



**ANNUAL
REPORT
2023/24**



BUNBURY REGIONAL ART GALLERY | WILGERMIA



KAYA WANJU HELLO WELCOME

BRAG acknowledge the traditional owners of the land, the Noongar Wardandi people and their continuing connection to the land, waters and community. We pay our respects to all members of the Aboriginal communities and their cultures; and to Elders past, present and emerging.

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Opening event (cover)
Noongar Country 2023 | Delphine Schwarze, Take
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South West Art Now 2024: A New Constellation / Opening Event

LOCATION + CONTACT

64 Wittenoom Street, Bunbury WA 6230
Postal Address & Contact: PO Box 21, Bunbury WA 6230
Telephone: 08 9721 7323
artgallery@bunbury.wa.gov.au | bunbury.wa.gov.au/brag

OPENING HOURS

Wednesday to Sunday 10am to 4pm
Closed Mondays, Tuesdays (with exception of Public Holidays, or by appointment), Good Friday, Christmas Day, Boxing Day, and New Years Day

ADMISSION

General admission to the Bunbury Regional Art Gallery is free, although donations are encouraged. Admission fees apply for most public education programs.

DONATIONS AND CULTURAL GIFTS

BRAG is registered under the Cultural Gifts Program. Information on donations to the Gallery is available on request by contacting us via the addresses above.

SPONSORSHIP

For information on becoming a Gallery program or exhibition sponsor, please contact the Team Leader via email contact above.



INTRODUCTION

Housed in a distinctive pink, former convent, the Bunbury Regional Art Gallery (BRAG) is situated in the city centre of Bunbury, a two-minute stroll to the CBD to the east and the sparkling Indian Ocean to the west.

BRAG is the premier public art gallery in the South West of Western Australia. Boasting six formal exhibition spaces as well as community exhibition facilities, BRAG offers a diverse and stimulating program of exhibitions from regional, State and National sources.

The exhibition schedule is complemented by an extensive range of public programs, events,

functions, classes and workshops. In addition to the gallery, the BRAG building is home to an art studio, a dance studio, and an exciting artist-in-residence studio that is to be launched later this year. These spaces ensure that BRAG plays host to a wide range of activities and events ranging from art and dance classes, and social events to seminars, and professional development workshops.

BRAG is an icon in the South West community with its federation gothic architecture and distinctive pink render. The original convent and its adjacent boarding and day school was designed by M.F and J.C Cavanagh and completed

in 1898. In 1924 the Convent Chapel designed by F.W Steere was erected on the south side of the convent, in a design that was intended to complement rather than match. Over the years, a number of other buildings were constructed around the two buildings to accommodate the nuns and the growing school, but these were demolished when the city purchased the site in 1981. The remaining two buildings were redeveloped into the Bunbury Regional Art Gallery to a design by Ian Molyneux. As part of the adaptation a link was constructed between the two buildings, creating lobbies and a staircase. The gallery opened to the public in 1987 with a grand gala opening. In 2011 a rear addition,

comprising a lift, storerooms and lift lobby was completed, making the building accessible to all.

BRAG is a much loved and well used facility in Bunbury, representing art and artists in the south west. BRAG's programming supports and presents a wide range of high-quality visual art practice that includes digital, multimedia, installation, dance, music and theatre as well as traditional painting, printmaking, ceramics and drawing. The gallery's broad range reflects the diversity of this region's identity and supports its cultural and creative practices.

OVERVIEW

13,071
GALLERY
ATTENDEES

VISITORS
FROM
35
COUNTRIES

13
EXHIBITIONS

32
CREATIVES
EMPLOYED AS
FACILITATORS OR
PRESENTERS

300+
ARTISTS
EXHIBITED

\$47,843
IN GALLERY
SALES



Open Night - NAP Retail Space | December 2023

*"Thanks for preserving this nice pinky place and for showcasing aboriginal artworks"
- gallery visitor | Italy*

South West Art Now 2024: A New Constellation / Alex & Nicole Mickle





It's a real pleasure to be part of a city that's home to the incredible Bunbury Regional Art Gallery. BRAG isn't just about world-class exhibitions – it's a creative hub where the community comes together to connect, learn, and be inspired. The energy and passion of the gallery team are what make this place so special, and I'd like to thank them for their fantastic work this year. Here's to even more exciting times ahead for BRAG and the wonderful arts community!

Jayson Miguel
Mayor City of Bunbury



This year, Bunbury Regional Art Gallery has been a vibrant hub of creativity, attracting visitors and artists into exhibitions, workshops and community programs. This was all made possible by our passionate, incredible team, alongside continued financial support from Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries and the various exhibition sponsors. We've had the privilege of showcasing new talent alongside beloved favourites, sparking conversations, and celebrating diverse art forms. Through collaborations with local schools, organisations and artists, we've expanded our reach, making art accessible to everyone and inspiring future creatives. Congratulations to the team for their hard work in building a welcoming space that celebrates creativity across the South West.

