



arts

Ananguku Arts and Cultural
Aboriginal Corporation

ANNUAL REPORT

2020-2021

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Aṅanguku Arts and Cultural Aboriginal Corporation (Ku Arts) acknowledges the many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Nations across this country, and their peoples who are the traditional custodians of the lands and waters upon which we live and create.

Our head office is on Kurna yarta. We acknowledge the Kurna people as the traditional owners of this land and respect their living culture.

We also acknowledge our founders, the artists of the Aṅangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Lands, from whom we were given our name, Aṅanguku - *for Aboriginal people*.

COVER IMAGE

Kapi Tjukurpa (Water Story) is an Ernabella Arts project celebrating the deep cultural and environmental knowledge of Aṅangu women. Through this installation and its accompanying soundscape, the artists share their memories of water through stories and song. They have created a unique form of documentation, both of cultural knowledge for future generations, and of the changes in climate and community witnessed over their lifetimes. *Kapi Tjukurpa (Water Story)*, will be exhibited at Tarnanthi, Art Gallery of South Australia, in October 2021.

"Aṅangu know everything about the land, how to find water, how to survive. We could find water before there was a bore, tap or tank. This knowledge isn't just in the past. It is living knowledge"
- Alison Milyika Carroll.

Kapi Tjukurpa (Water Story), 2020, Pukatja (Ernabella), South Australia, synthetic polymer paint, leather on repurposed water tank with audio, 240 x 280 x 280cm.
Photo by Marie Falcinella.

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MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR

Ku Arts is an important organisation. It brings together Aboriginal artists and art centres from right across South Australia, talking and listening and helping to keep art and culture strong.

It has been difficult to come together this year due to COVID, not being able to travel and being kept apart from our families has been hard. Ku Arts has been speaking to governments to find help for art centres. Art centres have kept going in safe ways, helping to give us information and being the place to go every day to make our art, and to help us put food on the table for our families. We are happy to see artists in areas where we deliver the SICAD program getting stronger with their art and cultural projects. We are sharing the stories from our work this year for you in this Annual Report.

2021 SUMMARY

In 2021, our members faced ongoing challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ku Arts has played a vital role in advocacy and information dissemination for South Australian Aboriginal artists and art centres during a time when Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, cultural practices and businesses have been significantly impacted.

Ku Arts has been a crucial link between artists, art centres and government departments, the Arts industry and other support organisations to ensure relevant, responsive support has reached our membership.

With travel to many communities restricted, we explored hybrid online/in person program and service delivery throughout the year, which we will continue to do. We were proud to deliver the first instalment of our Strong Arts Program in Port Augusta; a direct response to needs identified in a 2019 meeting of regional South Australian artists. Major infrastructure upgrades to member APY art centres, originally scheduled for 2020, were also able to be completed this year.

Strong Arts Strong Culture Strong Communities

OUR MISSION

Ku Arts works for, and with, Aboriginal artists, art centres and arts workers across South Australia, delivering support services that allow them to realise their aspirations.

Nganana kunpu kanyinma arts munu culture nganampa tjitji nganampa tjutaku - We help keep arts centres strong, and our culture strong for our children.

OUR VALUES

Culture is the heart of our art and all that we do.

Respect for people, culture, language, difference and ideas.

Inclusive being open and honest, listening to the views of others, encouraging participation and collaboration.

Integrity professional service delivery, ensuring we are always ethical, accountable and transparent.

OUR PRINCIPLES

Ngapartji ngapartji kulinma munu iwara wanama tjukarurungku - Respect each other and follow the law straight

Piluntjungku - peaceful and calm

Kalypangku - conciliatory

Kututu mukulyangku - kindhearted

Tjungungku - united



ABOUT KU ARTS

Ananguku Arts and Cultural Aboriginal Corporation (Ku Arts) is the South Australian peak body for Aboriginal art centres and artists. For over twenty years, we have provided advocacy, support services, creative skills and professional development opportunities for artists and arts workers across all stages of their careers in support of a strong and vibrant Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander visual arts sector.

Ku Arts is an Aboriginal owned and governed visual arts organisation started by artists and art centre managers on the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Lands in 1998. We deliver programs and projects that support artists' creative, cultural and professional development and allow them to achieve their aspirations.

