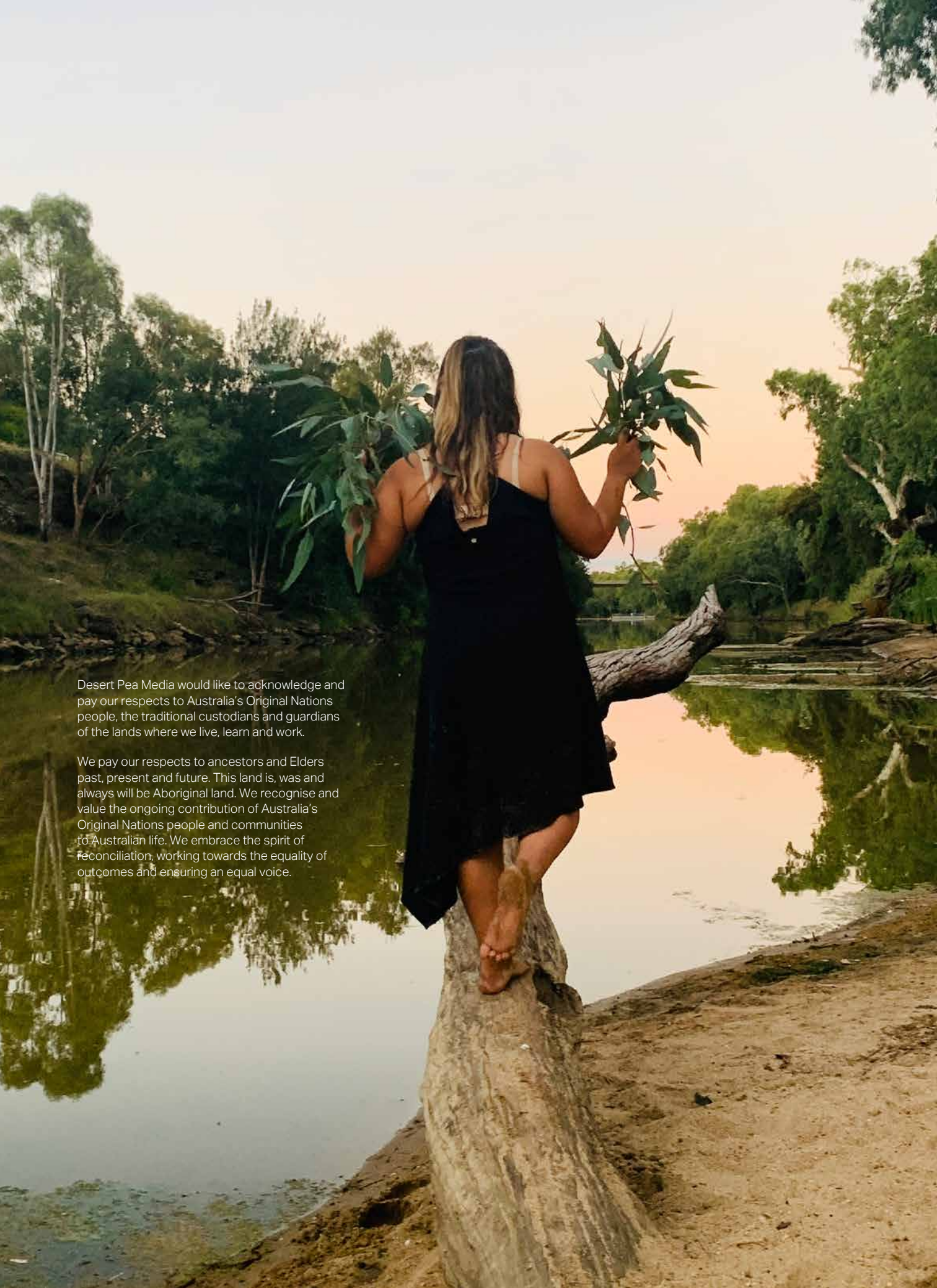


DESERT PEA MEDIA

A man with white body paint on his face and chest, holding his hands up in a gesture, standing in front of a body of water.

ANNUAL REPORT 2019

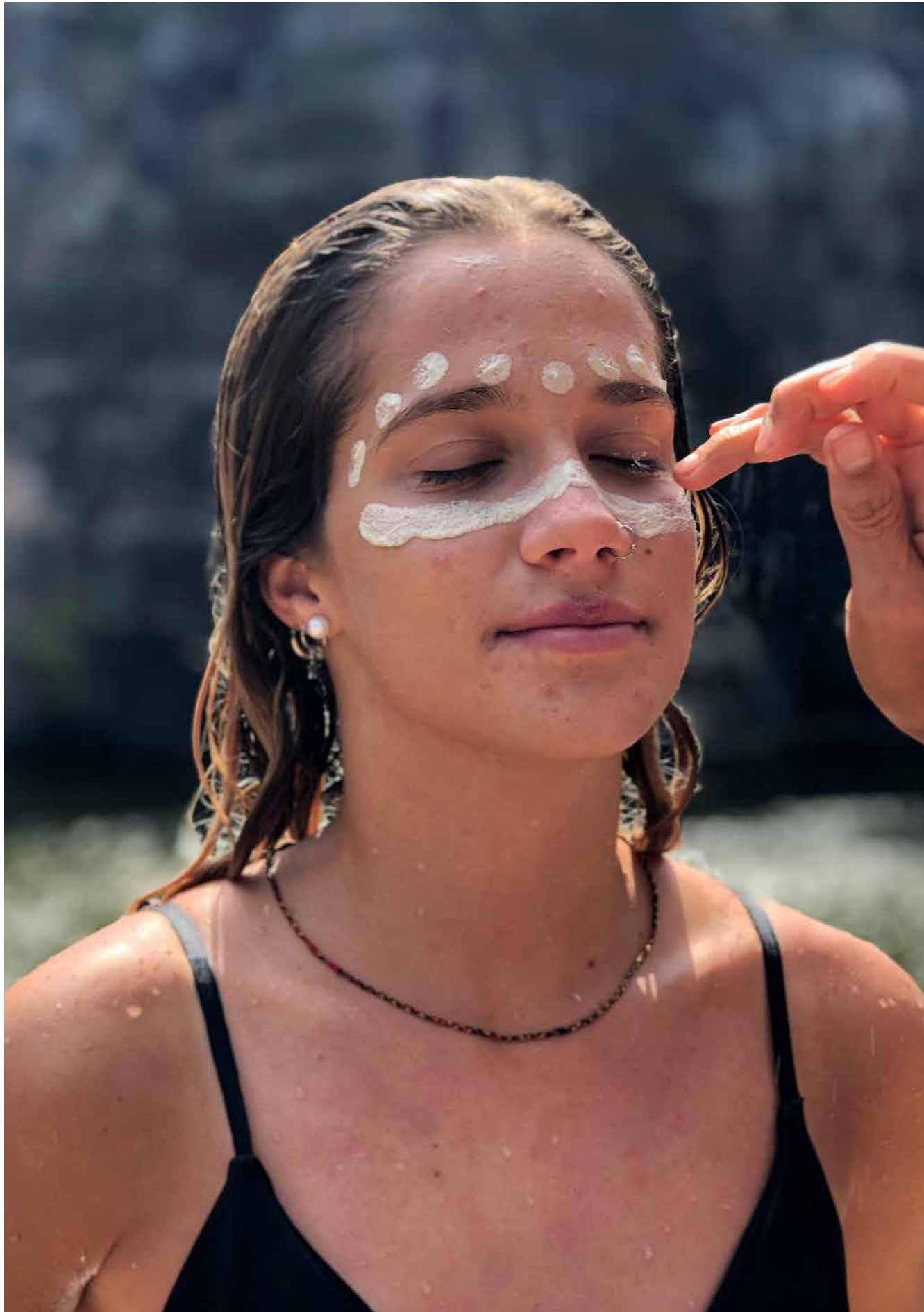


Desert Pea Media would like to acknowledge and pay our respects to Australia's Original Nations people, the traditional custodians and guardians of the lands where we live, learn and work.

