

– Media Release –

**Artback NT and the Northern Territory are set to make history! We are joining the National Performing Arts Partnership Framework.**

In response to public consultation, a new National Performing Arts Partnership Framework (NPAPF) has been launched. “We are thrilled to be invited to join this group – an acknowledgement that Artback NT and the Northern Territory’s arts sector has finally been recognised for their contribution to the cultural heritage of this country” said Louise Partos, Executive Officer, Artback NT.

On 11 October 2019, the Meeting of Cultural Ministers agreed to replace the Major Performing Arts (MPA) Framework with the new National Performing Arts Partnership Framework (NPAPF). This new Partnership Framework responded to the outcomes of public consultation conducted in 2018 and retains the most effective elements of the former Framework. At this time, it was agreed that additional companies needed to be invited into the Framework to more clearly represent the depth of artistic knowledge and activity across the country.

“We have long advocated that touring work in this country needs to be more reflective of the nation; more reflective of the whole ecology; more reflective of the Northern Territory. Finally, we have a new Framework that enables OUR stories to be shared with the Australian public” said Partos.

As the Northern Territory’s visual and performing arts touring agency, Artback NT proudly promotes the Territory’s traditional and contemporary dance, visual arts, music and theatre. We celebrate and share arts and cultural experiences nationally and internationally.

“The Territory is a part of the cultural heart and narrative of this country. And you cannot fully appreciate Australian art and culture without the Northern Territory’s visual and performing artists being part of that story” said Partos.

Artback NT’s inclusion in NPAPF recognises the broad range of work we do, in particular, within the remote arts and culture programs that support inter-generational learning, access and pathways. This includes employment opportunities for remote artists and arts workers and also the encouragement of cultural leadership. Artback NT’s arts and community cultural development initiatives have been delivered across the Territory for





# Artback NT

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Artback NT acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country on which we work and travel.

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over 25 years with recent focus on the locations of Borroloola and Numbulwar.

“Artback NT’s vision is: *The Northern Territory – our stories, our art, our place – expanding the Australian narrative*. This invitation ensures that Territory art and artists will be reflected on national platforms and that regional, remote and very remote artists are represented as major contributors to Australia’s place-making and story-telling” said Dr Denise Salvestro, Chairperson, Artback NT.

The inclusion of the organisation into the new Framework offers Artback NT the financial stability that will ensure the delivery of our existing program into the future. “We are delighted that our exciting organisation has been recognised for the outstanding work it does” said Salvestro.

Artback NT would like to acknowledge the Australia Council for the Arts and the Northern Territory Government for their support in this initiative and would also like to congratulate the other seven organisations who have been invited to join.

*Louise Partos, Executive Officer, Artback NT is available for interview upon request. Publicity images available.*

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