Ku Arts supports art centres through governance mentoring, human resource services, training and employment opportunities for managers and art workers, and by supporting the development of community driven arts and cultural maintenance projects with high quality public outcomes.

Ku Arts delivers the Statewide Indigenous Community Arts Development (SICAD) Program, an annual program of workshops, projects and events to support professional, cultural and creative development for artists outside of APY Lands, where there are typically no Aboriginal art centres.

Ku Arts is incorporated under the Corporations Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (CATSI) Act 2006, is endorsed as a Public Benevolent Institution and has Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status.

GOVERNANCE

The Ku Arts board consists of member art centre nominated directors, and directors voted by the Ku Arts membership. They are joined by two independent non-member directors with specialist skills, who are appointed by the board. The board takes an active role in the business of the organisation, meeting a minimum of four times per year.

In FY2021, Ku Arts held board meetings in person when possible due to COVID-19 travel restrictions, as well as online, over the phone or hybrid formats.

The Board of Directors is supported by the Finance, Investment and Advisory Committee (FIAC).

MEETINGS HELD

15 September 2020 - Board Meeting, phone/online

8 October 2020 - Board Meeting, phone

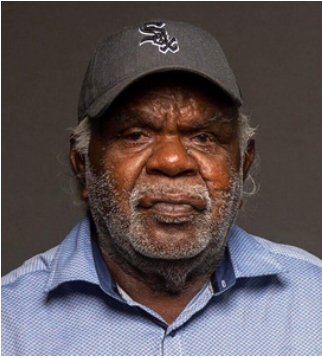
3 December 2020 - Board Meeting, phone

17 February 2021 - Board Meeting, phone/online

23 March 2021 - Board Meeting, Adelaide SA

24 March 2021 - AGM 2020, Alice Springs NT

MEET OUR DIRECTORS



David Miller
Chair
Director APY
(Ninuku Arts)



Josephine Mick
Deputy Chair
Director
APY Independent (ended
March 2021)



Carlene Thompson
Director APY
(Ernabella Arts)



Marita Baker
Director
APY Independent
(elected March 2021)



Ashley Pompey
Director
Statewide
(Arts Ceduna)



Maureen Williams
Director
Statewide
(Cooper Pedy)



Lavene Ngatokorua
Director
Statewide
(Port Augusta)



Lee-Ann Tjunypa Buckskin
Independent
Non-Member Director
(ended Oct 2020)



Dana Shen
Independent
Non-Member
Director,
Finance, Investment & Advisory
Committee Member



OUR MEMBERS

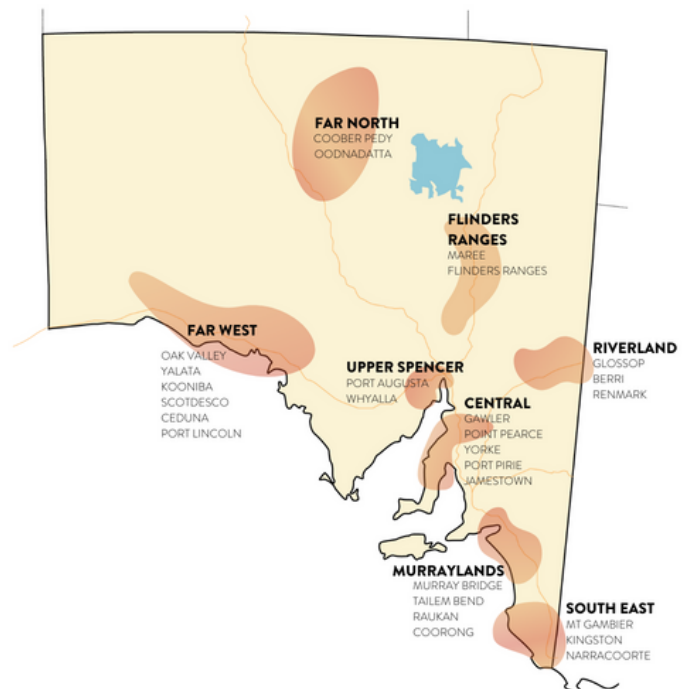
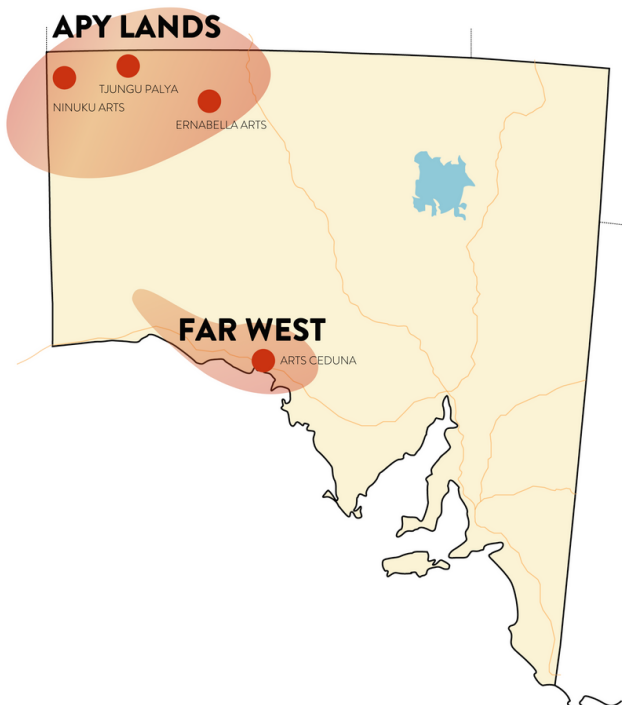
Art Centre Members

