



## EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

### ‘Culture Through Our Eyes’

## First Nations Youth Exhibition 2025

### EXHIBITION RATIONALE

‘Culture Through Our Eyes’ is a First Nations Youth Exhibition which provides an opportunity for young First Nations creators to showcase their artworks in a professional gallery setting. Students are encouraged to create artwork which shares how they view their Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Culture – through their eyes. The completed projects will be exhibited for six weeks in a dedicated exhibition at the UMI Arts Gallery in Manoora. UMI Arts will hold an official opening event which all participating students and their families are encouraged to attend. **Open to First Nations students enrolled in Year 7-12 in Cairns and surrounding area, accepting works in any medium.**

### IMPORTANT DEADLINES

**EOI Applications open:** 2 Dec 2024

**EOI Applications close:** 13 March 2025

**Notification of selected artworks:** 14 March 2025

**Delivery of selected works to UMI Arts by:** 17 - 18 March 2025

**Exhibition dates (TBC):** 9 May - 5 June 2025

*Need some help with materials, not sure if you’re eligible,  
or have questions about how the exhibition works?*

*Get in touch with our friendly Exhibition Officer at [exhibitions@umiarts.com.au](mailto:exhibitions@umiarts.com.au)  
or call (07) 4041 6152.*

*We are here to help! Extra materials, resources, and support from UMI Arts can be made available to individual students if required.*

## ABOUT UMI ARTS

*UMI Arts is the peak Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts and cultural organisation for Far North Queensland, an area that extends north of Cairns to include the Torres Strait Islands, south to Cardwell, West to Camooweal and includes all the Gulf and Mt Isa regions. 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 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.*

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- Applicant must be a member of UMI Arts. Member artists must either 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 that extends north of Cairns to include the Torres Strait Islands, south to Cardwell, West to Camooweal and includes all the Gulf and Mt Isa regions.
- UMI Arts will accept only new artworks completed within 12 months of submission that have not been exhibited previously.
- New artworks can be proposed by an individual artist or a group of Indigenous artists collaborating 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.
- 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).
- UMI Arts will only represent the artist's original artworks, which the artist does not intend to reproduce digitally as prints and are not available for sale at the same time.
- Artists must meet all deadlines, otherwise it may result in withdrawing 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.
- There are no fees required with this Expression of Interest application.

***Please note for future membership applications to UMI Arts***

***UMI Arts Member artists must either 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 that extends north of Cairns to include the Torres Strait Islands, south to Cardwell, west to Camooweal and includes the Gulf and Mt Isa regions.***

## SALES & PAYMENT

Artworks exhibited in 'Culture Through Our Eyes' will be exhibited partly for sale while others will be for viewing only, not available for sale. Artists may arrange sales of work privately; however artworks are not to be removed from the Gallery until after the exhibition closure.

## THE ARTIST AGREES TO:

- Submit complete artist and artwork information for publication.
- Submit correct ABN, and bank account details.
- 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 are 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).
- Permit UMI Arts to reproduce and publish images of artworks and the artist to promote the 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 a maximum of 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 on the back or anywhere other than in this EOI form.

I  (name of individual/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 only.

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 etc.).

Signed .....  
Date .....

## UMI ARTS AGREES TO:

- Insure artworks for the period of the exhibition and until collection of artworks by artist from UMI Arts.
- Provide security for the artwork 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, etc.
- Manage all sales and administration
- Freight works using our vehicle and trailer to the exhibition venue (if required).
- Handle artwork with care.

## YOUR APPLICATION MUST INCLUDE:

- 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 of you 'the artist' or group

Send all together with EOI to UMI Arts Gallery & Exhibition Officer by e-mail:  
[exhibitions@umiarts.com.au](mailto:exhibitions@umiarts.com.au)

## ARTIST INFORMATION

<b>Title:</b> Miss / Ms / Mrs / Mr (please circle)		
<b>Name:</b>	<b>Gender:</b>	
<b>Date of birth:</b>	<b>Place of Birth:</b>	
<b>Cultural Group:</b>	<b>Clan Group:</b>	
<b>Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander</b>	<b>(please circle)</b>	
<b>Telephone:</b>	<b>Fax Number:</b>	
<b>Mobile:</b>	<b>Work Number:</b>	
<b>Email:</b>		
<b>House Number:</b>	<b>Street:</b>	
<b>Suburb:</b>	<b>State:</b>	<b>Postcode:</b>
<b>Next of Kin/Alternative contact</b>		
Full Name:.....		
Address:.....		
Phone No:.....		
Email:.....		
Relationship:.....		
<b>BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS</b>		
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>		
<b>Postal Address (if different):</b>		
.....		
<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:*

<b>Agent Name</b>	
<b>Agent Company Name</b>	
<b>Phone Number</b>	
<b>Email address</b>	

## 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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## ARTIST STATEMENT

**Who or what inspired you to do art?** Do any artists influence you? Do personal experiences inspire you?

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**What materials do you use when creating artwork?**

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**How does it exist in space?** Is it 2D or 3D? Do you prefer a big or small format/dimensions of artwork?

Where you can see your artwork (ex. Inside, outside, private, public art ...)

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**Do you have a symbolism in your artwork?**

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**Do you have something to tell the audience through your work, a message, a family story, or a vision of the society in which you live?**

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**Does your art respond to current or historical events?** Is your own identity important in your work?

Does it address contexts such as culture or others?

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## ARTWORK INFORMATION

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

<b>Artist Name:</b>		
<b>Title of Artwork:</b>		
<b>Medium:</b>		
<b>Year Created:</b>		
<b>Dimensions (cm):</b>	<b>Height:</b>	
	<b>Width:</b>	
	<b>Depth:</b>	
<b>Cultural Sensitivity: Credit/courtesy line:</b>		
<b>Artist Price Range:</b>	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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## MATERIALS

Many art buyers who invest in Aboriginal Art have an expectation that the artwork will retain its quality over times much as possible and has the potential to increase in value. At UMI Arts, we strive to promote our member’s artwork as professional, authentic, and of the highest standard; ensuring all products and artworks sold at UMI Arts are created using high-quality materials is an essential part of this process.

***Please circle which professional quality mediums you have used to create your artwork:***

<b>Paint</b>	Professional quality acrylic or oil	Light fast pigment	High pigment load	Protective varnish	
<b>Canvas</b>	Acid-free canvas	Primed with acrylic gesso	Stapled on back (not side)	Undercoated front and sides	7oz/350gsm or above
<b>Print on paper</b>	Professional quality ink	Light fast pigment	Rub resistance	Archival acid-free paper	

## CULTURAL STYLES AND SYMBOLS DISCLAIMER:

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.

## APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- Are you the **original creator** of this work? Yes / No
- Are you the **copyright owner** of this work? Yes / No
- Are you a current **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.
- Your work has been created using professional-standard materials to ensure longevity.
- 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 attendance where possible.
- UMI Arts will **receive your artworks delivered at the UMI Arts Gallery by Artwork Delivery deadline (see cover page).**

<b>Name</b>	
<b>Signed</b>	
<b>Date</b>	

**ON COMPLETION, PLEASE SUBMIT THIS FORM TO:**

**Exhibitions Officer, UMI Arts**  
**Phone:** (07) 4041 6152 | **Fax:** (07) 4041 6542  
**Email:** [exhibitions@umiarts.com.au](mailto:exhibitions@umiarts.com.au) | **Web:** [www.umiarts.com.au](http://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 interest in exhibiting as part of the UMI Arts exhibition program!*