



INCITE ARTS
2019 ANNUAL REPORT

**Delivering community arts and culture programs
in the central desert region since 1998**

1. About Us

*We at Incite Arts acknowledge our work is undertaken on the land of the **Arrernte** people, the traditional owners of **Mparntwe**.*

*We give our respect to the **Arrernte** people, their culture and to the Elders, past, present and future.*

*We are committed to working together with the **Arrernte** people to care for this land for our shared future.*

Incite Arts enriches the lives of all Central Australians through community-engaged arts practice that is accessible, inclusive and responsive.

Incite Arts delivers high-quality, accessible arts programs in collaboration with the communities of Central Australia, focusing on both those who are under-served and those who face barriers to arts engagement.

Incite Arts

- Responds to community needs and aspirations
- Expresses and celebrates cultural identity
- Designs and delivers targeted arts programs
- Develops and shares Central Australian stories

Established in 1998, Incite Arts is the key facilitator of community-engaged arts practice in Central Australia. Incite has a strong track record using innovative frameworks to achieve unique and impactful arts engagement outcomes.

As a small company interested in big ideas, Incite works in partnership with the region's diverse communities to develop and celebrate community arts and culture and build local capacity through engagement with the arts.

We bring people from different backgrounds together to share stories, develop skills and build awareness – supporting communities to be more resilient, inclusive, cohesive and creative.

Through engaging communities in performing arts activities, we create extraordinary opportunities that transform the lives of those involved through collaborative, innovative and creative experiences.

www.incitearts.org.au

2. From the Incite Board

Chairperson, Mary Jane “MJ” Warfield

It's always a big year at Incite Arts, and 2019 was no exception. The focus this year was on internal development rather than large public events. 2019 saw the introduction and development of new programs and a complete refresh of the strategic plan.

Jenine and Virginia are constantly responding to opportunities and community needs in devising the programs that Incite delivers. As a Board we love to hear about the programs from planning through to delivery and this year there have been a number of interesting program developments.

In particular, two new programs 'Connect2Culture' and 'Sounds Good To Me' achieved excellent outcomes for artists with disability across artforms including dance, film and music.

As a Board our role is to oversee the strategic direction of the organisation. In 2019 we decided to completely refresh our Strategic Plan. It felt timely to go right back to the essence of why Incite Arts exists and to thoroughly work through our vision, mission, goals and business plan. Rather than re-hashing the existing plan, we started fresh.

We decided to invest in a consultant and we were so pleased with the work produced by Kate Larsen. The first step in the process was to conduct a survey of all our members, stakeholders and sector peers. We were brave and vulnerable in this survey and asked if what Incite does really has an impact, does it really matter? The answer came back as an emphatic “Yes!”

A small sub-committee worked closely with Jenine and Kate to craft the new strategic plan. This process was both challenging and rewarding. The result is a new strategic direction.

Where we want to get to (our vision)

Incite Arts has enriched the lives of Central Australian through community-engaged arts practice that is accessible, inclusive and responsive.

What we do (our purpose)

Incite Arts delivers high-quality, accessible arts programs in collaboration with the communities of Central Australia, focusing on both those who are under-served and those who face barriers to arts engagement.

The future for Incite Arts is bright and we look forward to delivering on this strategic direction. A huge thank you to the other Board members, to Jenine and Virginia and to all our artists, arts workers, members and participants.

3. Program Highlights

3.1 stArts with D Performance Ensemble

For over a decade Incite Arts has produced Arts & Disability Programs, with a focus on the performing arts since 2011, nurturing and supporting relationships between mentoring artists, people with disability and disability groups and service providers. The quality and quantity of time spent together has forged strong bonds of trust, creating a space in which to share stories and connect deeply with others.

At the beginning of 2013 Incite initiated the formation of stArts with D (SWD) Performance Ensemble, a group made up of a core of eleven people with learning disability, female, male, aboriginal and non-aboriginal from 18 to 52 years old. The group was formed as a response to feedback from the highly acclaimed 2011 production *Close to Me*. Some performers wanted to continue as a group to build skills, create and perform self-devised performance theatre. This has been possible with numerous programs and presentations of new work since then. SWD members have participated in activities and events across the artforms of film, dance and outdoor theatrical performance.

The broad exposure to the arts through these experiences and opportunities continues to nourish the members of the ensemble. Incite maintains the commitment to work with these emerging artists to develop individual skills and create meaningful arts experiences for each individual ensemble member and their audiences.

