

1. Abbey (16 years)

Palawa

Masked Identity, 2024

synthetic polymer paint and pencil and paper

My piece was inspired by a song named happy hare. The song talks about identity and how we use it day to day. I wanted to display that I too have an identity, which I am proud of, but it doesn't mean that I can't be more than it and the past it holds. I hope that others can relate to the feeling of of finding themselves and the ability to overcome the past they had no control over.

2. Alice (12 years)

Palawa Secret Beach, 2024 mixed media

This photo is of me and my Mum. It was taken at the secret beach at Larapuna (Eddystone Point) in the Bay of Fires. My family and I stay at Larapuna because it's our Country and holds our stories. The track to the secret beach is hidden and only special people know how to get there. At Larapuna we look for maireener shells to make necklaces. The day this photo was taken the weather was perfect. The water was clear and the sand was warm.

3. Alisha (11 years)

Wandering Emu, 2024 synthetic polymer paint on emu egg

Represents the traveling that an emu has to do in its everyday life to survive.

4. Aloura (14 years)

Spring Kangaroo, 2024 synthetic polymer paint on canvas

An image of a kangaroo travelling through an open field during spring to find a water hole.

5. Amber (11 years) BoonWurrung Naargee (Ceremony), 2024

Ngargee (Ceremony), 2024 pyrography on possum skin

I have made this artwork to pay respect to my dance group "BoonWurrung Ngargee". Which I have danced with for the last 2 years. "Ngargee" means ceremony in the BoonWurrung language.

The tree is the "Ngargee" tree in St Kilda which we share a name with. The young women dancing around the tree are a proud collective of Aboriginal and Torres Straight Islander Youth who dance stories of the BoonWurrung mob whilst most are living off their own Countries. We dance under the Cultural guidance of N'arweet Aunty Caroline Briggs and Thara Brown is our main Instructor.

This group is so important to me because I don't have any other Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander students at my school. Spending time dancing and sharing our Culture proudly when so many of our Mobs couldn't previously is an honour. Performing in public with my girls makes my heart smile and shares our Culture with the public.

The other symbols and animals represent some of our previous performances for example the beach and whale represent Phillip Island Whale Festival, the sunset, St Kilda Festival, The Native Hibiscus, Sorry Day etc.

This piece will be added to my possum skin cloak.

6. Arwen (6 years)

Gunai/Kurnai Park of Fun, 2024 mixed media

This makes me feel good, I like the nature items I got to use. I love all the decorations, I added all the things to bring it together.

7. Cecilia (7 years)

Yorta Yorta, Dja Dja Wurrung, Wemba Wemba *The Love Basket*, 2024 raffia

I like weaving because my ancestors did weaving it makes my heart feel really good. My mummy and my aunty are really good at weaving too. I think this basket would be good for picking berries.

8. Charli (9 years)

Gunditjmara *Bird's nest*, 2024 synthetic polymer paint and natural fibres on canvas

My name is Charli, I am 9yrs old. My mob is Gunditjmara. I love learning about my culture through painting, creating art and dance. I like going to youth group and meeting other kids.

This art piece reminds me of the three little birds that died at my nan's house, they were only three days old.

9. Chester (12 years)

Wathaurong

Bunjil and the Rainbow Serpent, 2024 synthetic polymer paint and glitter on canvas

Bunjil is a wedge-tailed eagle and is the creator spirit and the rainbow serpent is the life spirit and protector of water. Both are sacred to Wathaurong Country.

10. Corazon (7 years)

Wiradjuri
Circle of the Sunset, 2024
synthetic polymer paint on wood

I chose to represent a sunset because I like drawing them and I like calm things. I really enjoy watching sunsets and I wanted to paint my own version. I also like drawing birds so I chose to include some in my painting. I love all of the different colours that a sunset makes.

11. Estah-Jean (5 years)

Yorta Yorta, Dja Dja Wurrung, Wemba Wemba Waterfall, 2024 watercolour on paper

I really wanted to make a picture for my mum. I made it so we could enjoy it because we love to see the waterfalls at the river.

12. Evan (14 years)

Animals in the outback, 2024 synthetic polymer paint on canvas

All the animals are coming together in the outback to care for the land and bring everyone together.

13. Graham (11 years)

Yorta Yorta Bayadherra, 2024 synthetic polymer paint on canvas

The long neck fresh water turtle of the Murray River is the totem of Yorta Yorta people who gave him the name Bayadherra because of it's role as the Yorta Yorta people's provider, protector and guide.

I painted this because the Turtle is my totem animal and my Dad loves turtles.

14. Henry (10 years)

Palawa *Hensuki*, 2024 synthetic polymer paint on canvas

Hensuki is a superhero. He is brave, bold and doesn't give up. This artwork was inspired by anime, which I love to draw. Hensuki is a combination of my name 'Henry' and the name of one of my favourite anime characters. I want people to know that you don't have to have superpowers to be a hero. All Aboriginal kids are heroes.

15. Imran (13 years)

Eagle protects it's home, 2024 synthetic polymer paint on canvas

The eagle protects it's home from humans trying to cut down it's home(tree home)

16. Isla (10 years)

Boon Wurrung Torquay Beach, 2024 ochre and synthetic polymer paint on canvas

My name is Isla. I am 10 years old. I live in Deniliquin NSW. My family is connected to the Boon Wurrung people. I like to do art at school and also at home. My favourite art is drawing. I am wanting to learn and practice more traditional Aboriginal art using ochre.

17. Jagger (8 years)

Gunditjmara

The Lost Kangaroo, 2024
mixed media on canvas

The lost kangaroo hops down to the billabong to rest his hurt foot after exploring his mother land, along his journey he passed many rocks and stones, a bon fire, the night sky and the animals of the land.