Alan Ferris
CEO City of Bunbury



BRAG

TEAM

Dr. Michael Bianco	BRAG Director (outgoing)
Anna Edmundson	Operations & Administration Officer BRAG Team Leader
Molly Werner	Education Officer
Caro Lunel	City of Bunbury Collections Art Curator / Registrar (outgoing)
Donna Greenwood	City of Bunbury Collections Art Curator / Registrar (acting)
Karen Morgan	Noongar Arts Program Coordinator (outgoing)
Dee Mosca	Gallery Officer
Simon Long	Exhibitions Officer
Donna Greenwood	Gallery Attendant
Payton Mann	Gallery Attendant
Dan Kus	Gallery Attendant
Paul Robertson	Gallery Attendant
Josef Quinn	Gallery Attendant
Penny Elliott	Gallery Attendant
Katelyn Whitehurst	Gallery Attendant
Claudia Stiglmayer	Gallery Attendant

Blooming Art 2023 | BRAG team entry



BRAG Gallery Attendant Claudia Stiglmayer installs the additional disc to DISCUSSIONS (2020) - Donna Fortescue for 2024

OUR VISION AND MISSION

MISSION STATEMENT

As the preeminent regional art gallery in Western Australia, dedicated to excellence in exhibitions, public programs, and collecting, The Bunbury Regional Art Gallery's mission is to enrich the lives of citizens through meaningful engagements with art, the environment, and Aboriginal culture, and to research, exhibit, and preserve the legacy of artists practicing in the South West of Australia.

Situated on Wardandi Noongar Boodja, one of the world's most important biodiversity hotspots, BRAG places a focus on exhibiting and collecting Aboriginal, ecological, and West Australian art. Further, the gallery is dedicated to supporting community-oriented artists, and to cultivating public scholarship, intellectual curiosity, and a creative local economy. All of this situates BRAG as the central hub for visual arts and culture in the South West Australia, and as a driver for sustainable communities of the future.

OUR STRATEGIES

BRAG has five strategies that govern and guide our programs and services:

● AUDIENCE ENGAGEMENT

Build new audiences and develop deeper connections with existing audiences in the regions through bold programming, new engagement strategies and new strategic partnerships.

● PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Provide professional development, training opportunities, and both residency and exhibition opportunities for regional artists, arts workers and volunteers.

● ACCESS AND INCLUSION

Make the gallery accessible to community members with special needs, and culturally safe for members of the community that identify as aboriginal and/or linguistically and culturally diverse.

● PARTNERSHIPS

Enable and build partnerships that support employment in the arts and creative industries in regional Western Australia and connect artists and artworkers to both a national and international network.

● COMMERCIAL VIABILITY

Increase the reach and efficiency of marketing through new and improved channels to ensure more promotion and sales opportunities for WA artists.



Col Jordan | *The Greek Letters* (install view)

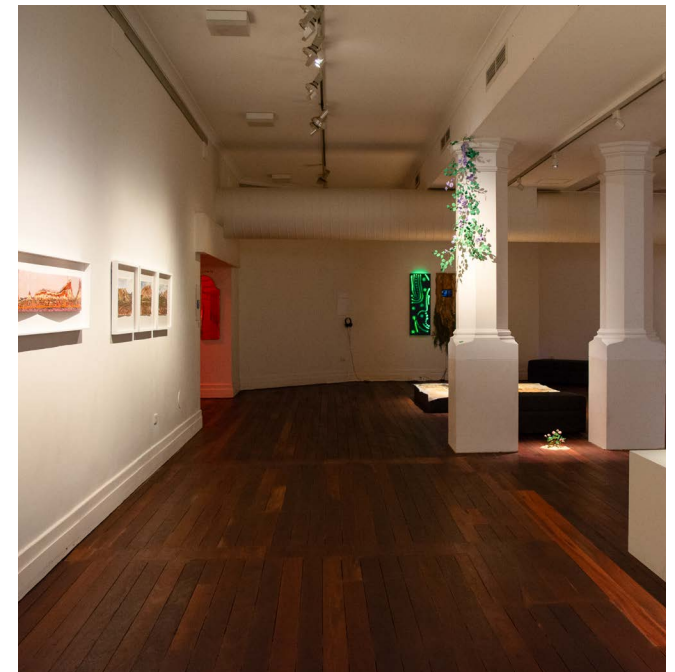
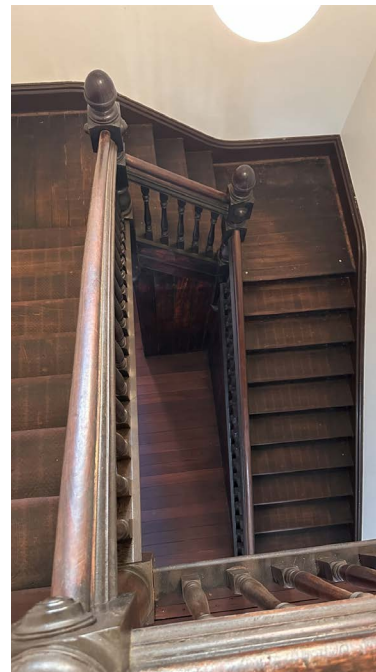
MAJOR WORKS

BRAG was excited to announce the completion of a significant renovation project that has restored the original jarrah floorboards throughout the building. Over 2023 and 2024, BRAG underwent a meticulous restoration process aimed at preserving its heritage aesthetic. Old carpets and underlying coatings were carefully removed, and the original floorboards were gently sanded before being treated with a natural oil finish. This process has revealed the stunning, rich tones of the jarrah wood, which now beautifully compliments the gallery's historical architecture. The restoration was conducted with careful attention to conservation policies and heritage practices, ensuring that the building's charm and authenticity were preserved for future generations.

The project was completed just in time for South West Art Now 2024: A New Constellation, a major event that took place in March, allowing visitors to experience the renewed gallery spaces in their full heritage glory.

The restoration of the floorboards has enhanced the visual and sensory experience of visiting BRAG, blending the building's historical character with its vibrant contemporary exhibitions. BRAG is thrilled with the results and is proud to continue offering a cultural space that honors both its history and its role in Bunbury's artistic community.