3.1.1 Connect2Culture

Connect2Culture was a creative professional development, mentoring and movement program for Tiffany Malthouse and Lizzie Trew.

The project is based on clearly stated goals and ideas that both women have, in terms of art, dance, culture and employment.

The project was designed to support Tiffany and Lizzie as emerging artists, enabling them to grow in their knowledge and understanding, delve into new, collaborative processes and discuss their aspirations. They were encouraged to explore their creative potential and build pathways towards professional practice.

Connect2Culture supported Tiffany and Lizzie exploration through; dance, movement, language, song, art, cultural knowledge, stories, and families connections.

Tiffany and Lizzie were employed and contracted as paid Emerging Artists and Lauren Jones is contracted as their 'Mentor'. Contracts were designed and discussed to ensure clarity with goals, rules and expectations.

The project has implemented in stages across 30 weeks in 2019. The project involved:

- 28 workshop sessions which included:
 - 26 one-on-one mentoring sessions
 - Workshops with Musician and recording of tracks
 - Workshop with visiting Sydney based Midnight Feast Theatre Artists and Artistic Director
 - 2 rehearsals including 1 at performance venue
 - 2 work in progress showing
 - Debriefing sessions
- 5 whole day workshops including dedicated days for video shoot in studio and on location
- Creation of 2 short videos to accompany live performance
- Live performance presentation, with musician and video, at International Day of Disability celebrations and Mayoral Awards (presented by Alice Springs Town Council in partnership with Incite Arts and the presentation of the 2019 NT Arts Access Awards. Incite engaged an audio describer for this event and performance.

The program's professional practice has been underpinned by regular weekly workshops, increasing artists' stamina, work ethic and understanding of the role of an artist, with opportunities to be creative leaders, choreograph their own dance, direct their own films, create music, speak in language onstage and share their stories, views and dance skills.

Both artists were able to: use their bodies, movement and dance to express themselves, explore their emotions and tell their stories; build confidence through movement and dance; develop expression of thoughts and views more freely; manage feelings; teaching skills; focus during performances with support of posture and breathing

Both Tiffany and Lizzie have been employed through this process, as choreographers and as dancers. They were also paid a performance fee. They have been employed throughout the entire project.

Feedback

I have learnt about the fire and water. We practised so hard. Some culture have water dreaming, some fire dreaming and some caterpillar dreaming. The Connect2Culture project was learning about the fire and the water. And how we

learned about it was through the dance. We did heaps of practising. We can learn how to feel like water and how to feel like fire.

Important to share stories in Indigenous culture through dance and movement because that is how we learn.... through our families and through the storytelling as well.

We learned through watching stuff, through the dance and we've learned how to dance.

I was the nervous one. I enjoyed when we first came in, and we started practising bit by bit. I liked it when the audience watched us and when they clapped. The filming was great...the way that Anna concentrated and the shots that she made were so good. The working that we did was so hard, we worked a lot for doing the performance. The music was really, really good and the background was good as well. I liked the live music and I loved the soundtracks as well. Costume was good, it was easy to dance in.

Next time we should do something different, something we have never done before.

I have connected to culture by making moves up about fire and water- spiritual things. Water is good for drinking. Dancing on country, we do that in our culture. We speak in our language and we spoke onstage.

I'm connected to the culture because it's the one thing that keep going, is the learning. I'm 'gonna teach the kids how to do the dance as we grow up.

Lauren was there before we performed, we had to talk about what we doing. And Lizzie was there and we talked about how we can perform. And we have learned about how to perform. Not to get nervous. And not to get shy. And don't say no I'm tired, or weak, or sleepy. We sat there for a while and then we performed.

I felt so nervous performing, more nervous performing in front of everyone. At RHA there was no nerves, there's no audience. Felt excited and a bit shy but then I felt more relaxed. Thanks for helping us Lauren.

Tiffany Malthouse, Emerging Artist

I have learnt about the culture. Learning new stuff. How we can learn. Learning about culture... and other cultures too, in other communities. We had to keep doing the same thing over and over again. It is very important to learn. You have to teach other people, other nephews or nieces, teaching them that this is what we do, we know how to dance. Learned how to make our own moves. We had to make our own moves about the spirit. Spiritual moves.

I enjoyed the dance, it made me happy and very excited. It took around 15 minutes, the performance. I enjoyed people liking my dance, they were like 'yay'! At the filming, it was a little bit tiring, ah come on! I enjoyed the filming, Anna was

good. We had to practise, practise. The music was good, because it had different sounds, like the water and the fire noises. I like the orange costume, it was cool.