Arts Ceduna, Ceduna
 Ernabella Arts, Pukatja, APY Lands
 Ninuku Arts, Kalka, APY Lands

Artist Members

from the following regions

Adelaide
 Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Lands
 Ceduna
 Coober Pedy
 Oodnadatta
 Port Augusta
 Riverland



OUR STAFF

Alison Milyika Carroll	Anangu Mayatja	0.5FTE
Marie Falcinella	Chief Executive Officer	1.0FTE - <i>concluded Dec 2020</i>
Gwen Gaff	Chief Executive Officer	1.0FTE
Melanie Henderson	SICAD Program Manager	1.0FTE
Jayne Holland	Art Centre Programs Manager	1.0FTE- <i>concluded Dec 2020</i>
Kate McGreal	Arts Administration Officer	0.4FTE

2021 PROGRAM DELIVERY

ART CENTRE SUPPORT

Ku Arts provides annual support to member art centres in the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Lands and Ceduna to help keep their business strong. Our support services include:

- Business development support, including strategic planning, grant writing, project development and industry best practice
- Governance and human resources support
- Advocacy to federal and state governments, across the arts sector and with peer Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander visual arts peak bodies
- Infrastructure and equipment upgrades
- Guidance, resources, professional development and networking opportunities
- Marketing and promotional support of Art Centre activities and exhibitions through Ku Arts social media channels
- Professional development opportunities for art centre staff
- Responsive support via phone and email

KEY INITIATIVES

Pitjantjatjara Language Workshops

From February 2021, Ku Arts partnered with Iwiri who delivered weekly online Pitjantjatjara language lessons for member art centre and Ku Arts staff. Language learning is part of our ongoing professional development and cultural awareness program.

APY Art Centre Infrastructure Upgrades

Once travel restrictions to the APY Lands had lifted, we were able to complete the building works scheduled in the previous financial year.

This saw Ninuku Arts receive an extension to their studio as well as improvements to the office and storage areas, security and air-conditioning. The studio space at Tjungu Palya was also expanded.

At the end of FY2021, we secured a further \$280,548 from the Government of South Australia to support further infrastructure needs at Ernabella Arts and Ninuku Arts.



Above: Ninuku artists, staff and papa (dogs) in the extended studio space, Kalka. Photo courtesy Ninuku Arts. Below: Renovated toilet block and access entry at Ernabella Arts, Pukatja. Photo courtesy Ernabella Arts.