*Before: Lower Gallery
(The Lester Prize 2023),
After: Upper hallway, Lower
Gallery (South West Art Now
2024: A New Constellation)*





Stuart Elliott | Ingress - install view



Iluka Visions 2023 | Opening and Award Presentation

BRAG

EXHIBITIONS

EXHIBITION OVERVIEW

- **REGULAR RECURRING EXHIBITIONS**
Including South West Art Now, Noongar Country and Iluka Visions. Aimed at providing opportunities for a wide range of artists to submit one or a few new works for inclusion in large group exhibitions.
- **TOURING EXHIBITIONS**
WA, National and International touring exhibitions from various touring agencies. Exhibitions that bring to Bunbury the best of contemporary art, craft and design practice.
- **COLLECTION EXHIBITIONS**
These curated exhibitions explore the range and diversity of the City of Bunbury Art Collection through of a variety of curatorial approaches.
- **MAJOR EXHIBITIONS**
By established, senior South West artists. Aimed at acknowledging and celebrating sustained commitment to, and on-going development of, their arts practice and their major contribution to the visual culture of the State.
- **NEW WORK EXHIBITIONS**
By established and mid-career South West artists. Aimed at providing artists with the opportunity to exhibit a body of new work.

2
internal City of
Bunbury Collection
exhibitions

11
external
exhibitions



SOUTH WEST ART NOW – A NEW CONSTELLATION

16 March – 21 July 2024

South West Art Now – A New Constellation, was the latest iteration of the longest running review of contemporary art practices in the South West of Australia. Using the gallery as a space to align cultural producers in a method akin to creating form out of burning points of light in space, SWAN aimed to present an array of contemporary practices that underscored the rich creative constellation here in the South West of Australia. As a region which continues to produce some of the most significant artists in the state, this biennial survey offers a vital exhibition to reflect on dynamic cultural developments in the region over the past two years. This year's survey aimed to focus more closely on broader creative practices rather than singular artworks, with the intention of demonstrating how the South West's regionally specific concerns are in dialogue with broader global discourses. To this end, this year's curatorial focus was on 'practice' rather than singular 'artworks', and has been designed to offer an open-ended platform for artists to prioritise process and provocation.



NOONGAR COUNTRY 2023

17 June – 24 September '23

Noongar Country, is an annual exhibition that celebrates culture by showcasing artwork made by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists living on Noongar Boodja – spanning from Geraldton to Esperance and encompassing 14 different dialects. In 2023 artists were asked to respond to the NAIDOC week theme, 'For Our Elders'. Exploring culture, the relationships between themselves and their community leaders, and stories that have been passed through moort for generations. This year saw 67 artists correspond to the theme, with a number of works being chosen for acquisition for the City of Bunbury Art Collection.

This exhibition would not be possible without the support of Alcoa.

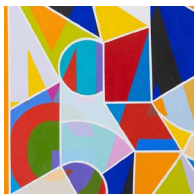
BRAG produced printed catalogues for both of these exhibitions.



GROUNDSWELL | ARTBACK NT

June – 20 Aug 2023

The works in Groundswell, featuring over 20 works by Northern Territory artists, extend through vast geographies, perspectives and artistic mediums to stake their claim, spanning moving image, visualised data, painting, printmaking, ceramics and sculpture. These works find commonality in their shared determination to bridge the message of each individual artist to our collectively shared concerns as Northern Territory citizens. With accelerating momentum, contemporary artists are shifting the conceptual focus of their practices to address the intensifying crisis of Australia's diminishing water supply. Alongside scientists and environmentalists, artists have historically presented as some of the first responders to this crisis, bearing witness to its effects through creative expression. Groundswell: Recent movements within art and territory showcased a selection of powerful reactions with particular focus on creeping changes to the Northern Territory's water supply.



COL JORDAN | THE GREEK PAINTING

24 June – 17 September 2023

Working with Mossenson Galleries Subiaco, BRAG was excited to be able to exhibit The Greek Paintings

by Col Jordan. In 2018 Jordan tested new techniques on paper and explored the possibilities that this medium could bring to his practice. His work has always overlaid one reality on another conflicting reality seeking to produce a new unity out of this conflict. This plus the artist's early fascination with mythology of Daedalus and the Maze eventually led him to the idea of a series of twenty-four paintings, each work taking the anglicised name of a letter from the ancient Greek alphabet and from these letter shapes producing an abstract composition. Jordan decided that the series should explore and revisit every technique and colour variation used in his work since his first exhibition at Sydney's Watters Gallery in 1966. The result is the called The Greek Paintings.

BLOOMING ART

31 August – 3 September 2023

An annual exhibition presented by the Floral Designers' Club comprising of the South West Floral Championships and a number of floral masterpieces made by local celebrities in response to works from the City of Bunbury Art Collection.

ILUKA VISIONS

16 September – 5 November 2023

Iluka Visions showcases artworks created by students in years 7-12 from high schools across the South West region. The exhibition serves

to underscore the important role of art education in a holistic learning experience. This year, twenty schools are participating in this survey of Arts high school curriculum studies from Harvey to Manjimup.

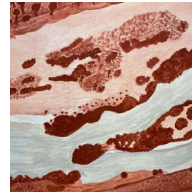
Bunbury Regional Art Gallery is proud to be presenting a version of Iluka Visions since 1991. This year, 111 selections were made in person from over 700 submissions. The selection committee believe that the artworks on display demonstrate an outstanding cross-section of visual language and conceptual concerns for students in South West high schools.

This exhibition would not be possible without the support of Iluka Resources.