I have connect to my culture to my powers. Say what Lauren says in language. Repeat it to translate it, so that you learn language too. Said about the burning.

I'm 'gonna teach other family about dancing. I'm 'gonna teach my niece and nephew. It's very important to connect to culture because it's teaching people.

The performance was so exciting. We got changed into costume at the town council. We did our eye liners and did our hair. Lots of hair clips.

There were lots of people there. Not nervous. I was concentrating.

Everybody liked it. Palya Lauren.

Lizzie Trew, Emerging Artist

3.1.2 Move Masters

MOVE MASTERS is a strategic initiative for the development of new artistic work by the 'stArts with D' Performance Ensemble (SWD), emerging Indigenous and non-Indigenous artists with learning disability.

Key to this initiative is the mentoring of SWD member Tiffany Malthouse towards professional practice as a workshop facilitator. This supports the pathway towards achieving the strategic goal of disability-led practice.

The process supports Incite to move toward disability-led processes with the engagement of Tiffany in this mentored role. Tiffany's articulated goal is to be a leader in the arts and share new learning with young people.

In 2019 the SWD Ensemble members collaborated with the Artist/Mentor Lauren Jones with the support of Artist/Mentor Miriam Nicholls and Arts Facilitator in training, Tiffany Malthouse, to begin the process to create new performance work that will be placed at the heart of the 2020 presentation of 'Unbroken Land'.

This project builds on Tiffany's learning, so far, from the Connect2Cutlture project and continues to model the extending of pathways towards professional practice in the sector by providing professional and career development opportunities for emerging artists with disability.

Tiffany engaged in weekly one-on-one mentoring sessions with Lauren Jones, during which time they planned the Move Masters sessions, discussing members, ideas, choreography and music. They also: choreographed dances; watched videos of dance; researched relevant movement exercises; discussed which

elements of the session Tiffany could lead and take charge of; and discussed feedback from the previous session. Tiffany's role developed as the program continued.

Move Masters is a program designed to engage and enable artists with learning disability to achieve their artistic goal and aspirations and develop pathways towards professional practice.

Stage 1 of the program was undertaken as a pilot initiative in 2019 introducing potential new member of the Ensemble as well as reunite all the original Ensemble members for the first time since 2014. The six week program involved 17 Artists with Disability and 64 attendances with the support of 13 carers.

This project is in keeping with the ethos of SWD and Incite Arts to build local capacity and develop new creative pathways, skills and inclusive presentation opportunities for NT artists with disability.

Feedback

Trust each other a lot / Fantastic / Moves were very good / Everyone liked it / It was not boring / Awesome / Rejuvenated / Great time / Exciting / Fantastic / Enjoyed it / Good / Happy / Fabulous / Unbelievable / So excited / It feels so good to dance / It makes me feel healthy and confident / You don't have to think about anyone else, you just do your own dance. SWD Ensemble Artists

The workshops went awesome. I felt confident leading the warm ups. I led everyone to dance and explore props and movement. Tiffany Malthouse, SWD Mentored Artist

Move Masters has been a great success over the past six weeks. Artists seem to have really enjoyed the sessions and the feedback from support staff has been very positive. This group has great potential to develop in their confidence, movement vocabulary and performance skills and I am very excited to see what happens next! Lauren Jones, Mentoring Artist/Collaborator

A highlight for me was connecting again with the SWD dancers. The long-term investment and commitment Incite has had with the SWD artists, and organisations supporting them, has been a real strength, as many are now dancers who are confident and skilled. It is a privilege to walk into the studio and be known and welcomed by these dancers – a recognition of our shared history in Incite projects over the past 10 years.

Tiffany did a good job leading the group in warmup activities, demonstrating strong relationships both with Lauren as mentor, and with her friends in the group who respected her ideas and leadership. I look forward to seeing her take on more teaching like this with the group in the future, supported again by mentors

who can help her plan and carry out her ideas in workshops.

Miriam Nicholls, Mentoring Artist/Collaborator

3.2 Sounds Good to Me Music Program

This first stage of the pilot program was implemented in 2018 and laid strong foundations for the second stage of the pilot program delivered in 2019.

Stage 2 of this pilot program was implemented in the March to May period. Incite engaged local musician/mentors to collaborate with people with learning disability living in Alice Springs in a regular, weekly workshop program.