We pay our respects to ancestors and Elders past, present and future. This land is, was and always will be Aboriginal land. We recognise and value the ongoing contribution of Australia's Original Nations people and communities to Australian life. We embrace the spirit of reconciliation, working towards the equality of outcomes and ensuring an equal voice.

CONTENTS

3	A Message from the Chair
5	A Message from the CEO
6	Our Vision
8	2019 Highlights from the Board
12	Achievements
14	Milestones
18	The Desert Pea Media Story
20	Our Reach
24	2019 Creative Output
	Music videos
	Short films
28	In Depth — Mentorship
30	In Depth — Boomalli
32	Strategic Overview and Business Planning
36	Treasurer's Report
36	Auditor's Report
40	Team DPM
41	Thankyou



Young person preparing for ceremony, Yamba NSW

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

For almost twenty years, Desert Pea Media (DPM) has been developing community protocols and systems so we can walk side by side with our Original Nations people and amplify local stories from communities across Australia. We have cherished and respected this invitation, honouring communities with genuine and authentic work. We are committed to continue this walk for as long as we are welcome on country.

Among the collaborations Original Nations people have invited DPM to undertake over the past year has been a continued yarn around mental health. This has not been a medical or bureaucrat's conversation, but rather a yarn led by community and created to give young people a safe place to talk. No-one is better placed to tell us about youth mental health than young people, and they have truly shown us what powerful voices exist in community. Unsurprisingly, these voices have also been receiving recognition over several years at the National Indigenous Music Awards.

Along with an invitation from community, DPM's work does not happen without the commitment of staff, the support of funders, and the generosity of volunteers and pro bono services. Every day, the DPM team show humility - putting Original Nations voices first; honouring, protecting and respecting culture in every interaction with community; and courage - learning from mistakes and celebrating shared successes.

Throughout the year, we have been supported by our key funders Western NSW PHN, Environmental Protection Agency NSW, Hunter New England Health, Namatjira Legacy Trust, APRA AMCOS Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Office, Cunnamulla P-12 State School, Music NT Incorporated (NIMA Awards), Paroo Shire Council, The Yulgilbar Foundation, Townsville Aboriginal & Islander Health Service, and Veritas House, with Northern Queensland PHN and North Coast PHN also engaging with us this year to deliver projects in the coming financial years. Each of our funders have recognised the strength of storytelling in community empowerment.

In addition to our funders, we are grateful for the number of private donations that we've generously received from the public, and the unfailing support of DPM's volunteer Board, donating countless hours of time and energy, as well as the invaluable and generous legal support received from Allens, Norton Rose Fulbright and DLA Piper.

For a Balanda*, being part of this DPM journey has been a great honour. It is a unique opportunity to respect the spiritual trust invested in us by Original Nations communities. Far too many people don't take time to listen and learn from the stories that date back to a time when stories began. Stories from a Voice that brings strength to our national identity.

* "Balanda" is a term that refers typically to a European person, commonly used by Original Nations people, particularly those up north (Arnhem Land). The word "Balanda" was introduced by the Macassan traders, being derived from the rough translation of "Hollander".

Christopher Andrew
Chairperson, DPM Association Incorporated



Toby Finlayson and young people from Wilcannia, NSW by the Baaka River

A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Family, connection, generosity, humility and truth. These ideals remain at the core of DPM's work today, and since the very beginning of our journey - 18 years ago in a small country town in Western NSW.

2018/19 has been a fantastic challenge. A period of considerable organisational growth pushed us to look internally – to reflect on our achievements, our core challenges and to really analyse our identity and reason for being.

In February 2019 we embarked on our first ever Strategic Planning session facilitated by a third party. This process was a challenging one, yet undeniably positive. An investment in sustainability and integrity, and in ensuring that our work meets the values and intentions of our process. We're growing up, and it's a wonderful thing to be a part of.

As co-founder and CEO of DPM, this process of self-analysis and reflection developed in me a strong sense of pride. As a non-Indigenous organisation, it really is incredible to look back on the sheer number of authentic and sustained connections and friendships that our team have developed with Original Nations people and communities in over 70 communities around the country over two decades.

It's a long time. That's what is required to build truly beautiful things. Integrity, authenticity and commitment are ideals to be fundamentally proud of, and DPM seems to continually adapt and grow in a way that maintains our sense of responsibility and genuine respect and admiration for the Original Nations people of this country.

Every year, we are becoming more agile, creative and flexible in our approach to leadership, management and process. In 2019 we have developed a series of partnerships with like-minded organisations in the health sector. These partnerships have enabled us to be creative and innovative about how we structure and deliver our programs – how we create space for genuine contribution from stakeholders and communities, and how we sharpen our impact.

The DPM team has contracted and expanded, and we have developed skills and experience in supporting each other, and in human resource management. I'd like to recognise and congratulate our incredible Creative Team, Executive Team and Board of Directors for their commitment, hard work and integrity during this foundational period in the DPM journey.

There's a long way to go. The current social and cultural context for Original Nations Australians requires organisations like ours to challenge ourselves. To focus on sustainability, on maximising our impact, on being critical, self-aware and conscious as we launch into a new year, new focus, and new challenges.

DPM is truly blessed to be supported and guided by a core group of Original Nations Artists, Board Members, Young People, Elders and Community Members, and DPM would like to thank each and every one of you for your input and support over the past 12 months, and indeed over the past 18 years.

We are deeply honoured to learn, share and create on the lands of the Original Nations people of Australia. Thank you.

Toby Finlayson
CEO/Creative Director, DPM Association Incorporated

OUR VISION

DPM's vision is an Australia where Original Nations young people are heard, respected and celebrated as part of our National Identity, and embraced to live a life of their own design.

Voices That Matter

Culture That Matters

Young Lives That Matter

OUR MISSION

Listening, learning and creating with Original Nations people in community-led conversation and celebration that inspires positive personal and social change.

OUR PROCESS

We facilitate, document and distribute creative and collaborative conversations that explore 'the real, the ideal and the bridge'.

OUR STRATEGY

Reaching our full potential by building on our successes and trusting our creative instincts.

Driving positive cultural change by partnering with like-minded organisations that will invest in our work.

Maturing our Business Model and achieving sustainability for the organisation.

Scaling up our activities to become accessible to all Original Nations of Australia.

Diversification to enable investment in young people and communities and grow organisational culture.

OUR OBJECTIVES

To develop and deliver storytelling and media mentoring programs for young people in marginalised and disadvantaged communities, particularly in regional and remote areas.

To generate and inform dialogue around local social and cultural issues, through the creation of story and art, using a fusion of contemporary and traditional storytelling forms.

