook and Instagram advertising, and an EDM sent on 25 October for World Teachers’ Day.

Keep Left secured fantastic press coverage

ahead of NAIDOC week, with our CEO Sharon Williams participating in multiple radio and television interviews across 20 outlets, exceeding our planned expectations by 80% and reaching more than 2 million people.

We shared the press coverage back on our socials across all platforms, and these were top-performing posts. We reached 91,000 people on LinkedIn, had 35,000 views on Facebook, and reached 11K people on Instagram.

Teacher associations shared our posts, including ATOM (Australian Teachers of Media) Vic, shared via EDM to 40,000 teachers and on their FB page to their 17,000 followers.

However, despite this outstanding coverage, we only noted a small increase in the number of subscriptions. These outcomes led us to investigate the user experience and consequently to remodelling the Jajoo Warrngara: The Culture Classroom website.

JAJOO WARRNGARA

Website Remodelling

It’s been almost three years since we launched Jajoo Warrngara: The Culture Classroom! Like all great things, we knew the time had come for a review to make sure it was still meeting the needs of schools and educators.

We started this lengthy process with insights and data gathered from the 2024 Keep Left marketing campaign followed by an internal analysis and a series of collaborative workshops involving our Education Manager, Systems Lead and Impact Producer. We also engaged in yarns with community partners to identify issues that impacted the sites clarity, usability, price points and reach.

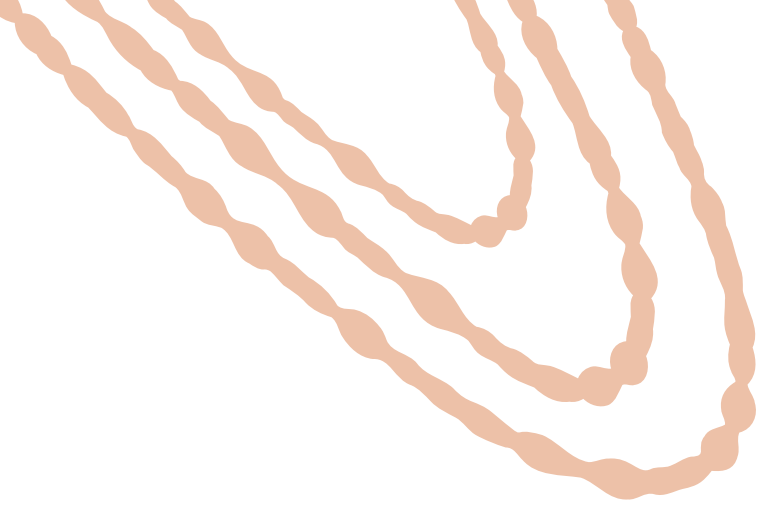
Following this review, we secured funding to respond meaningfully and address any concerns. Together, we developed a suite of proposed design changes, copy and image changes, infrastructure upgrades, and user journey and navigation improvements,

including rethinking our pathway to purchase.

These proposed updates were trialled through one-on-one focus testing with teachers and educators, where the new designs and user pathways were explored before implementation.

The upgrade plans were then updated to incorporate the learnings and recommendations garnered from our focus testing with the teachers, ensuring we had confidence in the proposed changes before going live.

The feedback we received during this process was invaluable, helping shape a more intuitive, usable, and powerful version of Jajoo Warrngara, removing key barriers to access and preparing the platform for broader reach and renewed engagement later in the year and beyond.



JAJOO WARRNGARA

Resources

YUIN COMMUNITY

We launched a new education and film series in partnership with Brinja–Yuin Walbunja Elder, Aunty Trish Ellis. The project included releasing three short films, which explore cultural symbols, ceremony, and the importance of yarning circles as a pedagogical practice. To accompany the films, we released three curriculum-aligned units designed for various year levels and learning areas, including:

- Yarning Circles: A reflective unit focused on respect, listening and using cultural pedagogy in classrooms;
- Through Whose Eyes?: A media literacy unit exploring bias, power and perspective;
- The Language of Art: A Visual Arts unit exploring how stories are told through symbol and natural materials.

The release also included Community Classroom Protocols and support materials to help teachers embed Yuin knowledge systems into their classrooms with respect and care.

BUNDJALUNG

We collaborated with Bundjalung custodians Delta Kay, Oliver Costello, and Kris Cook to produce several cultural films, capturing powerful stories, knowledge systems, and practices, offering educators rich and engaging ways to bring Bundjalung perspectives into the classroom including:

- Listening to Bundjalung Country – exploring sound, silence and place through the creation of annotated sound maps
- Voices of Country: Soundscape, Art and Advocacy – listening to the needs of Country and our environment
- Bushtucker Adventures: Cooking and Culture – investigating native foods and oral traditions, culminating in scripting and filming their film productions
- Fire, Carbon and Country: Understanding Cultural Burning – examining the ecological and cultural power of fire, supported by readings from the Jagun Alliance, and creating fire-resilient artworks using charcoal.

(Top) Drawing on Yuin Country, 2024. Photograph by Murray Van der Veer. (Bottom) Kris Cook and Delta Kay, Bundjalung Custodians, 2024. Photograph by Glen Maw.



JAJOO WARRNGARA

Resources

NAIDOC

To mark 50 years of NAIDOC Week, Jajoo Warrngara released a powerful suite of six free educational resources exploring the 2025 theme: The Next Generation – Strength, Vision, Legacy.

Launched in June and aligned to the Australian Curriculum, the release included unit plans, activity sheets, protocol guides and an illustrated timeline, titled Storying Our Shared Histories, mapping key moments of resistance and survival across more than 65,000 years. The FREE education package was mapped to Years 5–10 and multiple Learning Areas including History, English, HASS (History and Social Sciences), Civics and Citizenship, and Visual Arts.

Designed to spark rich classroom conversations, each unit is grounded in truth-telling and First Nations knowledge systems. Students were invited to explore questions of power and protest, imagine bold futures, and unpack what it means to be strong.

(Top) Mural of Aunty Margaret Tucker MBE and Nora ‘Nanny’ Charles, created by Adnate for Stage Two of Greater Shepparton Aboriginal Street Art Project. Photograph by Harmony Domaille; (Bottom) Warwick, Jarlmadangah Community, 2010. Photograph by Liz Thompson.





OUR TEAM

Staff Changes

This year, we welcomed Georgia Boe to the SharingStories team. She initially joined as Project Manager and, recognising her strong creative vision and capabilities, was appointed Creative Director. Georgia is of Butchulla and Burmese heritage and we're excited to see the creative vision and leadership she brings to the organisation.

"I'm honoured to step into this new role at SharingStories Foundation during such an exciting chapter as the organisation's first First Nations Creative Director. I look forward to working alongside our team, partner communities, and the incredible artists and storytellers helping shape a richer, more inclusive Australia.

My background is rooted in the arts, and over the years, I've had the privilege of working

closely with First Nations artists across exhibitions, public art projects, and international collaborations. These experiences taught me that storytelling is a powerful act of sovereignty, truth-telling and connection. I'm excited to continue this work with SharingStories and to support creative projects that centre community voices and cultural leadership."

This year we also said farewell to Mawana Cora, who has been an invaluable member of the SharingStories team. Mawana joined us as Business Administrator and also managed our social media, bringing dedication, skill, and warmth to her role.

We are deeply grateful for her contributions and wish her all the best in her next chapter working closer with her community!

Frogs Hollow, Gija Community, 2023. Photo by Michael Torres.



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