NAKED IN THE LAND | STEWART SCAMBLER

30 September '23 – 28 January '24

Stewart Scambler is one of WA's most prolific and respected ceramic artists. The works in this show reflected his response to the land. Not just the visual as experienced from a bus, car or aircraft but the actual experience of being in the land and open to its presence. Work made from clay and minerals sourced from Western Australia and was prepared for use by hand. Majority of the pieces are woodfired over 51 hours to 1320C using wood from Stewart's property in York. Some pieces were also hand



built and fired in an electric kiln. The surfaces of the pieces were a combination of the clays and minerals from the wood ash, some smooth and some challengingly sharp and rugged. The process works by throwing fire and ash at the pieces so there is an element of uncertainty reflected in the final result.

THE ALTERNATIVE ARCHIVE | ART ON THE MOVE

7 October '23 – 21 January '24

The Alternative Archive, travelling through Art on the Move, is the first major survey of contemporary art from regional WA in twenty years. It was developed using an ambitious framework that involved 200 regional artists across thirteen interconnected exhibitions presented in galleries from Kununurra to Albany across 2019.

Offering a rare and timely insight into the diversity of regional artistic practice throughout the state, 285 artists were invited to create a contemporary archive documenting parts of their community they felt

should be highlighted. They have responded to local archives and collections, or have produced new archives that can preserve 'untold' histories. Working in a range of media – including painting, drawing, textiles, jewellery, video and sculpture – the artists of The Alternative Archive tell of the deep, multi-generational connections to place and family that are embedded in objects and materials. Their artworks unearth stories that have been lost, kept hidden or that need to be told in new voices, as well as new stories shared in public for the first time.

LUNCH BARS, BRETT LEIGH DICKS

21 Oct 23 – 28 Jan 2024

From cream buns and vanilla slices to cheese-filled sausages and salad sandwiches, lunch bars are a staple of local working-class culinary culture. Typically tucked away in the city's suburban, industrial, and commercial areas, lunch bars have been sustaining the work force with an array of no-frills fast food since the 1950s. For the previous two years, Fremantle-based

Photographer Brett Leigh Dicks had been tracking down examples of this idiosyncratic and vibrant slice of Western Australian resulting in this fascinating and quirky exhibition.

MY COUNTRY | RHONA WALLAM

18 November '23 – 4 February '24

A celebration of Artist Rhona Wallam, journeying through her life of painting Country! This exhibition showcased a beautiful and exciting body of work, rich in the colour and landscapes of Wardandi Country. From early pieces under the tuition of renown Noongar Artists Lance Chad and Shane Pickett; aspiring from a Carrolup Tradition of Landscape painting developed here in the South West of WA in the Mission School in the 1940's, Rhona has created her personal unique and style of Landscape painting. This exhibition presented a stunning personal collection; Works on Paper Bark from the City of Bunbury Collection and Bunbury Regional Hospital private collection; together with new experimental and vibrant paintings!

INGRESS | STUART ELLIOTT

16 December '23 – 18 February '24

For over four decades, renowned artist Stuart Elliott has stood as a defining figure in Western Australian visual arts. Known for his work's intricacy, craftsmanship, and compelling narrative, Elliott continues to define what excellence in the visual arts is as an accomplished painter, sculptor, lecturer, curator, and writer. His fictive representations present a world perpetually teetering on the brink of peril due to its own endeavours. His creations portray not idyllic rural landscapes but rather a premonition of an imminent industrial wasteland, capturing the essence of contemporary Western Australian civilization. Ingress featured recent paintings and sculptures by Elliott, including his major work, "The Causeway."

This exhibition was supported by Liz and Lloyd Horn with the loan of The Causeway from their collection.



South West Art Now: A New Constellation | Lower Gallery



Creative Connections

ENGAGEMENT AND PUBLIC PROGRAMS

Education / Creative Schools Program

ONGOING PROGRAMS

- **Creative Connections**

Creative Connections offers a supported, inspired environment for artists of all abilities. This weekly class is focused on extending cognitive and social connections through the arts and creating a safe space to support social interaction and camaraderie.
- **Creative Kids, and Young Visions | 8 sessions per term**

Creative Kids is BRAG's after school art classes for 6-8 year olds. Young Visions is BRAG's after school art classes for 9-10 year olds. Classes are taught by professional artist, Charlotte White, and each term includes a gallery tour and end of term exhibition. Each term focuses on a different theme and focus medium.
- **NEW Tween Visions | 8 sessions per term**

This new program is BRAG's after school art classes for 11+ year olds. Developed by popular demand, these classes are an extension of the kids classes taught by professional artist, Charlotte White. Each term includes a gallery tour and focuses on developing critical thinking alongside art-making skills for tweens.
- **Education Tours**

BRAG provides guided and self-guided exhibition tours to all educational institutions and community groups.
- **Workshop Program**

BRAG provides a service of bookable tutors for workshops that can be hosted at the gallery studio, or at a suitable premises. Tutors are all professional artists.

EXHIBITION PROGRAMS

Cultural Awareness Workshop for Educators with Ron Bradfield Jnr | 22 July 2023

Led by artist and storyteller Ron Bradfield Jnr., this workshop encouraged a process of recognising and sharing histories, memories and milestones, to explore identity through personal stories.

Panel Discussion: Making Art in Goomburrup | Noongar Country 2023 | 5 August 2023

Artists Marjorie Ugle, Amanda Bell, and Shannon Clohessy joined 2023 Noongar Country Curator, Katelyn Whitehurst for a yarn about their journey making art on Goomburrup Boodja.

Curator Talk | Noongar Country 2023 | 22 September 2023

Delivered by Noongar Country 2023 Curator, Katelyn Whitehurst this talk introduced one of BRAG's longest running exhibitions by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people working on Noongar Country.