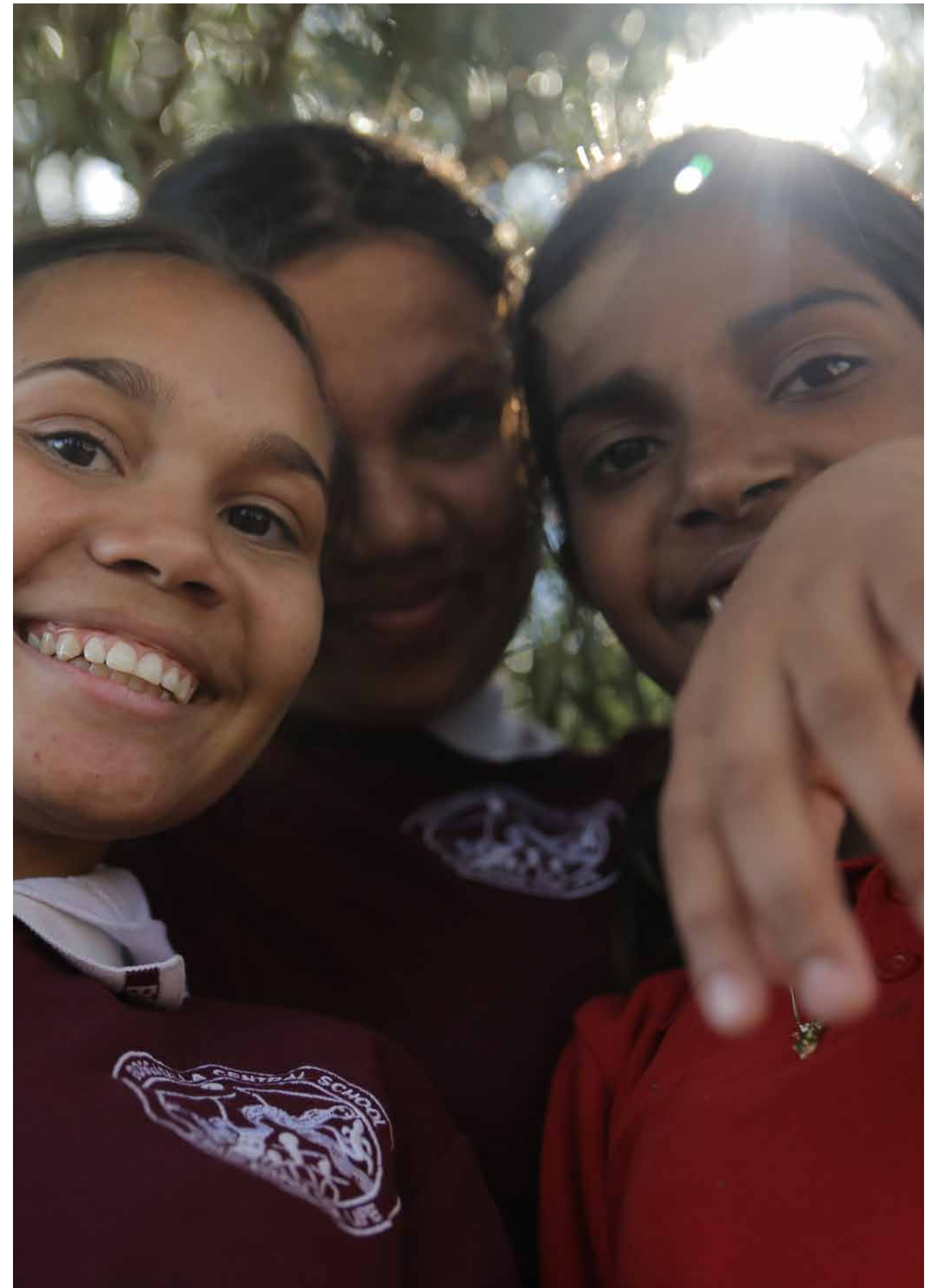
To re-engage marginalised young people with community, culture and country and to encourage the development of life skills, access to education, employment and leadership programs.

To develop training and mentoring for young people and artists to deliver DPM programs to a wider range of communities.

To grow and maintain a network of partnerships with community organisations and individuals, that supports sustainable and ongoing initiatives.

To create high-end media output to educate audiences, to advocate awareness of social and cultural issues and to celebrate community and culture on a local, national and international level.

To contribute to the evolution of a balanced and respectful social and cultural relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australia.



Young people from Boggabilla/Toomeelah NSW

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE BOARD

CHRIS ANDREW, CHAIRPERSON

The strength of the DPM story lies in the generous welcome we continue to receive from communities across Australia, playing our part to support Original Nations people share their voice; a voice that only benefits our national identity.

JANE BENNETT, VICE-CHAIRPERSON

What a year for DPM! SO many highlights for me as a board director, seeing the awards roll in and hear the stories of young people from remote towns up on stage receiving the praise and rewards of the community and industry; tagging along on the Ntaria journey and having that roo tail campfire in the riverbed; having the chance to meet the team at our strategic session in February and form closer friendships and connection with the amazing people who make this work possible, love you all!; and most recently being part of the cultural awareness sessions facilitated by Belle and seeing her leadership along with Warren's wisdom providing that strong and clear cultural voice. We have so much to learn and such a profound and full-of-potential journey ahead. Feeling very honoured to be part of this important story.

TOBY FINLAYSON, CEO/CREATIVE DIRECTOR

For me, a highlight from 2019 was a developed and purposeful strategic planning session in February 2019, bringing the entire team of DPM Artists, Board Members and Executive together on Arakwal Country to reflect on our purpose and identity. A process with inherent challenges, but also a process that enabled critical, open-hearted reflection and has made DPM much more conscious, and contributed to the growth of a more inclusive, respectful and positive internal culture.

PETER MACLEAN, TREASURER

Given the growth in DPM's activities in 2018, it has been gratifying to see the consolidation of this, and further growth in the 2019 financial year, and in particular the opportunity this has brought to develop the government health partnership. This growth provides further opportunities to engage and re-engage with communities and use DPM's programs to develop opportunities and platforms for the voices of young Original Nations people to be heard.

MATTHEW PRIESTLEY, CO-FOUNDER AND CULTURAL CONSULTANT

This year I have come back into the executive DPM team, to help take stock of how far we've come. To be back on country and connect with our expanded creative team - helping us to think about and define where we're going in future. I am really keen to develop our DPM yarn and what it can mean for Original Nations peoples in future.

ALEXANDRA CHAPPELL, SECRETARY

In February, I spent some time with the extended Creative Team and Board and was blown away by the common commitment to sharing and amplifying the passion, pride and power of amazing young artists and storytellers. This common commitment has seen DPM to continue to grow and go from strength to strength this year, collaborating with more and more communities around the country to create astounding work and develop long-lasting connections.

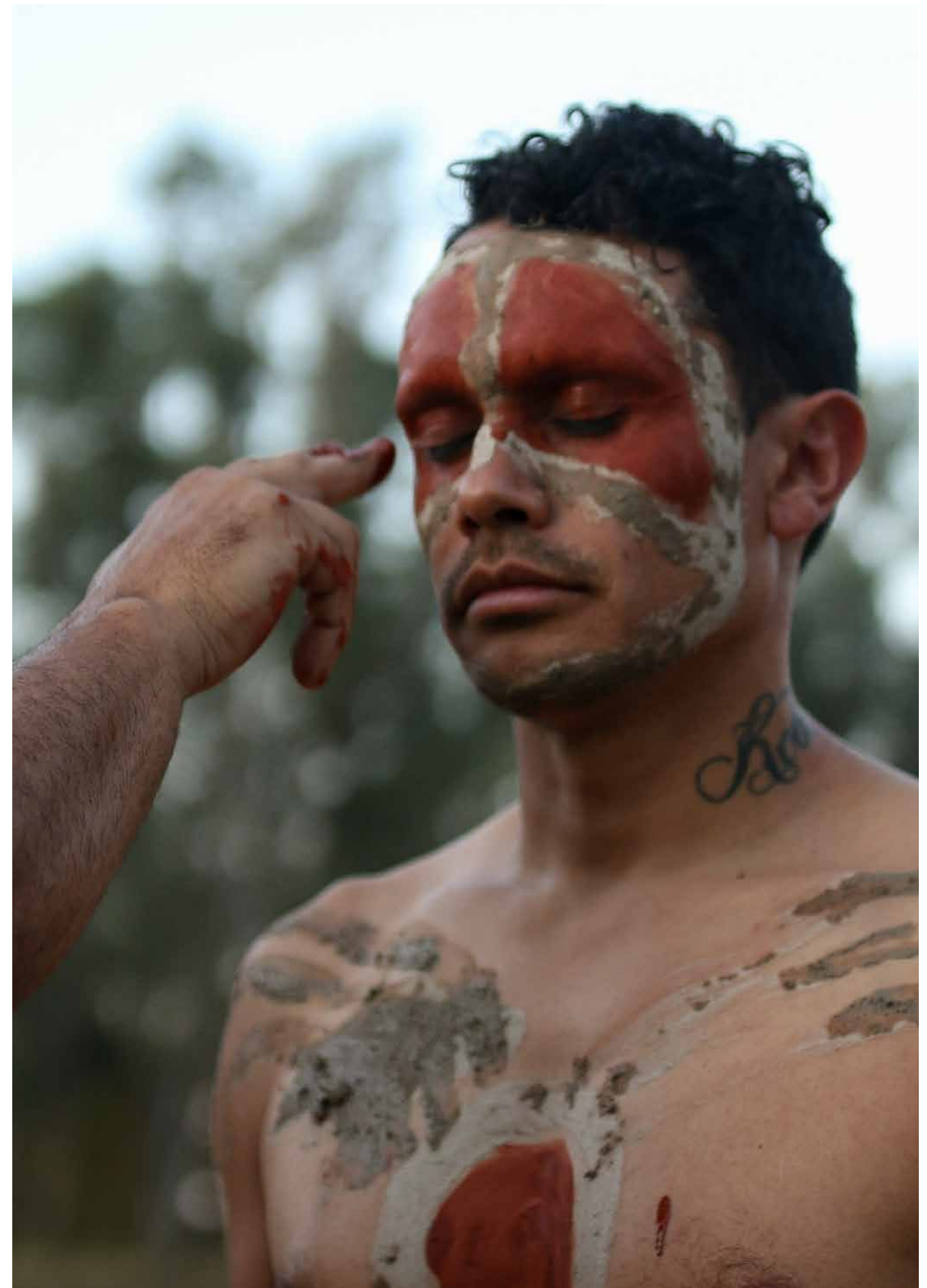
SUE PAMMENT

It was great to see another fine year in our work with communities and our commitment to these ongoing relationships. Very exciting also to welcome new communities and partnerships, as well as new members of our creative and operational teams, to the Desert Pea family.

