



EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

'Exhibition-Ready' Program 2026

PROGRAM SUMMARY

The UMI Arts 'Exhibition Ready' program is a skills-development program for Far North Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists who want to gain skills and experience in preparing art works for exhibition and sale. The 'Exhibition Ready' program mentors artists through each step of gallery exhibition preparation, presentation and promotion, whilst working towards a 6 week long exhibition at UMI Arts Gallery in Cairns, celebrated with an official opening event.

Through participation in skills workshops, 'Go-See' excursions and with the use of the UMI Arts studio, the participant will prepare a complete body of work, according to their chosen exhibition theme/rationale. With the assistance of the Exhibition Officer or Curator, the participant will be guided through the process of delivering the exhibition. By the end of the program, as an Exhibition-Ready graduate, the participant will have held their first professional exhibition.

The program covers areas including:

- *Preparing your artist profile and CV*
 - *Pricing works*
 - *Preparing wall labels and stories*
- *Professional installation and lighting*
 - *Marketing your exhibition*
- *Coordinating an exhibition opening*
- *Indigenous Australian Art Commercial Code of Conduct - Indigenous Code Certificates*
 - *Resale Royalty Scheme*
 - *Accessing new opportunities*

Participants receive full support and guidance from the UMI Arts Gallery Exhibition Officer or Curator as Mentor and abiding by UMI Arts gallery standards.

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

EOI APPLICATIONS OPEN: 1 DECEMBER 2025

EOI APPLICATIONS CLOSE: 30 JANUARY 2026

ABOUT UMI ARTS

UMI Arts is the lead Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts and cultural organisation for Far North Queensland, and a not-for-profit company managed by an all-Indigenous Board of Directors. UMI Arts represents the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts community of Far North Queensland within the Torres Strait Islands, south to Cardwell, west to Camooweal and the Gulf and Mt Isa regions. UMI Arts is a signatory to the Australian Indigenous Art Code that preserves and promotes ethical trading in Indigenous Art. UMI Arts was established in 2005 and its mission is to operate an Indigenous organisation that assists Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to participate in the maintenance, preservation and protection of cultural identity. UMI is a Creole word that means You and Me – UMI Arts' goal is to strengthen Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural practices, including visual arts and crafts, dance, ceremony, storytelling and music.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: EXHIBITION READY PROGRAM TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- **Artists must be members of UMI Arts.** To become a member, artists must live and work in Far North Queensland and identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander, with a bloodline connection to a cultural group within the UMI Arts area (which extends north of Cairns to include the Torres Strait Islands, south to Cardwell, west to Camooweal and includes the Gulf and Mt Isa regions).
- There are **no fees** required with this Expression of Interest application.
- New artworks can be developed by an individual artist, or Indigenous artists collaborating together and working on a related theme. UMI Arts reserves the right to exclude an artist's artwork if it is deemed offensive or inappropriate for public exhibition.
- New artworks completed during participation in the Exhibition-Ready program or within the **last 12 months**
- Artists retain all Copyright, although your work may be published by UMI Arts in the exhibition catalogue or social media to promote your artist profile and the exhibition (Publications).
- **All artworks submitted for exhibition must be available for sale.** UMI Arts will determine a Recommended Retail Price (RRP) at a realistic fair market value calculated using the Artist Price nominated in the EOI application. Artists can expect payments **(70% off the wall price, which is less UMI Arts' 30% commission)** to be received into their nominated bank account within 30 days from the date of sale or end of the month, whichever comes first.
- Artists must meet all deadlines, or this may result in the withdrawal of your EOI application.
- Not all artworks will necessarily be selected for this exhibition. Artworks selected for this exhibition will be at the sole discretion of the Gallery Curator, and the decision made is final, and no correspondence will be entered into.

SALES & PAYMENT

All artworks submitted for exhibition must be available for sale.

UMI Arts will determine a Recommended Retail Price (RRP) at a realistic fair market value calculated using the Artist Price nominated in the EOI application. Artists can expect payments (70% commission from sale) to be received into their nominated bank account within 30 days from

the date of purchase (Subject to ABN, correct bank details being provided, sales being paid for in full by the purchaser and sales reports for the month being provided).