Professional Development | Visual Art Educator Day | Iluka Visions | 13 October 2023

This year's professional development for art teachers in the South West included a workshop with Francesco Geronazzo and a curator tour of The Alternative Archive with Anna Louise Richardson. This workshop was delivered thanks to Iluka Resources.

Workshop | Idea to Audience Artist and Curator Workshop | 14 October 2023

Delivered by Anna Louise Richardson, this workshop discussed how exhibitions come together and covered many logistical and conceptual development tips and tricks. This workshop was delivered thanks to Art on the Move.

Artist Demo | The Making of Naked in the Land with Stewart Scambler | 2 December 2023

Delivered by renowned potter, Stewart Scambler this was a unique opportunity to observe a demonstration of forms and surfaces.



Artist Talk | Morning Tea with Stewart Scambler | 30 September 2023

Stewart Scambler is one of WA's most prolific and respected ceramic artists and this talk introduced his new solo exhibition, Naked in the Land.

School Holiday Workshop | Watercolours & Storytelling with Sofie Seyah | 7 January 2024

Shark Bay artist and marine scientist, Sofie Seyah welcomed children and their parents to a fun and engaging watercolours and storytelling workshop. This workshop was delivered thanks to Art on the Move.

Artist Talks | Stuart Elliott and Brett Leigh Dicks | 27 January 2024

Exhibiting artists Stuart Elliot and Brett Leigh Dicks introduced and discussed their respective solo exhibitions, Ingress and Lunch Bars, in the gallery.

Art Teacher Sundowner | BRAG Education | 1 February 2024

An annual celebration of the school year for art teachers in the South West region to provide information on the upcoming Iluka Visions and annual education program.

Online Info Session | Grants for Artists | 11 April 2024

Delivered by Walk Through Walls directors Rania Ghandour and Mollie Hewitt, this online lead-up information session provided background for the in-person grant writing workshop.

Workshop | Mindful Drawing in the Garden with Jenni Doherty | 27 April 2024

This workshop was held at Thommo's Community Garden and guided participants through a process of accessing flow and a morning of drawing in the garden.

Workshop | Grant Writing Workshop for Artists | 4 May 2024

This in-person practical workshop guided participants to prepare a grant application to the DLGSC, facilitated by Walk Through Walls.

Networking Event | SWAN Artists in Conversation | 12 June 2024

This panel featured SWAN artists Chris Young, Elisa Markes-Young, Kate Alida Mullen, Jenni Doherty, Seamus Hughes and Amanda Bell and was facilitated by Molly Werner. It was held at Held at Nala Bardip Mia – the Margaret River HEART.

Event | Performance Art Directed by Seamus Hughes | 22 June 2024

This live art event guided the audience through the gallery as performers interacted with the 200-year-old architecture and the artworks in the SWAN exhibition. *(pictured right)*

Film Screening | Makers' Film Festival | 27 June 2024

Held at the Bunbury Regional Entertainment Centre, the Makers' Film Festival 23 featured 17 short films selected from Mallorca, Morocco, Kazakhstan, Singapore, India, Australia and New Zealand.



SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Workshop Series | Art for Parents and Caregivers | 28 July, 4, 11, 18, 25 August, 1, 8, 15, 22 September 2023

Led by printmaker Francesco Geronazzo and props artist Kate Maloney, these classes aimed to provide parents and caregivers for children under the age of 5 with space to make and free creche.

(pictured right)

Workshop Series | Art for Parents and Caregivers | 2, 9, 16, 23 February, 1, 8 March 2024

Led by artist and mother Sheree Dohnt, these classes focused on reflecting on personal stories to make artworks. They aimed to provide parents and caregivers for children under the age of 5 with space to make and free creche.

Tactile Tour | National Gallery of Australia Art Case | 5 and 12 April 2024

Led by our BRAG Education Officer, the Country Art Case featured small artworks that showcased Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives, ideas and stories about land and Country. This was a touring initiative from the National Gallery of Australia.





Creative Kids | Studio 2



Open Night | 1 December 2023 / Always Goodnights | March 2024

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

Iluka Visions opening + awards | August 2023

Continuing with the family friendly event day, BRAG was again filled with young artists and their families to celebrate the amazing talents of the artists, and their teachers.

Open Night | 1 December 2023

A combination event, celebrating the summer of exhibitions including Art on the Move's Alternative Archive exhibition, Brett Leigh Dicks | Lunch Bars, Rhona Wallam | My Country, and Stewart Scambler | Naked in the Land, all in conjunction with the official lighting of the Christmas lights in the City.

Stuart Elliot Closing | Feb 24

Patrons joined BRAG in celebrating Stuart Elliot's latest work Ingress, as it said farewell to the Chapel Gallery.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Always Good Nights | Summer Series

3 events held over the summer period, BRAG hosted Always Goodnights featuring musicians from all over the country for intimate performances in the BRAG courtyard.

Films on the Fringe | August 2023

Bunbury Fringe Festival took over Chapel Gallery for a weekend, turning it into a pop-up cinema and immersive experience with a string quartet and spoken word poetry.

Lost & Found Festival | Gallery Lates

BRAG hosted Lost & Found staying open late, as a chance for patrons to enjoy BRAG exhibitions in the evening, along with pop-up bar and curator tour of Noongar Country 2023.

"The most beautiful gallery ever, and amazingly helpful and friendly service!"

- gallery visitor, Finland



NOONGAR ARTS PROGRAM

With the facilitation of two artist workshops per week, the Noongar Arts Program artists who we work with here at BRAG, saw some outstanding achievements.