Another highlight for me was the wonderful recognition of the quality of the work from the National Indigenous Music Award in August 2018 with another Community Video Award – this time for the B-Town Warriors from Bourke High School with *Thunderbold*.

SHELLY ROWELL

In February of this year the creative team and board came together to collectively question who DPM is and why DPM exists. Challenging its purpose, raising provocative and difficult conversations. It was the most important two days of my entire DPM journey. I am humbled by the courage demonstrated by the DPM crew and board in integrating the philosophy of the work into organisational governance. By this I mean not shying away from confronting, and at times, painful conversations which are at the heart of why the work exists. Acknowledging the history, the facts and the politics so that the path toward a better future is one that is built together. It is the strength of DPM that, as an organisation, it does not claim to be an Original Nations organisation. DPM is a facilitator in the service of Original Nations communities who seek to build a better future for their mob on their terms. In this DPM remains true to its origins, established by Matthew Priestley and Toby Finlayson. I am honoured to be a part of this brave and humble organisation.



Buddy McGrady preparing for ceremony by the Macintyre River, Boggabilla NSW

VOICES THAT MATTER

Toby Finlayson and young person from Deniliquin NSW

ACHIEVEMENTS

Over 18 years, DPM projects have directly engaged a diverse audience of Original Nations young people, communities and audiences around Australia and the world. The results are evidenced by the popularity of DPM music videos and social media. To date we've completed 161 projects in 71 remote and regional communities across Australia.

4

NATIONAL
INDIGENOUS MUSIC
AWARDS



2

ICTV AWARDS



1

NAPCAN 'PLAY YOUR
PART' AWARD



3.3M

VIEWERS ON DPM
YOUTUBE CHANNEL



18,400

FOLLOWERS ON
FACEBOOK



7,000

FOLLOWERS ON
INSTAGRAM



Young people in Forbes NSW



MILESTONES IN 2018—2019

4

NEW DPM TRAINEE FACILITATORS



2

TEAMS ON THE ROAD IN 2018/19



1

NATIONAL INDIGENOUS MUSIC AWARD



340

PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS



45,384

KILOMETRES TRAVELLED



15

REGIONS VISITED IN AUSTRALIA



117

HOURS OF FILM FOOTAGE



520

HOURS OF EDITING



63

BEATS WRITTEN



2

MAJOR HEALTH NETWORK PARTNERSHIPS



1

FULL LENGTH ALBUM PRODUCED & RECORDED



Toby Finlayson and young people from Wilcannia, NSW by the Baaka River

CULTURE THAT MATTERS

Toby Petch and Russel Whitton in Boggabilla NSW

THE DESERT PEA MEDIA STORY

2002

The Desert Pea Media concept founded by a group of students at Charles Sturt University. Toby Finlayson chairs the Board.

2006

Kamileroi artist Matthew Priestley joins the Creative team, bringing with him 25 years of cultural and creative experience as a traditional and contemporary Indigenous artist. Matthew and Toby become Co-Directors.

2010

You + Me by The Colli Crew is released, starring Michael Graham (from Collarenebri NSW). It was the beginning of our first DPM mentorship which has spanned almost a decade.

The Colli Crew perform at the Aria Awards, Sydney Opera House.

2013

Compilation *Song Nation Vol1* is released in partnership with The Smugglers of Light Foundation. Rolling Stone magazine publishes a special editorial piece on the compilation. Triple J added the first single *Built To Last* to rotation.

First National Indigenous Music Award (NIMA) won for *Fly Back Home* — The Desert Sevens, Ampilatwatja, NT.

2015

Michael Graham releases debut EP *Boomalli*.

2017

First significant government health partnership formed with WNSW Primary Health Network.

First full-time Business Manager employed.

2019

A strategic planning session is conducted and first 'Theory Of Change' is created.

Commenced development of 'Beats In A Box' curriculum-based outreach initiative.

First-ever project with a 'second' team of DPM artists is completed in Cunnamulla, QLD.

Another significant government health partnership is formed with Northern Queensland Primary Health Network, working in five communities in the region.

Fourth National Indigenous Music Award (NIMA) win for *State of the Heart* by The Deni Mob.

Another significant government health partnership is formed with the North Coast Primary Health Network, working in eight communities.

2003

First project is run in Central Western NSW.

2009

Aboriginal Justice by the PI Boys, Palm Island, NT is released and stays at Number One on Triple J Unearthed charts for over two months.

2011

Matthew Priestley joins the Board as permanent Co-Founder and Cultural Consultant.

2014

Second National Indigenous Music Award (NIMA) win for *Built To Last* — Cairns Murri Crew, Cairns, QLD.

2016

People of the Red Sunset by B-Town Warriors is released. National media coverage. The Project produce an editorial piece about the B-Town Warriors that screens on prime time national television.

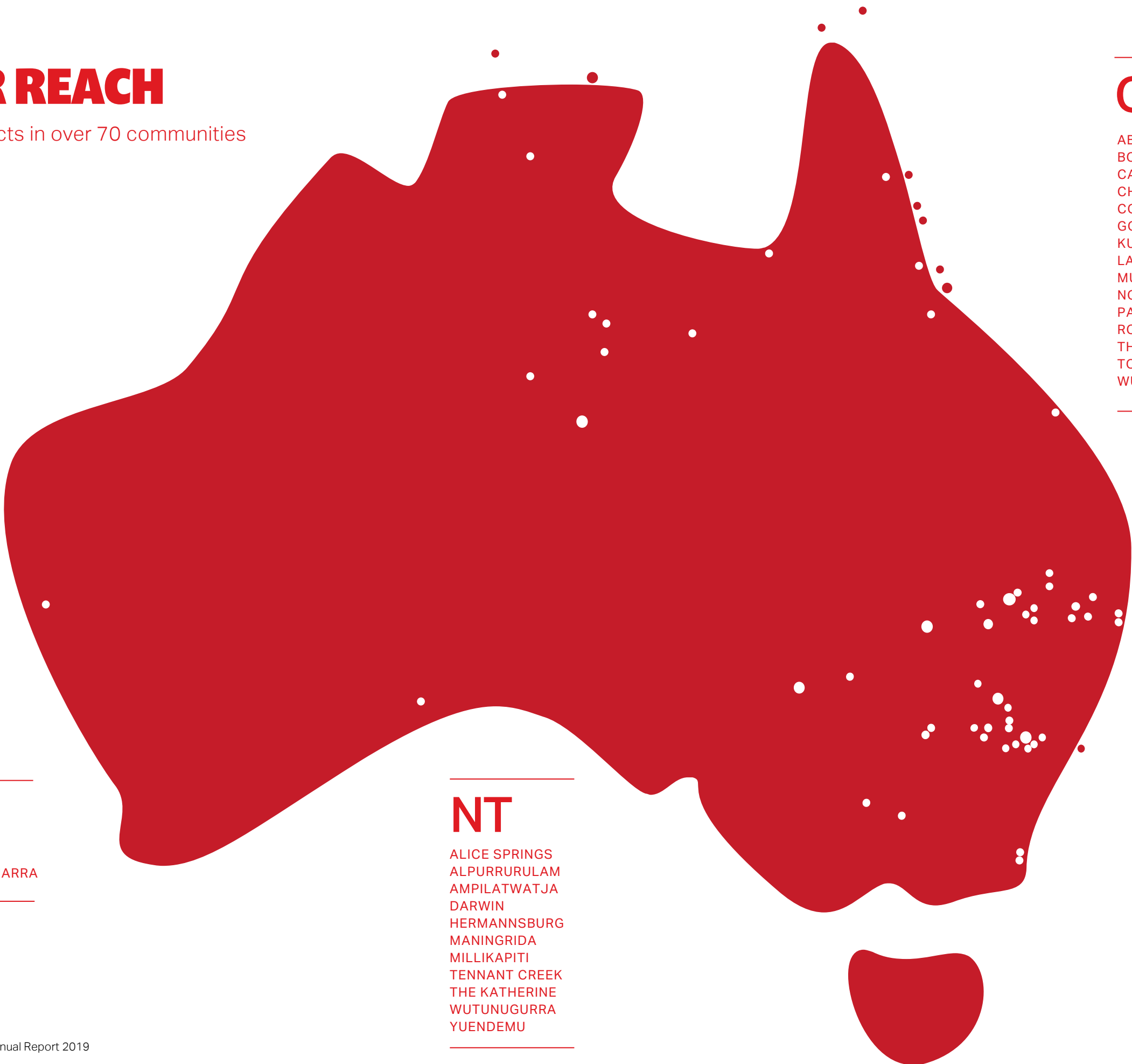
Government funding cuts restrict access to resources for projects. Schools and community groups struggle to find funding — income drought for DPM.