This 'grass-roots' music engagement program continued to offer new broad based participation, new opportunities for skills development and creative expression, as well as disability arts practice skills development for local artists.

The program offered an immersive experience of diverse instruments and music styles to community participants who have had little chance to experience and create music, song, vocal and instrumental soundscapes.

By engaging musician/mentors to work regularly in this program of weekly workshops, we offered many new opportunities for resonance and entry points for new engagement, supporting significant creative experiences and participation by people with learning disability, multiple disabilities and mental health conditions. Also involved were the more experienced emerging artists with disability already engaged in creative opportunities with Incite through the SWD Ensemble.

This initiative proved to be an important sector development opportunity to broaden understanding of access and inclusion in the community.

As part of this project Incite investigated how to move into the NDIS space and a new model of practice to engage people with disability and deliver arts programs with people from the disability community.

The program was managed and delivered by Incite in collaboration with community partners in the disability sector including Acacia Hill School, CASA, Mental Health Association of Central Australia (MHACA) and NT Department of Health, Office of Public Guardian.

The 2019 program involved:

- 39 participants
- 185 attendances
- 39 workshops

- 25 identified as ATSI
- 28 Males & 11 Females
- 22 Support Workers/Carers

Feedback

I felt as though these sessions were extremely successful. Some participants contributed more than others, and some sat there and listened to the music.

Everyone participated in different ways, as the Artist/Mentor was enabling everyone to access the music in their own way. Everyone remained in the space and said they enjoyed it at the end of each session. It was because of the Artist/Mentor's openness and personality that everyone felt confident enough to participate in whatever way they felt necessary, on that day. I witnessed so many smiles and so much laughter throughout the process and it was a joy to watch the group members grow in confidence. As the sessions continued, they began to know what to expect. They sat quietly and calmly for the relaxation and meditation and then excitedly reached for instruments and played along with the Artist/Mentor.

The Artist/Mentor facilitated the space in a calm and safe manner. The participants were able to explore their emotions through the music and for some, through movement and dance too. There was never any concern that someone might be playing something 'wrong'. Everything was possible and the artist/Mentor was very flexible around changing and shifting exercises and energies. The sessions were a great success and the only negative element was having to finish them!

Lauren Jones. Project Officer

- 'That was a good feeling!'
 - 'Beautiful'
 - 'Exciting'
 - 'Nice'
 - 'I like music because it's nice and calm. I really enjoy it. Want to carry on. Makes me relaxed and happier than anything in the world. I like the drums.'
 - 'I like the music. Feels good and comfortable. Love Incite Arts. Makes me feel so good. You guys are cool! I enjoy it. Makes me feel so tired. Brain and body working. I like the sticks.'
 - 'Makes me happy. I like learning. Like the shaking instruments.'
 - A closing comment from Justin at the end of the last session: "Where's the music gone? I love the music!"
- Participants
- 'It is so good for them'
 - 'So relaxing'
 - 'So lovely to see smiling'
 - 'I haven't seen her this excited before!'

- 'Good communication with participants and well organised workshop with good instruments for the program'
- 'Incite Arts supports with good communication and instruments'
- 'Good job, well organised program'
- 'Workshop was well executed and organised. The warmth and very kind approach to the participants are hugely appreciated. The sounds of the different instruments make the whole atmosphere conducive. This workshop program promotes positive participation and positive behaviour.'
- 'Make it a regular activity' Support Workers & Carers

- Smiles and laughter
- 'I like material'
- 'Can I play the drum'
- 'Yes, I like music'
- Thumbs up
- 'I feel good when I play instruments'
- 'I like anything with the alphabet in it'
- 'This is silly!'
- 'Make some noise'
- 'I like the bowls' Children Participants

- 'Good'
- 'Very lovely'
- 'I enjoy it'
- 'The kids love it'
- 'It takes a bit to settle them, but they are two groups coming together'
- 'They join in when they're ready'
- 'Always lovely'
- 'They are improving week by week'
- 'They are calmer when they come to you'
- 'They love making noises!'
- 'Really good, especially for Jordan-he doesn't join in with much else so it's really good for him'
- 'Good for them'
- 'A language has developed with each other'
- 'Think it's good'
- 'Getting used to you guys now' Teachers and support staff

Some children respond especially well. In my class one young man loves it and is engaged with pretty much every aspect of the session. We do have children who are not as engaged or need assistance to participate but that is their engagement level across different activities, not just music. On the whole, it's a lovely session, with most children participating and enjoying the music.