THE ARTIST AGREES TO:

- Submit complete artist and artwork information for publication.
- Ensure spelling and grammar are correct as submitted; although the Curator will edit at their discretion, *it is the artist's responsibility to follow correct procedures for the use and spelling of Indigenous languages in artwork stories and information.* Although UMI Arts makes best efforts to ensure all artwork is culturally appropriate, it is also the artist's *responsibility to ensure any use of traditional symbols and techniques is approved and appropriate.*
- Provide artworks ready for installation (canvas stretched and prepared for hanging with two D-rings on the sides and wired, papers framed and prepared for hanging with two D-rings on the sides and wired, sculptures suitable for safe positioning on plinths, etc.).
- exhibition and UMI Arts.
- Safely package and protect artworks for transit to UMI Arts and freight artworks, at your expense, to and from UMI Arts.
- Ensure that the artwork is safe for handling and/or has been treated appropriately (e.g., wooden, fibre, or metal sculpture).
- Collect unsold artworks, which will be stored at UMI Arts for 90 days after the exhibition closes. After this date, artworks become the property of UMI Arts.
- Submitted artworks should not be published before the exhibition's official opening (Facebook, Instagram and TikTok)
- Not mark artworks with any price

CULTURAL STYLES AND SYMBOLS

Traditional Indigenous styles, techniques, motifs, symbols and their meanings in art can vary across regions and cultures. Some of these symbols can be endemic to particular cultural groups and are protected. Although UMI Arts makes best efforts to ensure all artwork is culturally appropriate, **it is the artist's responsibility to ensure that the use of traditional symbols and techniques is approved and appropriate.**

UMI ARTS AGREES TO:

- Insure artworks for the period of the exhibition and until collection of artworks by artist from UMI Arts.
- Provide 24-hour security surveillance of the works for the period of the exhibition and monitor environmental control.
- Not be responsible for the use and spelling errors of languages provided by the artist.
- Cover costs of Administration and Curatorial services.
- Cover the costs of the exhibition, signage & promotion, installation of works and exhibition launch event.
- Cover costs to photograph selected artworks for use in the exhibition, catalogue, social media, PR, annual report, newsletter only.
- Manage all sales and administration
- Freight works using our vehicle and trailer to the exhibition venue (if required).

YOUR APPLICATION MUST INCLUDE:

- ☐ Signed Expression of Interest (p.12)
- ☐ Signed Media Release (p. 12)
- ☐ Completed Artist Information, Exhibition Preparedness Information, Biography, and Artwork Information (p. 5 - 11)
- ☐ Image of artwork (in progress or completed) in JPG format, max 2 MB. *Labelled with clear file caption: Full name_Title of artwork_year when you finished the artwork*
- ☐ Recent portrait photo max 2MB

Send all together to UMI Arts Gallery & Exhibition Officer by e-mail:
exhibitions@umiarts.com.au

ARTIST INFORMATION

Title: Miss / Ms / Mrs / Mr (please circle)		
Name:	Gender:	
Date of birth:	Place of Birth:	
Cultural Group:	Clan Group:	
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	(please circle)	
Telephone:	Fax Number:	
Mobile:	Work Number:	
Email:		
House Number:	Street:	
Suburb:	State:	Postcode:
Next of Kin/Alternative contact Name:..... Address:..... Phone No:..... Email:..... Relationship:.....		
BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS Bank Name:..... Name on Account:..... BSB: Account No:..... ABN:..... <i>* If you do not have an ABN, you must provide a 'Statement by Supplier'.</i>		
Postal Address (if different):		
<i>UMI Arts will use the contact details above to update the membership details on our database</i>		

Are you represented by an Agent? Yes ☐ No ☐ *If yes, Agent to complete below:*

Agent Name	
Agent Company Name	
Phone Number	
Email address	

OTHER INFORMATION

Years of experience as a practicing artist:	
Do you have your own transport? If no, do you have access to reliable transport to/from UMI Arts?	Yes / No
Is art your primary source of income? If no, what is your primary source of income?	Yes / No
Does your art reflect Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Culture? If no, describe to us the style of work you do:	Yes / No
Have you received any training or professional advice/guidance about your art? If yes, what type?	Yes / No
Have you exhibited your art in the past? If yes, please list exhibitions and dates: What do you want to achieve with your art?	Yes / No
Do you currently sell your art? If yes, where? E.g. Galleries, markets, shops, festivals, online etc.?	Yes / No
Do you have an agent or commercial Gallery/s that represents you? If yes, please provide details, including contact details of Gallery/s or Agent:	Yes / No
Have you ever participated in art workshops or community-based programs? If yes, please provide details.	Yes / No
Do you want to be informed of any UMI Arts workshops, community-based development programs or building skills to develop your needs? What are your interests? (E.g. art workshops, art projects, business workshops)	Yes / No
Have you received any art awards or commissions over the years? If yes, please provide details below:	Yes / No
Are you connected to an Arts Centre? If yes, please provide details of the Arts Centre and Manager:	Yes /