2018

Third National Indigenous Music Award (NIMA) win, for *Thundercloud* — The B-Town Warriors, Bourke, NSW.

OUR REACH

161 projects in over 70 communities



QLD

ABERGOWRIE
BOWEN
CAIRNS
CHARTERS TOWERS
COOKTOWN
GOONDIWINDI
KURANDA
LAURA
MURRAY ISLAND
NORMANTON
PALM ISLAND
ROCKHAMPTON
THURSDAY ISLAND
TOWNSVILLE
WUJAL WUJAL

NSW

ASHFORD
BATHURST
BEGA
BLAYNEY
BOGGABILLA
BOURKE
BROKEN HILL
COLLARENEBRI
CONDOBOLIN
COWRA
DARETON
DENILIKUIN
DUBBO
EDEN
ENNGONIA
FORBES
GILGANDRA
GLEN INNES
GUYRA
INVERELL
LAKE CARGELLICO
LIGHTING RIDGE
LITHGOW
MACLEAN
MOLONG
MOREE
MULI MULI
MUNGINDI
MURRINBRIDGE
OBERON
ORANGE
PARKES
SHOALHAVEN
SYDNEY
TINGHA
TOOMELAH
URALLA
WALGETT
WARREN
WELLINGTON
WILCANNIA

WA

MULLEWA
TJUNTJUNTJARRA

NT

ALICE SPRINGS
ALPURRURULAM
AMPILATWATJA
DARWIN
HERMANSBURG
MANINGRIDA
MILLIKAPITI
TENNANT CREEK
THE KATHERINE
WUTUNUGURRA
YUENDEMU

VIC

SWAN HILL

YOUNG LIVES THAT MATTER



SQUAD
GOALS

BCS

MUSIC VIDEOS

BOGGAMISH

WHERE YA FROM?**BOGGABILLA/TOOMELAH, NSW**

Where Ya From? is a story of resilience and survival – a reminder of a bleak social and political history, racism and division, and also a celebration of language, culture and country. Created with the communities of Boggabilla and Toomelah, which happen to be the first communities DPM ever worked with over a decade ago.

CULTURE CONNECT

THE REAL WORLD**FORBES, NSW**

The Real World is a conversation driven by young people to yarn up about social and emotional wellbeing. The community identified a need to contextualise issues such as the impacts of historical oppression, and today's corresponding issues of racism, domestic violence and substance abuse. This song is about being real, about being conscious, and about talking to each other. Sharing, yarning and creating positive change for our communities.

COOMIE CREW

WHERE THE EAGLE ROAMS**COOMEALLA/ DARETON, NSW**

Where The Eagle Roams is a story about dreaming big, learning from Elders/ancestors and growing up connected to Baakantji Country. This story is about coming together - listening, learning and supporting each other to deal with grief and trauma, and celebrating an unbroken connection to culture and country.

OUTLAWZ

PRIDELANDS**ENNGONIA, NSW**

Pridelands is a blues-inspired, funky, dusty number written to celebrate country, community, resilience, family and the irrepressible sense of humour that lives in the community of Enngonia. This song is about pride, culture, history and strength – co-written and collaboratively created to articulate an important, inter-generational conversation about social change.

WILCANNIA BARKINDJI SOLDIERS

HEARTBEAT**WILCANNIA, NSW**

Heartbeat is an anthem for country - from the people of the river, the Barkindji Nation (Baaka means 'river' in Barkindji). This epic, haunting production fuses trap/ hip hop/ synth vibes to communicate a powerful call to action to protect and respect an ancient and important country.

380 CREW

RIVER TO THE SEA**MACLEAN, NSW**

River To The Sea is a soulful, melodic trap anthem for the people of the Clarence Valley - Yaegl Nation represent. This song is about respecting culture and tradition. It's about recognising the impacts of history, and the generational trauma that affects Original Nations people around Australia and working together to heal and build a respectful and inclusive future.

SOUTHWEST MURRIES

 RIPPLE EFFECT**CUNNAMULLA, QLD**

Ripple Effect is a bouncy, electro anthem for the Original Nations community of Cunnamulla in Central QLD. The track pushes an agenda of positivity and respect for country and community. It looks at the interconnection of Original Nations people, land and story and the huge impact of historical events on social and emotional wellbeing for the local community.

NTARIA CONNECT

PMARA NURNAKA**NTARIA (HERMANNSBURG), NT**

'Pmara Nurnaka' (meaning 'good country' in Western Aranda Language) is a story about country, culture and community pride. A soulful, funk/hip hop track from Australia's heartland, this production is a contemporary expression of the importance of community, connection, country, culture, family and language.

MELO D

MOVIN ON (UNRELEASED)**ROCKHAMPTON, QLD**

Movin On represents the first stage of a new enterprise from DPM called DPM Futures. Melo D are Shavinah Mann and Sari Wills, two young female Indigenous artists that came from the group BTown Warriors in Bourke NSW, and since moved to Rockhampton. Movin On is their story of hardship, growth and evolution. An anthem for change in an ever-changing world.

DENI MOB

STATE OF THE HEART**DENILQUIN, NSW**

Winner of the 2019 National Indigenous Music Award for 'Community Clip of The Year', this production is a gutsy, confronting story about identity, belonging and resilience. We are really proud of the young people involved in this production. The complex issues raised in this song around race and cultural identity are complex and often difficult to talk about. The co-writers and performers showed great bravery and intelligence, and it was a very special thing to be a part of.

SHORT FILMS

BOGGABILLA BUSH CLINIC**BOGGABILLA/ TOOMELAH, NSW**

This fictional narrative by filmmaker Toby Petch is a story about healing, community and traditional medicine. Starring young people, elders and community members from the Gomerioi communities of Boggabilla and Toomelah, NSW.

IN A BOX**FORBES NSW**

A story of a young Wiradjuri rapper with a troubled past, living in a difficult social/ cultural context and talking solace and finding meaning through hip hop music. This story is about self-expression, identity and survival.

FORBES DREAMING CENTRE**FORBES NSW**

The story of a group of strong Wiradjuri Elders, and their campaign to reinvigorate and maintain language, culture and connection through their community project – The Wiradjuri Dreaming Centre.

CHAC**COOMEALLA NSW**

An insight into the lives of Suicide Prevention Workers in the small rural town of Dareton/ Coomeallah in Western NSW. This film touches on the rippling effect that suicide has on communities, and the importance of seeking help / building connection to create a positive future.