Their behaviour after sessions, depends on the activity they are undertaking. I would say, the session tends to have a good, calming and soothing influence on the children.

I personally love the gentle way the children treat the instruments and the joy, especially the one young man I mentioned, gets out of it. Teacher

This project has been a sound success, according to Lauren, Lucia, staff members and participants alike. The feedback has been positive and insightful, and the photographs of smiling faces and the high numbers of attendees say it all.

It is unfortunate that the program had to come to an end when it did. Work is being done to attempt to continue sessions on a more regular basis, to encourage a more therapeutic and effective outcome for all involved. Music is such a powerful tool for everyone, for people with disability, and for participants who are nonverbal or who find social interaction a challenge. It provides a common language, where artists, participants and carers are all equal. This is the goal for all groups, and it has been achieved in the majority of the 'Sounds Good to Me' sessions.

In conclusion it has been a wonderful project to be a part of. It is hoped that this positive and highly valuable work will continue far into the future, giving people with disability the opportunities to learn, progress and develop as artists, in whatever art form they choose. Lauren Jones, Project Officer

3.3 Southern Ngaliya Dancers

Incite Arts has collaborated with Warlpiri Youth Development Aboriginal Corporation (WYDAC) and the Senior Warlpiri Women since the inception and piloting of this Southern Ngaliya (SN) dance camp program in 2010. SN was a 3 way intergenerational collaboration between, senior Warlpiri women, Incite and WYDAC. Built on trust relationships it responded to senior women's requests to build this platform (dance camps and presentations) to collectively explore, share, record and transmit Warlpiri culture.

Incite collaborated with WYDAC and Senior Warlpiri Women to facilitate the dance camps. Under the guidance of the Senior Warlpiri Women in regard to cultural material and activities, Incite also supported the women with all camp logistics. WYDAC was responsible to engage young Warlpiri women and girls to attend and participate in the camp activities. Incite was also instrumental in building local partnerships by inviting other local community stakeholders to be actively involved in the project.

During Incite's involvement in the dance camp program, over 82 individual women were employed and participated and over 120 individual young women and girls participated in the program since the April 2010 pilot project.

Incite handed over delivery of the dance camp program to WYDAC in 2017. WYDAC continues to deliver the dance camp program in collaboration with the Senior Warlpiri Women under the name Tanami Desert Girls Dance Camp.

In 2019 Incite continued to collaborate with the Senior Warlpiri Women towards achieving the Ladies goal of sharing Warlpiri culture with the creative development stages for involvement in the 'Olive Pink Opera'.

Incite facilitated consultations with representatives of the Olive Pink project including the composer to prepare for the event. The process included Enid Gallagher, Cultural Custodian visiting Alice Springs to undertake creative development and consultation processes in regards to cultural material and how it will be presented in the Opera.

Incite also provided all the logistical support for the consultation process and have negotiated terms of payment and planning for the SN Dancers as part of the Opera in 2020.

3.4 Create Communities

This Research and Development initiative focus is on developing a new model of sustainable and self-determined music program delivery with Aboriginal Communities in our region.

The process in 2019 continued investigations and building on the foundations of sector knowledge and experience. This is a collaboration between artist, musician, mentor and educator, Tashka Urban and Incite Arts.

Create Communities (CC) has purposefully committed to the development stage of the project to establish the groundwork needed to build a practice framework.

A predominant interest is in supporting the existing bodies and initiatives already working in this sector to strengthen capacity as an entire community to thrive together.

Through gathering the different viewpoints, knowledge and experiences so generously offered by people across the sector, many common threads arose as well as recommendations to collaborate for the benefit of all.

Create Community is now looking at formulating a pilot program that maps-out an individual's unique Music Pathway into an ongoing mentorship that bridges them with surrounding events, opportunities, organisations and support within their community.

The aim is to foster personal growth and development in order to follow through on personal aspirations, in particular; looking at what it takes to support people's continued growth in off-peak times of events, as well as extra support for peak-event periods, with a vision of moving towards income-generating activities and livelihoods.

The project will continue its journey in 2020.

3.5 Unbroken Land, Creative Development

Unbroken Land, a trusted community arts framework, gives us the opportunity to celebrate our unique place in this ancient, unbroken land. Set in the unique Alice Springs environs, this shared community arts and cultural development (CACD) platform united disparate communities to come together and create work of passion and innovation.

Unbroken Land (UL) creative development (CD) process in 2019 continued to build on its foundations. 2019 saw Incite delve more deeply into processes to reinvigorate our community engagement practice and allow for new levels of realising a shared vision of success.