EXHIBITION PREPAREDNESS INFORMATION

Do you have a portfolio of past and current work?	Yes / No
Do you have an up to date artist CV (artist resume)? <i>* If no, the Exhibition Officer will help you write your CV</i>	Yes / No
Do you have an artist profile (biography)? <i>* If no, the Exhibition Officer will help you write your artist profile</i>	Yes / No
Do you have a clear profile photo of yourself? <i>* If no, the Exhibition Officer can take a photo of you.</i>	Yes / No
Do you prepare code certificates (certificates of authenticity) with your artwork?	Yes / No

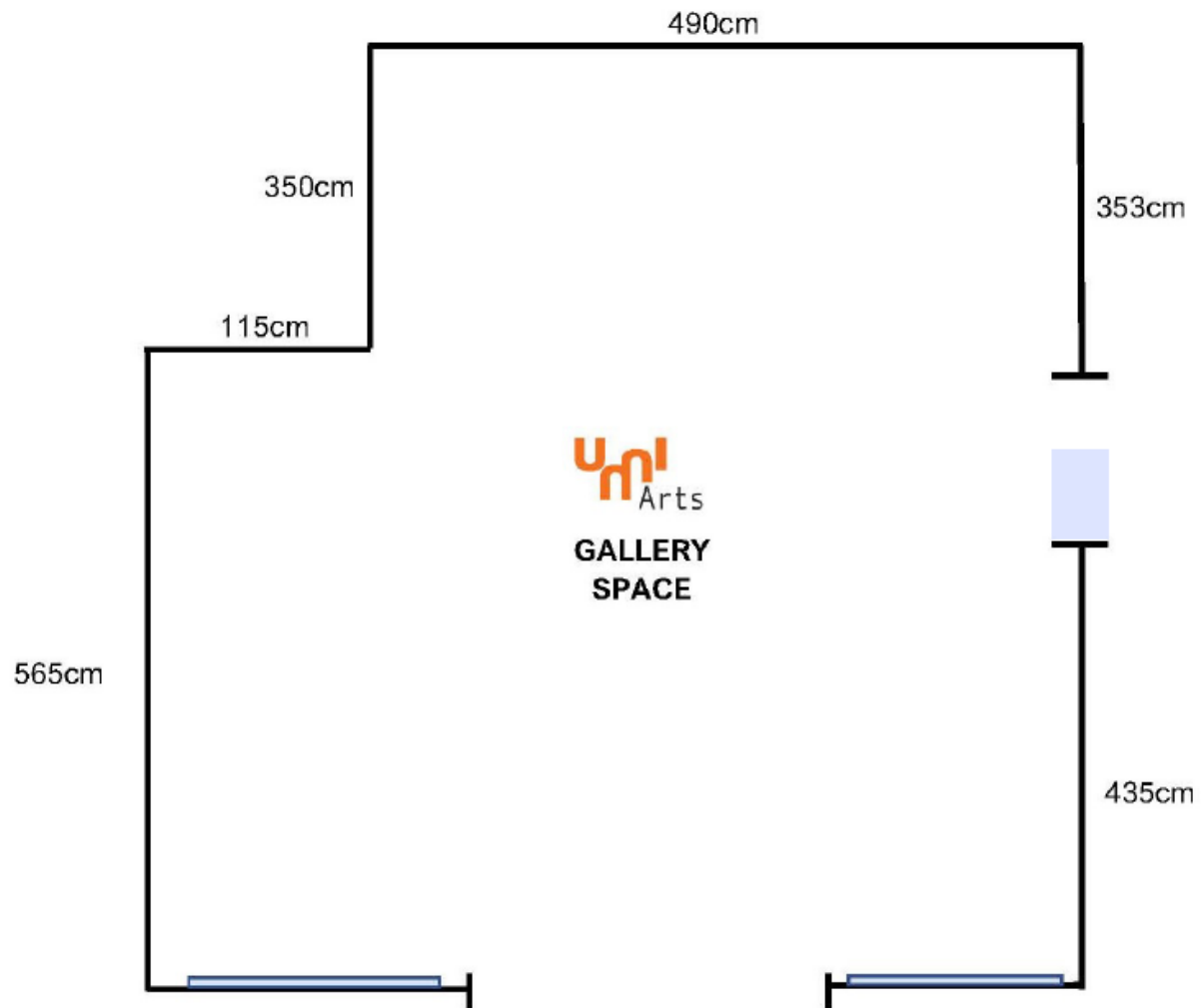
Do you need assistance with pricing your artwork for different markets?	Yes / No
Have you had experience with marketing an exhibition to the media?	Yes / No
If yes, please describe what you have done in the past:	
Do you have funds/materials, etc, to cover the costs of preparing artwork for the exhibition?	Yes / No
Have you had experience in applying for funding? If so, please provide details:	Yes / No