COMMERCE

Having a dedicated space within the Bunbury Regional Art Gallery has made a big impact on sales for the program. The shop is well visited and word has got around the community to visit the ever changing display of works, which includes paintings, prints, silk scarves and glass work. Being able to participate in many of the local art markets such as at Tree Street Art Safari, the South West's Multicultural event is also exciting to the artists, as they are able to showcase their works to new audiences and experience the opportunities to chat and skill share with other artist groups.

REVEALED EXHIBITION

Two NAP artists entered and were selected to be emerging artists in the Revealed Exhibition at the Fremantle Arts Centre. This annual exhibition celebrates First Nations emerging artists from different cultural groups across Western Australia and reveals the richness, diversity and vitality of contemporary Indigenous art practice. A group of twelve artists travelled to support the participating NAP artists on the Opening night.

Noongar Arts Program retail space

NOONGAR ARTS PROGRAM (CONT.)

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

Helen Coleman, a Curtin University research student, was the NAP Artist in Residence in 2023. Helen's research focused on natural dyes, in particular dye from Marri Tree gum, through an Indigenous Research Collaboration agreement. Helen collaborated with the NAP artists on numerous exciting experiments exploring the science of natural dyes. One of the many highlights of her residency was a visit by the Northern Territory artists of the Dilly Bag Collective. The NAP artists enjoyed working with Helen and have since continued exploring using natural dyes on their journey of "Science meets Art".

NAP artists Amanda Bell and Bev Thomson spent time over the summer months working on large scale paintings and textiles works, as well as developing an interactive installation artwork with Deanna Mosca, as part of the Tree Street Art Safari. Amanda also worked on writing for performance, as part of being selected to participate in Bunbury Regional Entertainment Centre's development program.

Noongar artist Troy Bennell has been the NAP Artist in Residence since March. Troy has a long history of working as an artist, curator, cultural performer, and even an ambassador

for Australian tourism travelling throughout Europe. As a celebrated Australian artist, Troy has played a significant role in numerous public art projects in and around Bunbury. Those closest to his heart are projects that honour and celebrate the historical and cultural contributions of the local Noongar community.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Through the Noongar Arts Program, twelve artists travelled to Rubibi for the annual Aboriginal Art Centre Hub WA Forum. The trip was an opportunity for networking, professional development and sharing of innovative ideas. The artists returned to Wardandi Country inspired to continue to grow their artistic practice.

Since early 2024 the artists have worked towards the year's highlight, a NAP Fashion show, to be held in September at the Bunbury Regional Entertainment Centre. In the lead up to the show the artists participated in various workshops with industry professionals focused on textile creation, fashion design, run way practice, make-up, silk painting, 3-D printing and jewellery making. The garments planned range from dazzling dresses, to comfortable leisurewear, bold accessories to streetwear.



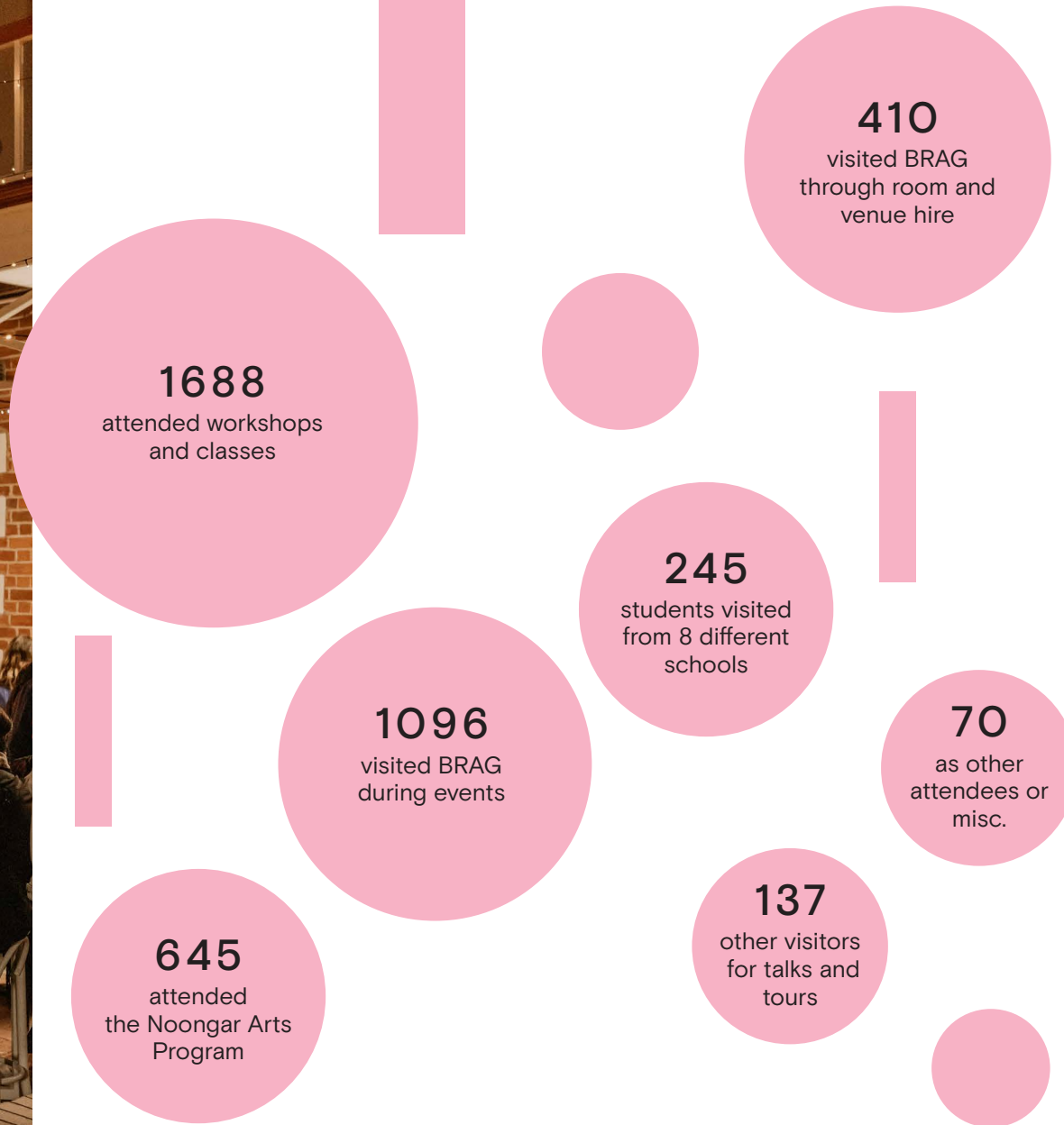
NAP artists Rhonda Norman and Candice Nannup with Helen Coleman (top)
Troy Bennell in the AiR Studio (bottom)