The APY Infrastructure upgrades have been generously supported by the Government of South Australia



Government of South Australia
Arts South Australia

2021 PROGRAM DELIVERY

STATEWIDE INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY ARTS DEVELOPMENT (SICAD)

Dunjiba Designs textile workshop, Oodnadatta

August – September 2020

Ku Arts delivered a 2-week textile and fashion development workshop with artists of Dunjiba. This is an ongoing, 3-year project delivered by Ku Arts SICAD Program Manager, Melanie Henderson, and textile artist, Kasia Tons. Dunjiba Designs is working towards launching a fashion collection at DAAF in 2021. Workshop included hand and digital painting and drawing of designs, creating repeat patterns and collaborating on style and range of clothing to be produced.

Tarnanthi Art Fair

December 2020

Presented by Art Gallery of South Australia in October annually, Tarnanthi is a platform for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists from across the country to share important stories. It encourages new beginnings by providing artists with opportunities to create significant new work and to extend their practice.

The Tarnanthi Art Fair was held later in 2020 due to COVID-19.

Ku Arts supported 12 independent artists through the SICAD program to present and sell their work at this major event.

Dunjiba Designs fashion development for Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair

April 2021

Dunjiba Fashions is a creative, community-led solution to a lack of financial and creative opportunities. Products designed in Dunjiba, and ethically manufactured off-site, create seed funding for future projects and collaborations.

Dunjiba Fashions is a celebration of Dunjiba, a contemporary clothing capsule of sportswear and bush skirts blazoned with vibrant textile patterns designed by artists within Ku Arts workshops over the last 3 years.

There is much interest for this project, with outcomes expected to blazon the Country to Couture catwalk at Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair 2021.

Project funding was received through Country Arts SA, Regional Arts Funding COVID Relief.

Arabana Virtual Reality Songlines Project, Kati Thanda (Lake Eyre)

April 2021

The VR Arabana Songlines project is a partnership between Mobile Language Team (MLT) and Ku Arts supported the creation of accessible learning of Arabana wangka, ularaka and culture from Arabana Elders through the medium of VR.

In April 2021, lead artist Colleen Strangways (Nharla Photography), VR Mentor, Vivian Wong (VR specialist of VDigital Creative), Lakota Milera-Weetra (MLT Arabana Language Worker and visual artist), along with Arabana Elders, MLT and Ku Arts, travelled to Finnis Springs, 50km north of Marree off the Oodnadatta track, for filming on Arabana country.

Outcomes for this project will be presented at Tarnanthi 2021. Project funding was received through Australia Council for the Arts.



Arabana VR Songlines Project, Kati Thanda. Photo by Mel Henderson



2021 PROGRAM DELIVERY

STRONG ARTS PROGRAM

22-23 June 2021, Port Augusta

The Ku Arts Strong Arts Program was an event held for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists and cultural leaders who work independently in regional SA communities, and those who wish to learn more about artist rights, opportunities, and how to navigate the art world.

The event was developed in direct response to needs identified at a meeting with regional South Australian artists held in Adelaide in October 2019, following the Ku Arts Symposium.

Over two days approximately 40 artists from Port Augusta and surrounding regions heard from industry professionals and had the opportunity to attend one-on-one consultations. The Strong Arts Program was held as a hybrid event due to COVID-19 travel restrictions, with many of the presenting organisations appearing via Zoom.

This event was presented as part of the annual Ku Arts Statewide Indigenous Community Arts Development (SICAD) Program, with additional funding from Arts South Australia.

Presenters:

- Ku Arts
- Indigenous Art Code
- National Association of the Visual Arts (NAVA)
- Arts Law
- Copyright Agency
- Guildhouse
- Country Arts South Australia
- Port Pirie Regional Art Gallery

92%

of attendees said they now had a better understanding of Arts industry organisations and what they do.