UL, has been committed, since its inception in 2015, to build community trust, confidence and increasingly diverse participation. While not successful in securing funding to support the process in 2019, UL did in effect flourish in 2019 and built on the sustainability of this successful community arts framework.

UL 2015 involved participants within Incite's established programs; 2016 was largely curated featuring involvement by more diverse communities and collaborators; 2017-18 saw a water themed and scripted narrative in a hybrid promenade-theatre model, piloting of the staged CD process and new collaborations with artists.

In 2019 UL continued to build on established and new collaborations towards the presentation of the 4th iteration of this seminal community arts project in 2020, at the accessible venue, the Alice Springs Desert Park, our key host partner.

UL: reached out to all sectors of the Alice community; provided a safe and respectful community arts space to celebrate the cultural voices of our desert home; and unearthed new potential participation.

As recommended by members of the Arrernte community, Cultural Custodians of Alice/Mparntwe, UL continued to explore the thematic: water, an imperative for life, which has demanded further commitment, given its relevance and resonance for our desert community.

It was determined in response to feedback from 2018 that UL 2019-20 will take a poetic approach to the premise: water holds memories; memories of people, land, culture. The process tapped into new reservoirs of water knowledge, myths and cultural practices of Alice's diversity towards creating a collection of stories about water, how it connects and unites us all.

This structure of a collection of stories supports greater community self-determination and nurtures powerful feelings of community ownership. Each story will be located at key Park sites with installations along route to illuminate and reflect the stories.

Incite continued to commit to realising our ambitious plan of building access and inclusion into the fabric of UL and creating a performance experience that melds access into core aesthetic of the work.

Groups, Artists & Artswriters consulted in the process included:

- 27 Groups
- 12 Artists and Artswriters
- 12 groups/artists identifying as ATSI
- 3 groups identifying as Disability
- 8 groups/artists identifying as Culturally Diverse

3.6 Acacia Hill School Workshop Program

Incite Arts delivering a 16 week music and movement workshops program at Acacia Hill School in Term 3 & 4 of 2019.

This initiative was developed with Acacia Hill School based on the success of the school's involvement in the 2018-2019 'Sounds Good to Me' music program.

Incite was successful in securing an ANZ grant which allowed us to purchase instruments specifically selected for the purpose of maximising access for people with disability to engage in music experiences and be directly involved with music making.

The 2019 program involved:

- 42 participants
- 438 attendances
- 63 workshops

3.7 NT Arts Access Awards

The 2019 awards were presented by the Alice Springs Lord Mayor, and in partnership with the ASTC Mayoral Awards celebrations as part of the International Day People with Disability on December 3.

The 2019 NT Arts Access Awards recognised the contributions of individuals, groups and organisations in the NT who have been working to improve accessibility in the creative arts for people with disability, across all genres of creative endeavours.

The awards are a joint venture of Arts Access Darwin and Incite Arts and have been running since 2009.

The awards aim to acknowledge NT based artists with disability, arts workers, support worker, community groups and organisations who have made an outstanding contribution through their creative practice.

The NT Arts Access Award recipients are judged on the following criteria:

- Artistic merit and high-quality artistic outcomes
- Community engagement, long service and ongoing contributions to accessibility in the NT

This year's awards were judged by Meagan Shand, the CEO of Arts Access Australia. AAA works to increase opportunities and access for people with disability as artists, arts-workers, participants and audiences.

In 2019 NT Arts Access Awards were presented in the following 4 categories:

- The Michele Castagna Individual Artist Award – Recognising an outstanding NT artist.
Winner: Patricia Higgins - Darwin
Highly Recommended: Abigail Maralngurra – Darwin
- Projects – For projects which have demonstrated outstanding leadership in accessible and inclusive arts practice.
Winner: Conway Ginger and the Fly, Bindi Mwerre Anthurre Artists - Alice Springs
Highly Recommended: Sounds Good to Me - Alice Springs
Highly Recommended: Who We Are - Darwin
- Individual Arts Workers and Disability Support Workers – recognising individuals who have been instrumental in supporting the creative practices of artists with disability.
Winner: Tania Lieman - Darwin
Highly Recommended: Sandra Brown - Alice Springs

- Local Community Groups and Organisations – recognising local community groups and organisations for their contributions to increasing accessibility in the arts.
Winner: Incite Arts - Alice Springs

3.8 Strategic Planning

Incite's 2019 strategic planning process produced a report includes findings from the consultation surveys, interviews, research, and discussions undertaken as part of Incite Arts 2020-2024 Strategic Planning process.