*The Alternative Archive I
Art on the Move
(install view)*



OUR VISITORS – BY ATTENDANCE



Lost & Found launch party – September 2023

OUR VISITORS - BY LOCATION

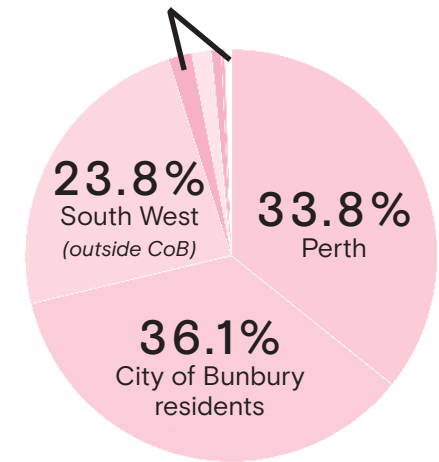


517 survey respondents

18.2%
of visitors are international. Highest visiting countries: United Kingdom, New Zealand, France, United States, and Malaysia

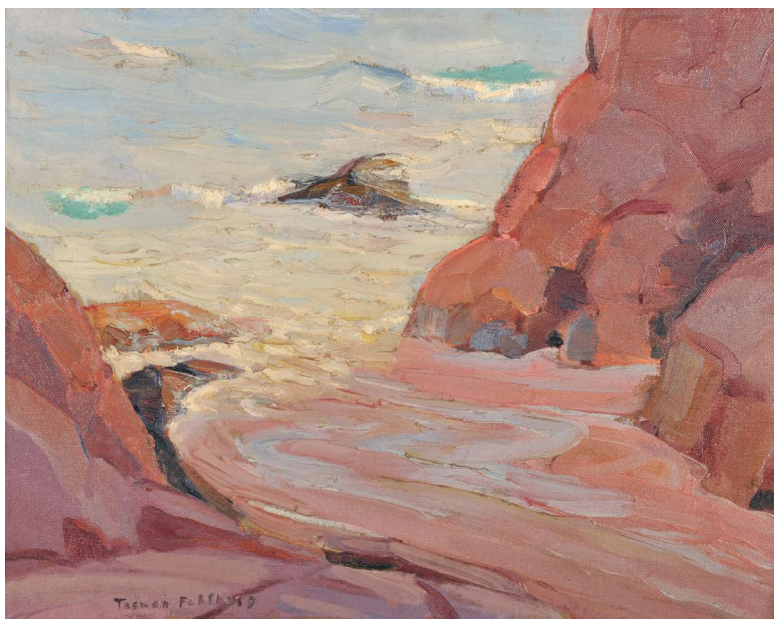
15.7%
of Australian visitors are from outside WA
NSW - 4.7%
VIC - 4.3%
QLD - 3.7%

Peel - 3.2%
Great Southern - 1.4%
Wheatbelt - 0.6%
Goldfields-Esperance - 0.5%
Pilbara - 0.3%
Midwest - 0.3%



THE CITY OF BUNBURY

ART COLLECTION



Tasman Fehlberg
The Gulch
1946
Oil on canvas
39.7 x 50.8cm
AC2012.3

In the late 1940s, the West Australian philanthropist, Sir Claude Hotchin donated significant artworks to towns across Regional Western Australia. His aim was to bring art to the people of the South West region and to encourage local artists.

In 1948, the then Town of Bunbury received the first of 22 works donated by Sir Claude Hotchin. This donation became the start of the Bunbury Art Collection and a committee was established to manage the Collection. From 1948 until the early 1950s, the Society of Artists managed and acquired works for the Collection, until the Collection Committee was established under the Local Government Act. From then until they disbanded in 2009, the Society of Artists had been represented on the Committee.

In 1979, the City of Bunbury purchased the old Convent of Mercy to permanently house and exhibit the Collection and to provide the community with an 'A' Class Gallery that became the Bunbury Regional Art Galleries.

In 2008 the City of Bunbury Art Collection Committee accepted a generous gift of 21 artworks donated by Alcoa of Australia. Many of Australia's most prominent artists are represented in the Alcoa Gift.

A collection of 330 botanical watercolour paintings by Bunbury artist Rosetta Kelly (1861-1961) were purchased in 2010. The works were painted between 1916 and 1940 and are of significant local historical interest.

From those 22 works donated in 1948, the Collection has since grown to over a thousand pieces. The estimated value of the collection is in excess of \$2 million.