GERRY CAKES**COOMEALLA NSW**

Meet the enigmatic Aunty Geraldine King – undisputed queen of the 'johnny cake'. This film looks at the impacts of diet and tradition on health and wellbeing, and the importance of food as a cultural process in bringing people together to share, celebrate and connect.

NIMA AWARDS**DARWIN NT**

A short film following the journey of a group of young people from Bourke NSW, as they travel to Darwin NT to receive a prestigious National Indigenous Music Award. The stars of the 'B-Town Warriors' took out 'Community Music Clip of the Year' and DPM was there to document the experience.

GET IT OUT**(UNDISCLOSED LOCATION)**

Moved around between twenty four foster homes and disconnecting him from his carers, a young man realises the power of music to give people a voice and find the home he's been looking for.

THE MISSING PIECE**(UNDISCLOSED LOCATION)**

Despite being removed from her mother as a baby, a young woman finds connection to her culture, and ultimately her family through movement, dance, self-expression and connection to country.



Thanks to Triple J for the airtime of these highlighted tracks.

FILMMAKER MITCH O'HEARN

Reflections on the process of making a DPM film

In 2019 I made a film with a young woman who'd spent her whole life in the care of a foster family. Removed from her mother as a baby, the sole artery to her culture, severed. She wanted to explore how dance connected her back to the culture that had been taken from her, and Mother Earth, and most importantly, her mother.

Barely a day later, we were on the banks of an ancient river, the sun setting. With camera in hand, she began to perform her dance on the sand. The young woman moved on, and communicated with, country, in a language so delicate and personal, it came from the deepest part of her soul. I was speechless. She made her way into the river, and pulled the water close to her heart, and spoke to her ancestors, her mother. At the end of the shoot, we were both so moved. I was honoured to see that the opportunity to share had given her a new energy, a confidence.

When I watch the film now, I am spellbound by the young woman's generosity, having shared her story with the world. Making these films is the most rewarding part of my life, and all I can hope for, is that the young woman will be proud of her film in the years to come, and build on the confidence that came with telling her story so fearlessly.



Mitch O'Hearn in his natural habitat (undisclosed location)

IN DEPTH

MENTORSHIP

Coedie Ochre-Warra McCarthy

'The boy of many colours who came in the falling rain'.

Coedie's people are the Yidinji and Bar Barrum people of North QLD.

Coedie McCarthy first got involved with DPM in July 2018 as a Mentoree, joining the Creative Team with Creative Director Toby Finlayson and other experienced DPM facilitators in a range of communities around Australia to experience the DPM process, and find his groove and space to contribute to, and co-design the work.

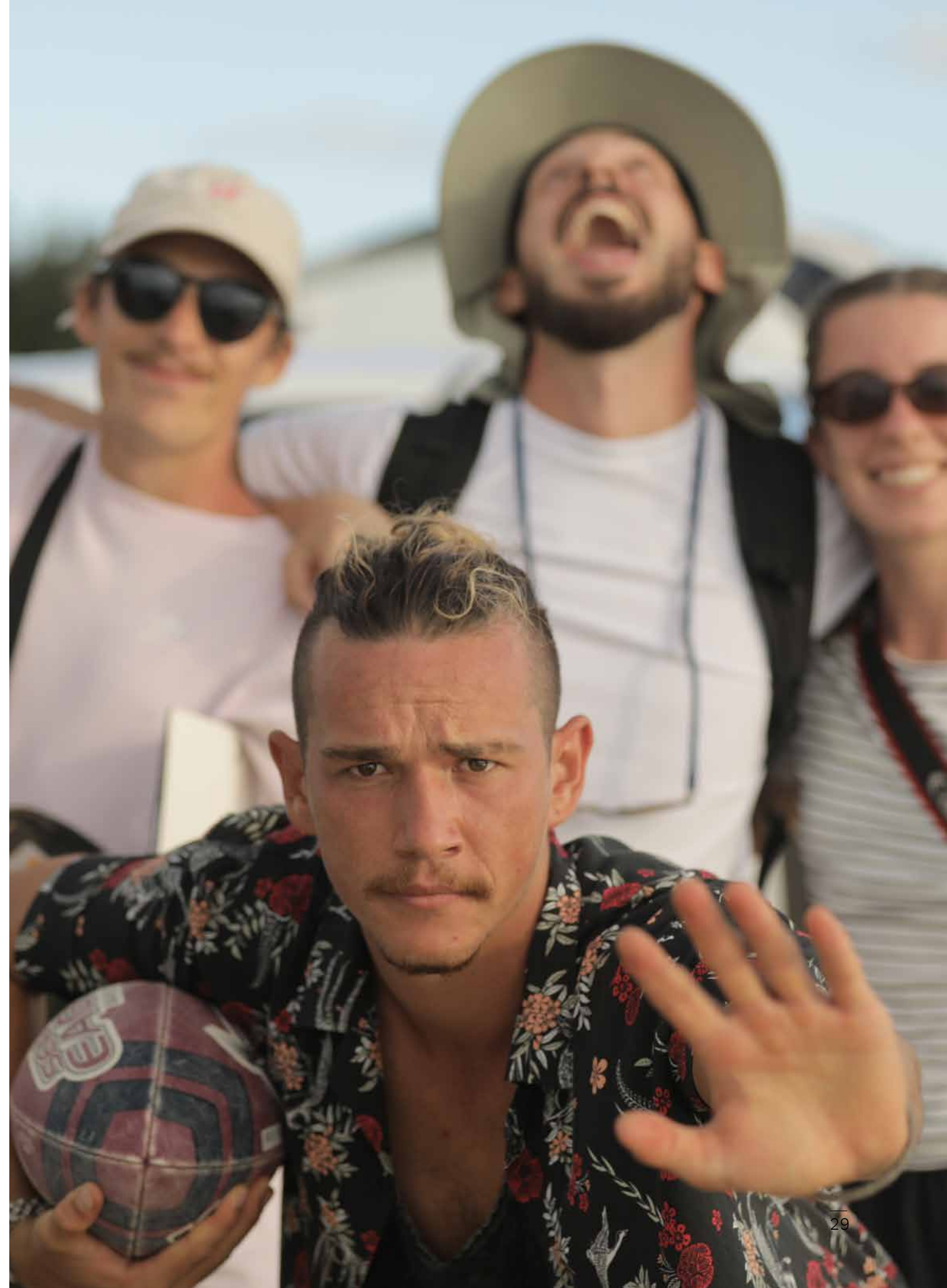
There has always been synergy with Coedie's arts practice and DPM's creative process. With 10 years of traditional dancing, a Cert III in Music and a Bachelor of Music Production, his quest is to bring the old ways of his ancestors into the new age.

His skills and experience as a hip-hop artist, music producer and filmmaker with his crew 'Indigenoise' put Coedie in the frame to now become the next DPM Lead Songwriter. He now fills an important role in the DPM process, co-designing facilitation, producing music, facilitating and helping develop cultural structures that strengthen and deepen the work.

For our CEO Toby Finlayson, it has been an honour to work with Coedie in 2018/19, especially as our work has taken us to his traditional country in Far North Queensland. DPM is all about family and connection and we are very grateful to call him our yubba (brother in Yidinji/ Djapukai language).



Coedie McCarthy working with young people in Enngonia NSW



Coedie McCarthy, Daniel Glossop, Mitch O'Hearn and young person in Bowen, QLD

IN DEPTH

BOOMALLI

Boomalli aka Michael Graham

The Promise — full length hip-hop album
Set to be released November 2019

Due for release on Rhinoceros Records in November 2019, *The Promise* is the debut full-length album from young Kamileroi hip-hop artist Boomalli aka Michael Graham. The album is a creative collaboration with full-time DPM Music Producer, Josh Nicholas aka 'Hazy'.

Boomalli began his journey with DPM almost a decade ago, when he was just 15 years old – a student at Collarenebri Central School in remote Northwest NSW. Michael was one of the lead MC's for The Colli Crew who created seven productions, documentaries and short films with DPM over 4 years. The Colli Crew went on to perform around Australia at events such as the NRL Indigenous All-Stars game, and in front of 10,000 people at the ARIA Awards (Sydney Opera House 2011).

Michael has been mentored as a songwriter and artist over almost a decade and has co-facilitated workshops as a staff member with DPM all around Australia. He has evolved to become an incredible hip-hop artist and performer in his own right.