The process included consultation results and analysis, a detailed situation/SWOT and comparator analysis, and series of provocations for discussion by the staff and Board; past and current Strategic Plans, 2018 Board planning notes, independent literature review and research, and discussions.

This process has been framed around two key questions:

- Is Incite Arts still important, relevant and needed in Alice Springs and the Central Desert region?
- If so, is Incite Arts still viable and able to continue to meet this need (and/or how can we evolve to become so)?

An overwhelming 97% of respondents said that the work of Incite Arts is still important, relevant and needed in Alice Springs and the Central Desert region.

One respondent said: "The work of Incite Arts is needed and important, not just for Alice Springs and Central Desert but as part of the NT's arts and cultural sector. Incite have a focus on people who can be overlooked by mainstream programs and they ensure process-driven projects provide learning, experience of participation and being part of a community storytelling and celebration. All their work strengthens the community overall as well as the individual participants and groups they work with."

Other reasons included:

- Supporting, celebrating and connecting diverse communities.
- Providing accessible arts, which isn't a priority for many arts organisations and events.
- Bringing disabled people into public view in a positive and inclusive manner.
- Supporting First Nations cultural programs (relevant to a small but strong group).
- Bringing Indigenous and non-Indigenous people together, listening to their ideas with respect and implementing them in a balanced way.
- Reminding ourselves of healthy cross cultural inclusion and understanding.
- Connecting with and empowering young people.

- Providing an entrance point to the arts (especially for people who may otherwise be locked out).
- Providing the ground work for others to develop their own community based projects, with advice and knowledge from years of experience.
- Responding to the distinct lack of infrastructure and meaningful/culturally appropriate activities in Alice Springs and the broader Central Australian region.
- “Incite Arts is one of the only organisations I have worked with (and I've worked with them all) who practice active listening and collaboration. (...) I would like to see more organisations behaving this way.”
- “Incite Arts is an important vehicle for inclusion. If they don't do this work, who will?”

The outcomes of this process have informed the future strategic direction of the organisation for 2020-2024.

4. Partners, Collaborators and Sponsors

4.1 Funding Partners

- Northern Territory, Government, Department of Culture & Tourism, Arts NT
- Ministry for the Arts – NT Regional Arts Fund
- Alice Springs Town Council
- Peter Fanning Bequest
- ANZ Bank Staff Foundation

4.2 Community Partners & Collaborators

- ‘stArts with D’ Performance Ensemble
- Acacia Hill School
- Casa Inc Central Australia
- Lifestyle Solutions
- Alice Springs Town Council (ASTC)
- Mental Health Association of Central Australia
- Life Without Barriers
- NT Department of Health, Office of Public Guardian
- Southern Ngaliya Dancers (Senior Warlpiri Women, Traditional Owners & Cultural Custodians)
- Arts Access Darwin
- Arts Access Australia

4.3 Local Sponsors

- Colemans Printing
- ENCORE
- Red Centre Office Technology
- Budget Car and Truck Rental

5. Board Members, Artists & Artswokers

5.1 Board Members

Executive Committee

- Mary Jane Warfield, Chairperson
- John Cooper, Deputy Chairperson
- Frank Richard Ashe, Treasurer
- Secretary, Philomena Hali

Board Members

- Carol Muir
- Sally Lobley

5.2 Artists & Artswokers

- Jenine Mackay, CEO
- Virginia Heydon, Manager CACD
- Anna Cadden, Video Artist

stArts with D Performance Ensemble

- Tiffany Malthouse
- Lizzie Trew
- Brandon William
- Monique Sebestiani
- Fabien Miller
- Caleb McMillan
- Devona Palmer
- Martin Armstead
- Janice Carrol
- Isaac Trew
- Lance Gill
- Michael Wallace
- Stuart Keech
- Daniel Benson
- Andrew Harrison
- James Gill
- Adam Spencer

Southern Ngaliya Dancers

- Enid Nangala Gallagher
- Maisie Naparulla Wayne
- Nellie Nangala Wayne
- Lorraine Nungarrayi Granites

6. Financial Overview

Incite's 2019 annual program funding came from Arts NT; this provides the bulk of our ongoing expenses. Incite secured a number of project grants towards 2019 activities. However, in a tight Arts funding environment, 2019 has proved to be our most challenging financial year yet.