Government of South Australia
Arts South Australia

ADVOCACY & INDUSTRY

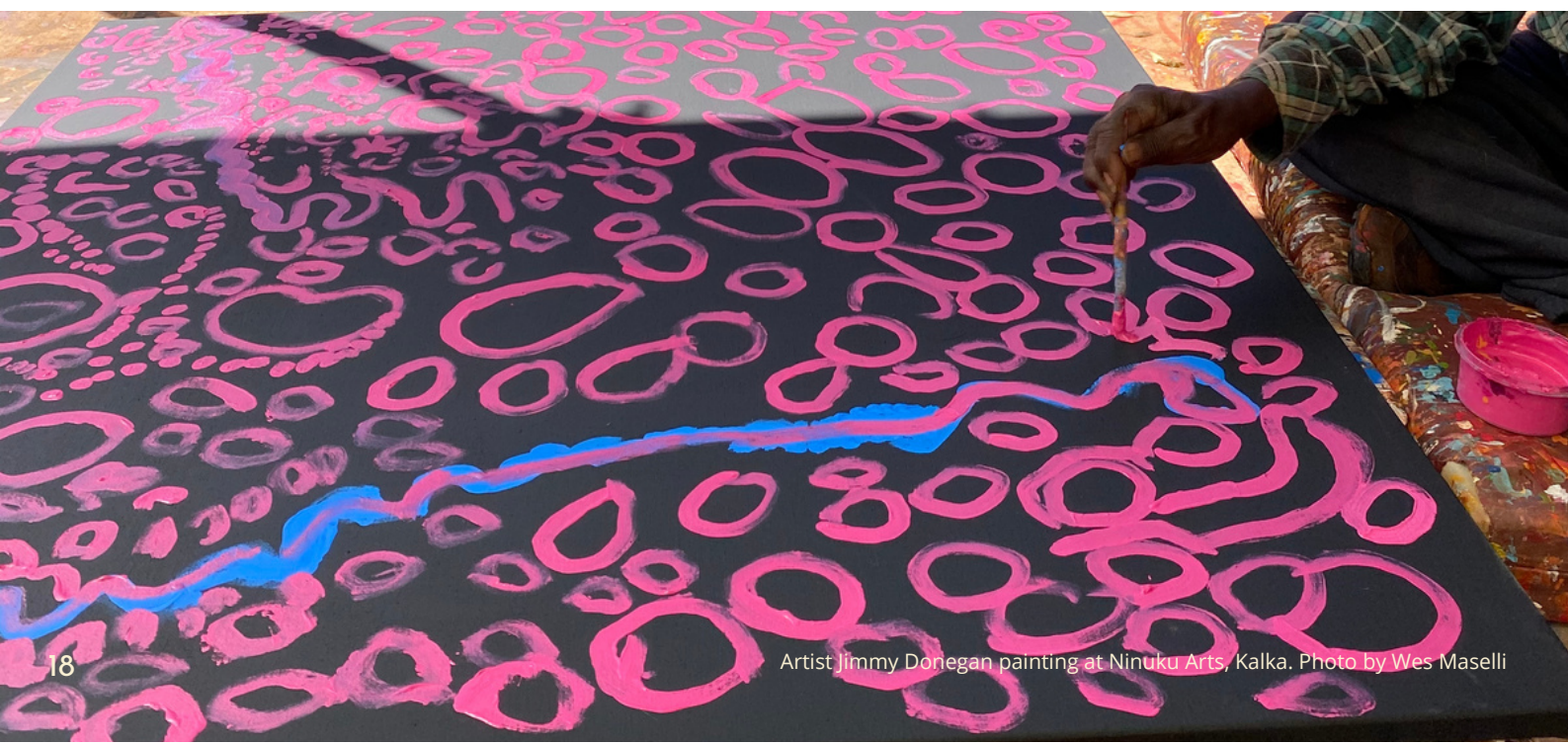
Ku Arts has a commitment of ongoing advocacy throughout the year to state and federal governments to support self-determined responses to the needs of our membership.

In FY2021, sector support in response to needs and challenges faced due to the COVID-19 pandemic continued to be a priority. Our advocacy included meeting with Federal Minister for the Arts, Hon. Paul Fletcher MP in Nov 2020, and a submission to the Productivity Commission Inquiry into Growing the Indigenous Visual Arts Sector in December 2020. Additionally, Ku Arts actively engaged in monthly meetings with federal government through Office of the Arts (IVAIS) and responsive

advocacy across government and local community councils and advisory bodies.

We maintain strong links with federal and state governments to advocate on behalf of the needs of our members which includes ministerial engagement across sectors.

Ku Arts maintains collaborative working relationships with our peer Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander visual arts peak bodies across the country; Desert, Arnhem, Northern and Kimberley Artists (ANKA) Aboriginal Association, Aboriginal Art Centre Hub Western Australia (AACHWA) and Indigenous Art Centre Alliance (IACA).