With support from Create NSW, Michael has been working on a full-length LP for more than two years, and the entire DPM team is so very excited to hear *The Promise* on Australian airwaves from November 2019. The album includes features from artists such as DPM Creative Director Toby Finlayson, DPM facilitator/ Lead Songwriter Declan Furber Gillick (aka Knomad) and veteran Original Nations artists Daniel Kinchela (aka Deekay) from Native Rhyme and Douglas Patrick (aka DCP) from Indigenous Intrudaz.



Michael Graham aka MC Boomalli at NITV studios in Sydney NSW



Boomalli aka Michael Graham in Wellington NSW

STRATEGIC OVERVIEW & BUSINESS PLANNING

In February 2019, the DPM Board conducted its 6th formal strategic planning process, to review our operations and set goals for the financial year ahead. This year was the first time our process was facilitated by a third-party organisation and focused on the creation of DPM's first ever Theory of Change, to help us ensure that our organisational growth and initiatives were fully aligned with our vision, mission, values and desired outcomes. We have shown this Theory of Change in the diagram opposite.

DPM's vision is of an Australia where Original Nations young people are heard, respected and celebrated as part of our National Identity, and embraced to live a life of their own design. We aim to create this social change through collaborative storytelling, and our approach seeks to:

- Engage Original Nations youth in a transformative process through popular culture;
- Foster young Original Nations people's connection to culture, country and community, encouraging and promoting strong cultural identity, connection and pride;
- Create positive episodic, celebratory and creative events to catalyse change;
- Support community creation through contemporary storytelling;
- Foster community and cultural dialogue to build social change.

Since DPM was established in 2002, it has achieved much with very limited resources, and the significant growth we have experienced over the last few years has provided the opportunity and need for us to strengthen our foundations for these new levels of activity, to ensure we remain true to our vision, mission, values and desired outcomes for Original Nations young people.

This year's process was focused on this, and we set a number of strategic objectives for the organisation for the next 12–24 months. These included:

- Strengthening the cultural governance of DPM, and growing and better supporting our leadership and creative team in alignment with our vision, mission and values;
- Continuing to develop our workplace culture and embodiment of DPM's values;
- Developing training and mentoring for young people and artists to create and share their stories;
- Working towards better measurement of the outcomes of our work in communities, and building on our existing review processes;
- The intention to network with other like organisations to build cohesion and increase the impact of our, and our collective, work;
- Ensuring we continue to manage our finances efficiently and transparently, in line with our vision and values.

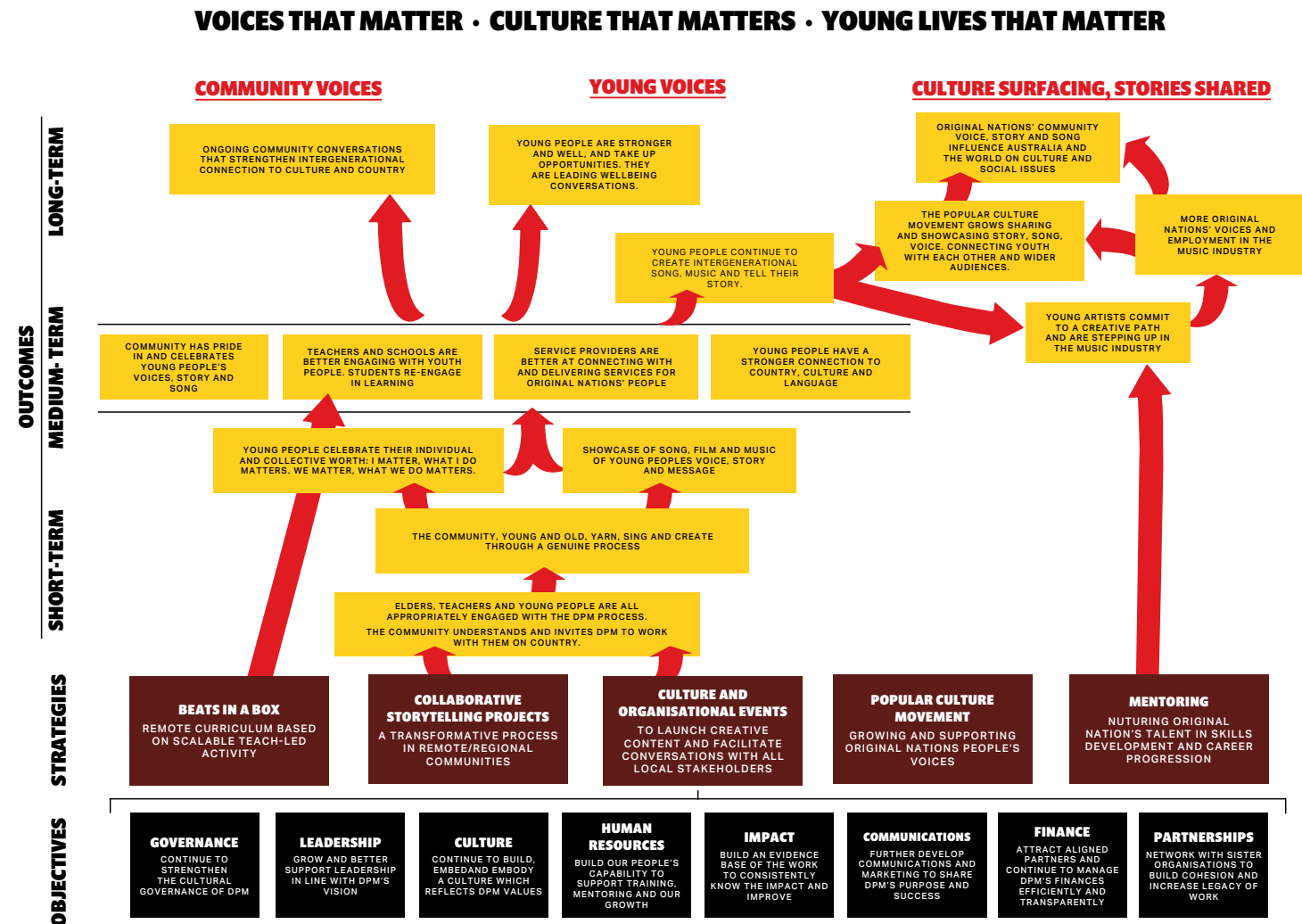
We have also engaged this third-party organisation to assist us to undertake an Evaluation of our work on current major projects with the Northern Queensland Primary Health Network and the North Coast Primary Health Network. This Evaluation process is expected to significantly assist DPM in developing the tools to better review and measure the outcomes of our work in communities, help us to identify ways to improve and enhance our impact, and build our capacity for the future.

The DPM team and Board remains in awe of the communities we work with and the creativity and dedication of the DPM crew, and we look forward to connecting with many more incredible Original Nations young people in the coming year.

THEORY OF CHANGE

OUR VISION

An Australia where Original Nations' young people are heard, respected and celebrated as part of our national identity, and are embraced to live a life of their own design.



PROJECT MANAGER BELLE ARNOLD

Highlights since joining the DPM crew in May 2019

I started with DPM in May 2019 and on my first day I flew to Dubbo to pitch Beats in a Box to the Many Rivers Assembly. The application for the role came to my inbox and I instantly knew this was where I needed to be. I have worked with young people since I was one and am absolutely passionate about empowering young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people through cultural practice. My background is in community development and cultural revitalisation, I build community and I practice culture, that is who I am.

My highlights since I have started include:

— **Lockhart River Project;** I was mesmerised by the satellite images of this place, this country. The people of Lockhart River are considered impoverished due to the remoteness and disadvantage, yet they are infinitely rich in culture, as custodians of a country along the Great Barrier Reef and lush rainforest, and generous hearts and spirits.

— Meeting and getting to know all the incredible people in the DPM family. I feel so blessed to work with this talented and passionate group of people and am inspired every day by the way they all employ their unique skills for the benefit of others.

