

Indigenous Leadership Program

MEDIA RELEASE
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\$1.4M WESFARMERS PARTNERSHIP FOR NATIONAL GALLERY OF AUSTRALIA INDIGENOUS ART PROGRAMS

Wesfarmers has increased its support of the National Gallery of Australia to become the Gallery's official **Indigenous Art Partner** from 2012. The new partnership valued at \$1.4 million, will span will span four years and include the company's ongoing support of the Wesfarmers Arts Indigenous Fellowships program and the 2nd National Indigenous Art Triennial.

The partnership began in 2009 with the announcement of the Wesfarmers Arts Indigenous Fellowship and Leadership program – a national initiative aimed at increasing participation by Indigenous people in visual arts management across Australia's gallery and museum sector.

"Wesfarmers is committed to promoting the role of art and culture in our society – in particular, the central place that indigenous culture occupies in defining the contemporary face of Australia and our national identity on the world stage. The National Gallery is uniquely positioned to take a leadership role in nurturing the long-term growth and promotion of indigenous visual arts in this country. As a Western Australia-based company, we can see the very real benefits that this national program of support for indigenous art delivers for artists and communities in the regions as well as the urban centres." said Ms Helen Carroll, Head of Wesfarmers Arts.

"The National Gallery of Australia is delighted to be strengthening our partnership with an iconic Australian company such as Wesfarmers. What makes our partnership so successful is our mutual commitment to developing and promoting appreciation of Indigenous art and increasing indigenous participation in the visual arts sector", said Mr Rupert Myer AM, Chairman of the National Gallery of Australia

"The National Gallery of Australia continues to lead the way in the display and promotion of Indigenous art as demonstrated by the opening of the 11 new Stage One Indigenous art galleries in 2010, as well as the launch of the Wesfarmers Art Indigenous Leadership Program and the staging of the second National Indigenous Art Triennial. It's exciting to be working with a dynamic company like Wesfarmers on these projects." he said.

The National Gallery of Australia also announced the following sponsors would be supporting the 2nd National Indigenous Art Triennial and the Wesfarmers Arts Leadership Seminar:

- Qantas as Airline Partner
- The Australia Council for the Arts
- The Queensland Indigenous Arts Marketing and Export Agency
- Forrest Hotel and Apartments as Accommodation Partner

UnDisclosed: 2nd National Indigenous Art Triennial

The National Gallery of Australia and Wesfarmers Arts will present *UnDisclosed: 2nd National Indigenous Art Triennial* at the National Gallery of Australia in Canberra from May 11 until 10 July 2012 before a national tour.

More than 260,000 visitors enjoyed the first National Indigenous Art Triennial which opened late in 2007 in Canberra and toured nationally over a period of more than two years finally closing in Washington DC in early 2010.

For the Second Triennial, the National Gallery of Australia invited Carly Lane, Curator of Indigenous Art at the Art Gallery of Western Australia to curate the exhibition bringing a fresh perspective to the exhibition. Works featured will be in a range of media, including paintings on canvas and bark, sculpture, work on paper, photomedia, new media and large scale installations.

The twenty artists featured in *UnDisclosed: 2nd National Indigenous Art Triennial* will be: Tony Albert, Vernon Ah Kee, Bob Burruwal, Michael Cook, Lorraine Connelly-Northey, Nici Cumpston, Fiona Foley, Mirdidingkingathi Juwarnda Sally Gabori, Gunybi Ganambarr, Julie Gough, Lindsay Harris, Jonathan Jones, Danie Mallor, Naata Nungurrayi, Maria Josette Orsto, Daniel Walbidi, Christian Bumbarra Thompson, Alick Tipoti, Lena Yarinkura and Nyapanyapa Yunupingu.

Franchesca Cubillo, Senior Curator of Indigenous Art at the National Gallery of Australia said “*UnDisclosed* is an exciting snapshot of contemporary Indigenous art that will challenge, inspire and captivate.

“*UnDisclosed* extends the narrative of the first *National Indigenous Art Triennial: Culture Warriors*, held in 2007. Where *Culture Warriors* explored the expression and protection of Indigenous culture, *UnDisclosed* invites viewers to unearth the layers of hidden and subtle meanings in the works of twenty wonderful contemporary Australian artists”.

2nd Wesfarmers Arts Indigenous Leadership Program

The National Gallery of Australia and Wesfarmers also today announced the successful applicants for the second annual Wesfarmers Arts Indigenous Leadership program to be held from 27 November to December 2011.

The Leadership Program assists ten indigenous Australians to attend a 10 day leadership course at the National Gallery of Australia in Canberra. The program gives participants the opportunity to learn about the national art collection and experience the behind the scenes operations of one of Australia's leading visual arts institutions with the aim of encouraging their ongoing development in arts management.

The 2011 Wesfarmers Arts Indigenous Leadership participants are:

Australian Capital Territory	Georgia Mokak – Studying a Bachelor Arts (Art History & Curatorship) at the Australian National University, Canberra
New South Wales	Robert Appo – Regional Indigenous Cultural Development Officer for Arts Northern Rivers, Alstonville
Northern Territory	Ruby Alderton – High school student and arts worker at Buku Larnggay Mulka Arts, Yirrkala
Northern Territory	Sharon Nampijimpa Anderson – Arts Administration Officer at Warnayaka Art and Culture, Lajamanu Community
Northern Territory	Victoria Doble – Art Administration Officer at Mardbalk Arts and Crafts, Warruwi Community, South Goulburn Island

Northern Territory	Vivian Warlapinn Kerinauia – Art worker at Tiwi Designs Aboriginal Corporation, Tiwi Islands
Queensland	Jack Jans – Freelance community arts coordinator, Cairns.
South Australia	Bradley Harkin – Exhibition Installer at Tandanya National Aboriginal Cultural Institute, Adelaide
Victoria	Zena Cumpston – Studying Arts (Double Major in History/Archaeology and Visual Culture) at Monash University, Melbourne
Western Australia	Suzanne Barron – Aboriginal early year's coordinator with an Associate Degree in Aboriginal Art and Bachelor of Arts (ART), Armadale

To access a selection of print quality images from all twenty artists featured in *Undisclosed: 2nd National Indigenous Art Triennial* please go to: www.nga.gov.au/mediacentre

Media enquiries:

David Edghill, Head of Marketing and Communications, Marketing and Communications, National Gallery of Australia
T: 02 6240 6643 M: 0403 123 084 E: david.edghill@nga.gov.au