FINANCES

Ku Arts continues to be supported by operational funding from federal government through Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support (IVAIS), Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development & Communications, and at a state level through Arts South Australia.

From January 2021, we are also recipients of new four-year organisational funding from Australia Council for the Arts.

In total, our income was \$839,464 and expenses \$1,119,064, seeing us finish the financial year with a loss of \$279,600. This deficit relates to unexpended FY2020 funds spent this financial year for programs and projects, including APY infrastructure upgrades, which were delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Governance costs were reduced significantly in FY2021 due to hosting virtual rather than in person meetings due to travel restrictions.

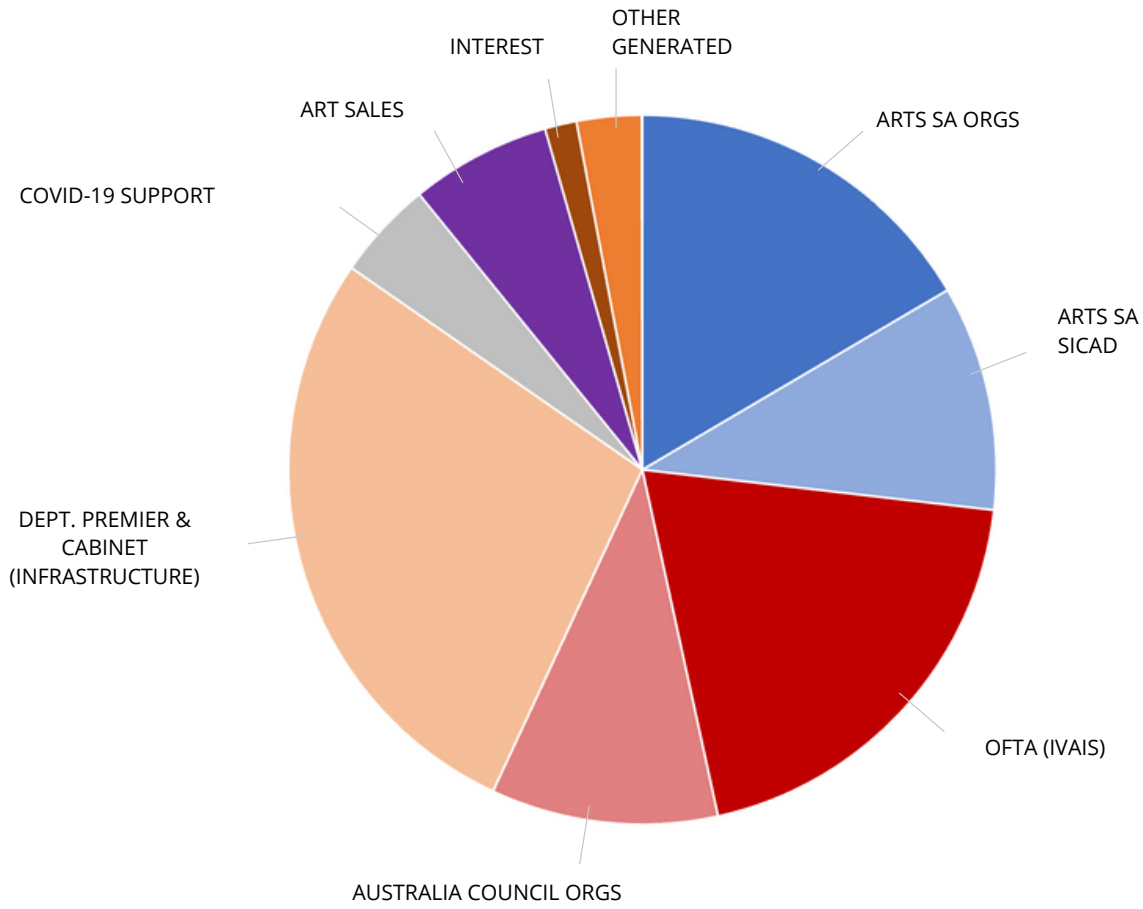
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