Through careful management, Incite held the resulting loss to \$52,744. This has been covered by reserves that we have built up in previous years to support us in this kind of circumstance.

You can find more information in the Incite Arts 2019 Audited Financial Statements.

7. Thank you

Incite Arts, the key facilitator of community-engaged arts practice in Central Australia, wishes to sincerely thank everyone for their support and contribution in 2019, including:

- Red Cirrus Services - Lloyd Peacock, Aron Mengel & Eloise Montefiore
- All of our wonderful volunteers, including but not limited to: MJ Warfield & Robyn Ellis
- Kate Larsen
- Anna Cadden
- Warren H. Williams
- Christopher Brokkelbank
- AA Aboriginal Corporation
- Natasha (Tash) Clarke
- Jessie, Jeremy and Linda
- Ahri Tallon
- Jen Standish-White
- Acacia Hill School - Julie Permezel, Principal; Sheina Treuel & Veronica Hagan
- Life Without Barriers - Rainier Quinn, Elaine Tait, Tom Ryan, Billie O'Keefe, Juuk Deng & support workers

- Casa Inc Central Australia - Damon Weybury, Cheryl Lee Ngatai & Davinder Kumar, Lillian Labastida, Kent Simon, Abilash Ravindran
- Lifestyle Solutions - Tanya Stanbridge, Adeolu Adeniji, James Cherian
- Mental Health Association of Central Australia - Kelly Dennis, Katrina Bryant, Charmaine Kearns, Hellen Webster, Xingyu Chen
- Anglicare - Fleur Levot
- NT Friendship & Support - Lucy Markoff
- ARRCs (Australian Regional and Remote Community Services) - Bronwyn Arnold, Anita Adejumo, Stacey Bristowe
- Lhere Artepe Aboriginal Corporation - Robert Campbell & Directors
- Institute for Aboriginal Development - Zania Liddle
- Akeyulerre Healing Centre - Shrike (Colleen) O'Malley
- NT Office of the Public Guardian - Annmarie Drummond, Rowena Petrenas, Allan O'Dea, Karina Morris
- Multicultural Services Central Australia - Marguerite Baptiste-Rooke & Anileen Bensted
- Desert Knowledge Australia - Michael Liddle
- Congress Inqintja Men's Committee - Gerard Waterford
- Zimbabwe Outback Melodies - Flora Mpofu
- Balinese Dance Group - Lily Sunada
- South Sudanese Performing Group - Nyapal Lul & Izaac Thok
- Indian Dance Group - Rajni Bansal
- Nepalese Community - Mona Ulak
- Henry Smith
- Centralian Middle School - Natalie O'Connor & Stephen Ryan
- Bradshaw Primary School - Lauren Wilson
- GUTS Dance - Frankie Snowdon & Maddy Krenek
- Alice Sings - Ed Gould & Dave Crow
- Central Craft - Bronwyn Field
- Writers NT – Fiona Dorrell
- Music NT - Liz Archer & Kirra Volla
- Alice Springs Beanie Festival - Jo Nixon
- Centralian Senior College - Judith Coverdale
- Tangentyere Artists - Sue O'Connor & Jasmine Crea
- Drum Atweme - Peter Lawson
- Declan Furber-Gillick
- Rosie Wild
- Ming Lai
- Miriam Nicholls
- Anders Pfeiffer
- Nico Liengme

- Laurie May
- 8CCC - Benjamin Erin
- Elliat Rich
- Midnight Feast - Kylie Harris
- Arts Access Australia - Meagan Shand, CEO
- Arts Access Darwin - Amina McConvell
- Bindi Mwerre Anthurre Artists - Sandra Brown & Liesl Rockchild
- Alice Springs Town Council - Damien Ryan, Kiri Milne, Jeanette Shepherd
- Budget Car & Truck Rental - David Rawcliffe & Katie Miles
- Midnight Feast - Kylie Harris, Erika Haldorse and Sarah Armstrong
- Araluen Arts Centre - Heather McIntyre
- Anne Boyd, Claire Kilgariff, Frank Kilgariff, Olive Pink Botanic Garden
- Enid Nangala Gallagher & Warlpiri women of the Southern Ngaliya Dancers
- Suzanne Bitar
- The Administrator of the Northern Territory, Her Honour the Honourable Vicki O'Halloran AM and Mr Craig O'Halloran
- Chansey Paech, Local Member for Namatjira
- Dale Wakefield, Local Member for Braitling
- Lauren Moss MLA, Minister for Tourism, Sport and Culture