— Cultural Awareness training which I developed and delivered specifically for DPM, and the respectful, responsive and insightful way in which the team interacted with the information.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Statement of Comprehensive Income for the financial year 2018-19 shows that DPM Association Incorporated had revenue of \$676,600 (2018: \$650,556) and posted a small deficit of \$25,282 (2018: surplus of \$161,758). The Statement of Financial Position shows that cash at bank and fixed deposits amounts to \$799,741 (2018: \$260,848) including income received in advance of \$547,398. (2018: \$98,500).

Our financial position is strong, enabling the delivery of quality projects to a high standard.

INCOME

Total revenue of \$676,600 has been maintained (2017-18: \$650,556), the 72% reduction in grant income, \$30,000, (2018: \$106,000) being offset by a 17% increase in project fees, \$636,215 (2018: \$542,125).

EXPENDITURE

The increase in total expenditure, \$701,882 (2018: \$488,798) reflects a catch-up in resourcing following the significant growth in Project fees in the previous year. This includes bringing on the additional team members necessary to undertake projects, as reflected in the increase in Employee Related Costs, \$255,249 (2018: \$158,373) and attendant overheads, \$68,946 (2018: \$28,830). Expenditure on new equipment has enhanced the delivery of projects. As noted the Board members continue to provide additional resources on a voluntary basis.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

The Statement of Financial Position shows that cash at bank and fixed deposits amounts to \$799,741 (2018: \$260,848) including income received in advance of \$547,398. (2018: \$98,500), which will be reflected in the income of future years.

During 2018-19, the budget process has continued to be refined and, updated, to better inform the Board, and enabling more accurate planning, and cash management policies have ensured stability in liquidity and project funding.

Peter MacLean
Treasurer, DPM Association Incorporated

AUDITOR'S REPORT

Excerpt from the Independent Auditor's Report for DPM Association Incorporated:

We have audited the financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of DPM Association Incorporated for the year ended 30 June 2019, comprising the statement of financial position, statement of comprehensive income and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the board members' declaration.

In our opinion, the financial report of DPM Association Incorporated has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, including:

- a) giving a true and fair view of the registered entity's financial position as at 30 June 2019 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and,
- b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1, and Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013.

Not for Profit Accounting Specialists
Keswick, South Australia 5035
Registered Company Auditor No. 77466
16 September 2019

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For the year ended 30 June

	2019 (\$)	2018 (\$)
Revenue		
Project Fees	636,215	542,125
Grant Income	30,000	106,000
Donations	4,700	2,135
Other Income	5,685	296
Total Revenue	676,600	650,556
Expenditure		
Administration & Other	68,946	28,830
Accounting & Assurance	6,348	3,740
Depreciation	7,095	6,468
Employee Related Costs	256,249	158,373
Marketing	23,092	11,133
Project Expenses	340,152	280,254
Total Expenditure	701,882	488,798
Net Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	(25,282)	161,758
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-
Total Comprehensive Income/(Loss) for the year	(25,282)	161,758

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

For the year ended 30 June

	2019 (\$)	2018 (\$)
Current Assets		
Cash & Cash Equivalents	799,741	260,848
Trade & Other Receivables	—	59,159
Total Current Assets	799,741	320,007
Non-Current Assets		
Property, Plant & Equipment	24,880	12,496
Total Assets	824,621	332,503
Current Liabilities		
Trade & Other Payables	91,136	34,483
Income Received in Advance	547,398	98,500
Provisions	24,863	13,014
Total Current Liabilities	663,397	145,997
Total Liabilities	663,397	145,997
Net Assets	161,224	186,506
Equity	161,224	186,506

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the year ended 30 June

	2019 (\$)	2018 (\$)
Cash Flows from Operating Activities		
Receipts From Operations	1,184,657	612,897
Payments to Suppliers & Employees	(626,285)	(475,850)
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities	558,372	137,047
Cash Flows from Investing Activities		
Acquisition of Property, Plant & Equipment	(19,479)	(5,519)
Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities	(19,479)	(5,519)
Net Increase/ (Decrease) in Cash & Cash Equivalents	538,893	131,528
Cash & Cash Equivalents at the beginning of the year	260,848	129,320
Cash & Cash Equivalents at the end of the year	799,741	260,848

TEAM DPM

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chris Andrew Chairperson
Jane Bennett Vice-Chairperson
Toby Finlayson Co-Founder and CEO/Creative Director
Peter MacLean Treasurer
Matthew Priestley Co-Founder and Cultural Consultant
Alexandra Chappell Secretary
Sue Pamment
Shelly Rowell

TEAM

Toby Finlayson Director/CEO/Creative Director/Writer/DOP/Editor
Josh Nicholas Music Producer
Mitch O'Hearn Filmmaker
Grace Newell Production Coordinator/Photographer
Holly Doust-Robinson Production Coordinator/Photographer
Carlo Santone Music Producer/Music Director
Peter Abrahams Lead Facilitator
Jared Melrose Co-Writer/Mentor/Facilitator
Michael Graham Co-Writer/Mentor/Facilitator
Declan Furber-Gillick Writer/Mentor/Facilitator
Warren Roberts Facilitator
Kylee Ingram Project Manager
Don Finlayson Elder/Psychologist/Consultant
David Nicholas Audio Mixing
Darren Ziesling Audio Mastering
Genevieve Kaiser Editor/Motion Graphics/Colour Grading
Roy Weiland Motion Graphics/Colour Grading
Jannali Doncaster Co-Writer/Trainee Facilitator
Coedie McCarthy Co-Writer/Trainee Facilitator
Kelsey Iris Co-Writer/Trainee Facilitator
Frank Doolan Cultural Consultant
Rachel Heaton Admin & Research Officer
Rachel Rowe Business Manager
Belle Arnold Project Manager/Deadly Aunty
Daniel Glossop Sound Engineer
Toby Petch Filmmaker

THANK YOU

It's been an incredible year for DPM in 2018/19. We have learnt so much and created so many connections and shared experiences that we will all treasure forever. On behalf of the DPM Creative Team I would like to thank all of the Original Nations communities, young people and Elders upon whose country we meet, share, learn and create together. We feel truly humbled and honoured to be welcomed on country, and for the opportunity to learn and share and grow.

Heartfelt gratitude goes out to the 2018/19 Board of Directors. Constantly your support and wisdom enable our Executive and Creative Team to be resilient, flexible and continue our mission with authenticity and integrity. We honestly couldn't do it without you. Thank you so much.

We thank all our generous funders and community partners for supporting our work and enabling us to deliver programs to people and communities we work with.

FUNDING PARTNERS

APRA AMCOS Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Office
Create NSW
Cunnamulla P-12 State School
Environment Protection Agency, NSW
Far West Local Health District, NSW Health
Hunter New England Local Health District
Music NT Incorporated (NIMA Awards)
Namatjira Legacy Trust
NEWaste
Paroo Shire Council
RAMROC Murray Waste Group
South West Hospital and Health Service, Queensland
Department of Health
The Yulgilbar Foundation
Townsville Aboriginal & Islander Health Service
Veritas House
Western NSW Primary Health Network
And to our private donors to whom we are very grateful.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS & SUPPORTERS

2CuzFM
ABC Local Radio
AMRAP
APRA/AMCOS
Bila Muuji (Aboriginal Health Services Inc)
Boggabilla Central School
Coomeallah Health Aboriginal Corporation
Coomeallah High School
Declan Byrne – Triple J Home and Hosed
Deniliquin High School
Deniliquin Local Aboriginal Lands Council
Erngonia CWA
Forbes High School
Forbes LALC
Maclean High School
Muli Muli Local Aboriginal Land Council
Murrumbidgee Local Aboriginal Lands Council
NITV
NSW Health
NSW Police
Ntaria School
Paroo Shire Council
Rhinoceros Music
The Hope Project
Toomelah Public School
Triple J Unearthed
Wilcannia High School
Wiradjuri Dreaming Centre
Woodenbong Central School
Yaegl Local Aboriginal Land Council

PRO BONO SERVICE PROVIDERS

Allens
Norton Rose Fullbright
DLA Piper



DESERT PEA MEDIA



desertpeamedia.com



15 WATERWORKS LANE
BATHURST NSW 2795

Front cover | Jannali Doncaster, Yamba NSW. Back cover | Young people on the Barwon River, Boggabilla NSW.