30 June 2021

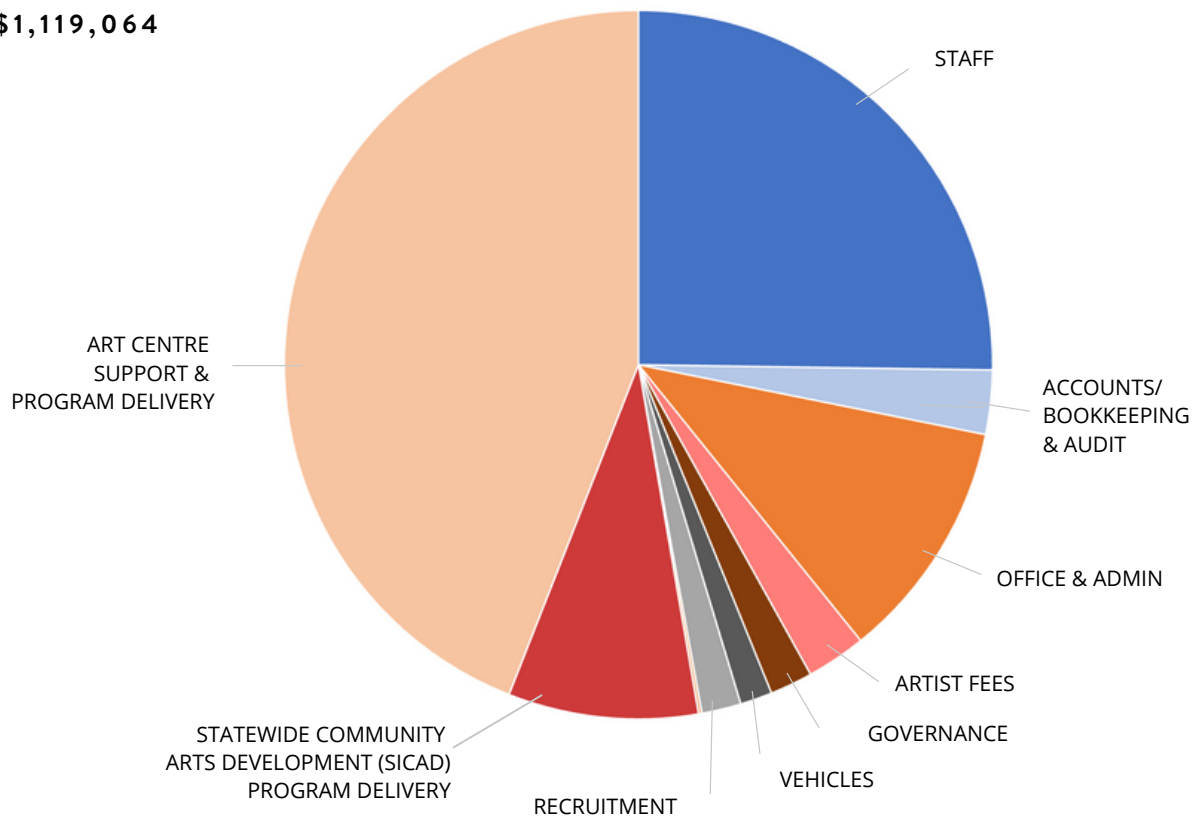
Current Assets	
Cash & cash equivalents	\$587,018
Receivables	\$290,615
Total Current Assets	\$877,633
Non-Current Assets	
Property, plant & equip	\$179,579
Other financial assets	\$11,000
Total Non-Crnt Assets	\$190,579
Total Assets	\$1,068,212
Current Liabilities	
Payables	\$696,063
Financial Liabilities	\$34,108
Staff benefits	\$8,830
Total current liabilities	\$739,001
Non-Current Liabilities	
Financial liabilities	\$99,695
Total Non-Crnt Liabilities	\$99,695
Total Liabilities	\$838,696
Net Assets	\$229,516
Equity	
Asset Revaluation Reserve	\$9,466
Retained earnings	\$220,050
Total Equity	\$229,516

*Detailed FY2021 audit report is available at
oric.gov.au*

2021 INCOME
\$839,464



2021 EXPENSES
\$1,119,064




OUR SUPPORTERS



OUR PARTNERS



We want a good
future for the
next generation. 



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