What areas do you feel you need the most support/development in:

- ☐ **Preparing works ready to install**
- ☐ **Preparing personal information- CV, Profiles**
- ☐ **Preparing exhibition information - labels, stories, certificates of authenticity**
- ☐ **Understanding pricing**
- ☐ **Installing an exhibition, hanging systems, labels, lighting, etc.**
- ☐ **Promoting your art practice and exhibition**
- ☐ **Documenting your work and making a portfolio**
- ☐ **Accessing funding**
- ☐ **Accessing exhibition opportunities and competitions, etc.**
- ☐ **Understanding your rights when working with dealers/galleries**

EXHIBITION SPACE AVAILABLE

The UMI Arts Gallery is located along with our offices and gift shop at 4/1 Jensen St, Manoora. We can also utilise two x movable walls which can be positioned anywhere in our Gallery accommodate artworks on either side, and various size plinths for displaying 3D works. Approximate dimensions below (not to scale):



ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

When and where you are born?.....

Clan:

Language:

Region: Totem:

How has your family history and culture influenced you?

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When did you begin practising art, and what motivated you to continue creating art?

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What sort of art you do now, and what is the theme/subject/medium (painting, print, sculpture)?

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What art-related education have you undertaken, and what qualifications do you have?

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Summarise any previous exhibitions and awards.

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Summarise any art-related or community projects you have been involved in.

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ARTWORK INFORMATION (IF APPLICABLE)

*For more than one artwork, please copy/print this page,
complete details for each artwork and attach to your EOJ application for submission.*

Artist Name:		
Title of Artwork:		
Medium:		
Year Created:		
Dimensions (cm):	Height:	
	Width:	
	Depth:	
Cultural Sensitivity: Credit/courtesy line:		
Artist Price Range:	Between \$..... .00 and \$..... .00	

ARTWORK STORY

What was your starting inspiration for this artwork?

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What were your central feelings/or memories while you were working on this artwork?

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How can you describe feelings of importance to keeping the traditions and memories in your artwork practice?

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Other:

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APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- ☐ Are you the **original creator** of all work? *(if applicable)*
- ☐ Are you the **copyright owner** of this work? *(if applicable)*
- ☐ Are you a **member of UMI Arts**? *(applications will only be accepted from UMI members)*
- ☐ You have read and understood the **Terms and Conditions** of the application.
- ☐ You have completed **all sections** of the application where possible.
- ☐ You have ensured any use of traditional Indigenous symbols, motifs and techniques is **approved and culturally appropriate**, and any Indigenous stories, spelling and grammar are correct, approved, and culturally appropriate.
- ☐ You have provided with your application:
 - ☐ Up to 5x high-res images of your art or product
 - ☐ Current Artist and/or Business Biography/Statement
 - ☐ Recent portrait photo and/or business logo
- ☐ You will make best efforts to participate in **media sessions** and assist UMI Arts in promoting Exhibition where possible.
- ☐ UMI Arts will **receive your artworks delivered to the UMI Arts Gallery by Artwork Delivery deadline (see cover page).**

Media Release

I, *(name of artist/company)* give permission for UMI Arts to make a photographic/audio-visual recording of my art and my participation in UMI Arts activities. I understand and authorise this material to be reproduced by UMI Arts for any promotional and educational purposes. UMI Arts will acknowledge me by the name stated above whenever images or records of me and my work are reproduced by them or their agents and/or contractors for promotional and educational purposes (e.g. social media; annual report, newsletter, newspaper).

Signed Date

Expression of Interest: 'Exhibition Ready' Pathway Program 2026

Signed Date

ON COMPLETION, PLEASE SUBMIT THIS FORM TO:

Exhibitions Officer, UMI Arts

Phone: (07) 4041 6152 | **Fax:** (07) 4041 6542

Email: exhibitions@umiarts.com.au | **Web:** www.umiarts.com.au

Address: Shop 4, 1 Jensen Street, MANOORA, QLD 4870

Postal Address: PO Box 15044, EDGE HILL 4870

Thank you for expressing your interest in exhibiting as part of the UMI Arts exhibition program!