All purchases are approved by the Gallery's Acquisition Panel, consisting of:

Dr. Michael Bianco	BRAG Director (outgoing)
Caroline Lunel	City of Bunbury Collections Art Curator / Registrar (outgoing)
Donna Greenwood	City of Bunbury Collections Art Curator / Registrar (acting)
Cheryl Kozisek	City of Bunbury Council Elected Member
Dr. Donna Mazza	Community industry representative

NEW ARTWORKS ACQUIRED



DONATIONS

Elizabeth Blair Barber

Portrait of Sir Claude Hotchkin C1962

Oil on canvas

89 x 60cm

Gifted by Max Grunberg

(pictured left)

Howard Taylor

Forked Figure

Oil & turps wash on jarrah with incised surface and steel mounting brackets

Dimensions: 209 x 185 x 45 cm

Gifted by Brett Taylor

Frank Norton

No. 648 Paris28/4/70

Watercolour & ink on paper

49 x 55.5cms

Gifted from the collection of Lloyd and Elizabeth Horn

10
purchases

1047

artworks in City
of Bunbury Art
Collection as of
30 June 2024

3
donated
paintings

ACQUISITIONS

SOUTH WEST ART NOW 2024: A NEW CONSTELLATION

Helen Seiver

Tie (I, III, IV, V) (2024)

Found ties, embroidery threads, black stones,
Nullagine River sand, spinifex & feathers
1300 x 100mm (each)

Helen Seiver

Forgiveness (2024)

Found jacket, embroidery threads, spinifex
900 x 200 x 750mm
(pictured top right)

Jenni Doherty

Recode O.3, O.4, O.5 (2024)

Egg Tempera and cold wax on board
800 x 800 x 50mm
(Recode O.3 pictured bottom right)

Louise Tasker

*The group of Twenty vs The Human
Mobility Pathway (2024)*

Neckpiece: 20 x sea urchins, copper &
polyester braided cable, acrylic sterling silver,
120 x 80 x 2000mm; Ring: sea urchin, cork,
sterling silver, co-axial cable, 25 x 25 x 75mm

Carly Le Cerf

Frail Frontier (2024)

Encaustic paint, tape and oil on board, wooden
410 x 1800 x 55 mm

Anthony Debbo

Whales x 3 (2024)

Jarraah, red gum and paint
various sizes

STEWART SCAMBLER | NAKED IN THE LAND

Stewart Scambler

Salt (2024)

Oxidised ceramic wall panel - Brick clay
460 x 460mm

Stewart Scambler

Jar (2024)

Woodfired local clay
490 x 345mm
(pictured bottom left)

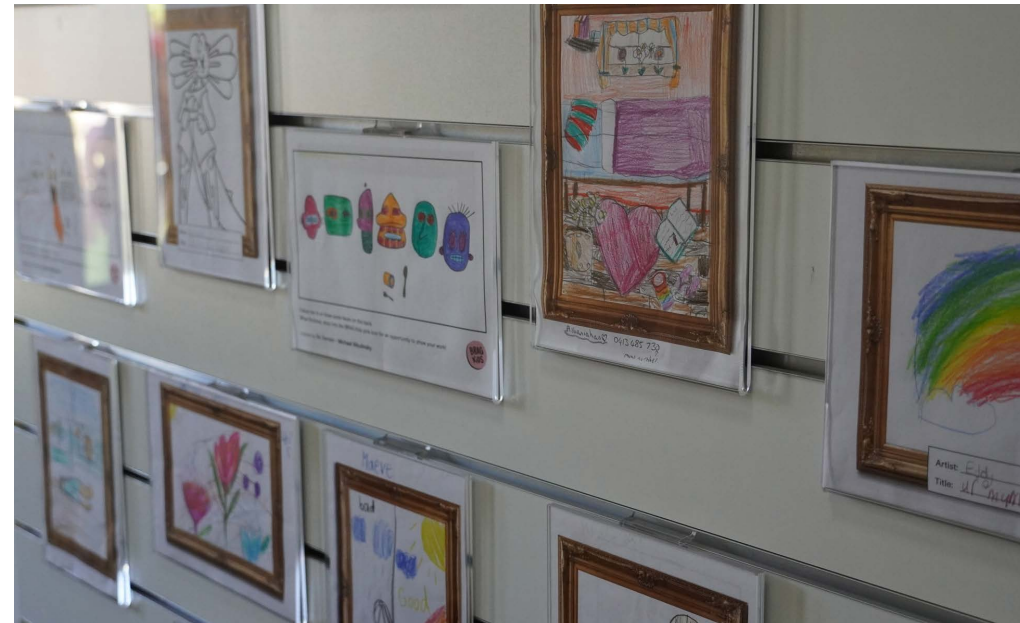


BRAG KIDS

GALLERY

As a new fixture, The BRAG Kids Gallery offers an engaging and educational experience for young visitors by showcasing artworks from the City of Bunbury collection, featuring works by both local and Australia-wide artists. Each artwork is accompanied by a didactic panel that guides children on how to appreciate art, focusing on key concepts such as composition, line, form, colour, texture, and more. Whether it's a striking landscape or an intriguing portrait, these didactic elements help children understand how to engage with art in a meaningful way, fostering both curiosity and creativity.

In addition to observing the displayed artworks, young visitors are encouraged to unleash their own artistic talents. They can colour in drawings inspired by pieces from the collection or create their own unique masterpieces. Completed drawings can be dropped into a special box, with selected works displayed on a feature wall, offering children the joy of seeing their own art exhibited in a gallery setting. This interactive component creates a fun and immersive experience, encouraging kids to explore their creativity while learning about the diverse elements of visual art.





FINANCE REPORT

As the Bunbury Regional Art Gallery is owned and operated by the City of Bunbury, a full financial report can be viewed via the City's website.

*South West Art Now 2024: A New Constellation
Anthony Debbo (install view)*

BRAG IS SUPPORTED BY