18. Jakarly (15 years)

Yorta Yorta Biami, 2024 pokerwork on wood

The three diamonds on the coolamon represent the three rivers on Yorta Yorta Country. The snake represents the Yorta Yorta creator, Biami, telling the storyline of when he slithered through the earth, creating the rivers that cross through our land and that we're known for.

19. Lumiki (5 years)

Wiradjuri Koori Butterfly, 2024 synthetic polymer paint on wood

This artwork was made because I really like butterflies and I enjoy watching them fly around my home. I love to paint whenever I can, using lots of bright colours.

I chose the colours of the Aboriginal flag to represent my background and the heritage I share with my Dad.

20. Lyric (9 years)

Gunaikurnai, Wotjobaluk

The Heartbeat of Victoria - Goulburn River, 2024
synthetic polymer paint on canvas

I have grown up with the Goulburn river as the heartbeat of my home. It is my place to come and be. She is majestic in her nature and I love and respect her for all that she is.

21. Maddison (12 years)

Gunditjmara

Thirsty kangaroo, 2024
synthetic polymer paint on canvas

Little fella, a young kangaroo with a heart full of hope, bounded across the parched landscape in search of a waterhole. The sun beat down dramatically painting the earth in shades of brown and red, yet he remained determined, each leap carried him further from familiar sights driven by thirst and the instinct to survive. With

every rustle of the dry grass, he listened intently yearning for the soft trickle of water that would quench his thirst and restore life to his weary world. As little fella hopped through the sun-baked terrain, he imagined the waterhole shimmering like a jewel, its cool depths offering sweet relief and a refuge where lush green grass and fresh eucalyptus trees danced in the fresh gentle breeze.

22. Marley (10 years)

Arrernte
Rainbow serpent snake, 2024
Bark, cardboard, clay

This is a rainbow serpent snake shedding its skin. Marley is an Arrernte woman living in Naarm. Marley loves creating art, her cat and spending time with her friends.

23. Nioka (14 years)

Mutthi Mutthi, Wamba Wamba, Yorta Yorta *Tyurung-Wil*, 2024 synthetic polymer paint and emu feathers on canvas

This artwork represents my appreciation and love for Australian animals and the role they play in our culture. In particular, I wanted to create a piece to highlight the Tyurung-wil (Emu), one of my favourites. I knew exactly how I wanted to create this artwork and the colours I wanted to use. I called my Aunty down in Portland with my idea and she posted me a big bag of emu feathers to finish it off. My intention with this artwork is to get people thinking, talking, storytelling and sharing all aspects of the Tyurung-wil (Emu), the beauty, versatility and importance.

In the centre are the two adult Tyurung-wils (Emus) in search of food for their young. The circles surrounding them with various symbols represent the continuously evolving seasons that challenge the life cycles of Tyurung-wils (Emus), their survival, impact and importance in our culture.

24. Njarala (16 years)

Gunnai, Monero - Ngarigo

Wurk Wurk, 2024

synthetic polymer paint on canvas

This painting shows Country from a different perspective to the viewers own and demonstrate its richness and diversity through bold colours.

25. Olivia (7 years)

Awabakal Love my Elders, 2024 wood, beads and possum fur

Olivia is an upcoming artist living on Yorta Yorta County, developing her knowledge and understanding of our culture though her art Olivia enjoys attending Rumbalara homework club and learning of our traditions. Olivia was inspired to complete her art piece by a recent trip with the Rumbalara homework club to the Rumbalara Elders facility spending time with our Elders baking cookies and playing bingo. Olivia loved her time there and wanted to complete her art to show her love of the Elders.

26. Peyton (10 years)

Gunai Kurnai, Yuin

A life of Stitch, 2024
texta, grey led and watercolour on paper

Stitch is one of my favourite movie characters and I wanted to show the different sides of him. Stitch is playful and crazy and very fun.

I chose different styles of drawing and painting for the viewing to see the different sides of Stitch. I created this piece with textas to create Stitch and his original colour of blue and then multiple colours for the fun element and to showcase how crazy he is. I used different grey led volumes to give depth and shadows to the main body, and watercolour paints to represent his mind and to hide the shape of Stitch. I wanted to separate the picture into three sections to get the viewer to really think about the character and what he could be.

27. Phoenix (5 years)

Gunai Kurnai

Bunjil's home, 2024

synthetic polymer paint and mixed media on canvas

It's bunjil flying in the sky with the Gunyas, grass and the sun.

28. Riley (9 years)

Gunai Kurnai, Yuin Birds of the Rainforest, 2024 mixed media on paper

Rainforest Birds is inspired by my wish to go to the rainforest and see the colorful birds. Using my imagination I created this piece which shows three stunning rainforest birds, surrounded by the beautiful rainforest. I wanted to show texture with the background, so I made it look like bark by crinkling it

up and using different oil pastels to create the texture. It really feels like bark. One day I hope to see the real rainforest birds.

29. Ryder (6 years)

Yorta Yorta, Gunaikurnia, Gunditjmara *Untitled*, 2024 synthetic polymer paint on canvas

30. Seraphina (10 years)

Gunditjmara

Australian bush, 2024

synthetic polymer paint on canvas

This painting represents how important leaves are to Indigenous culture. Both leaves are from gum trees, the skinny leaves are lemon scented gum. The brown eye are evil eyes, a brown evil eye means protection from the elements, connection with nature.

31. Steveeh-Susan (6 years)

Yorta Yorta, Dja Dja Wurrung, Wemba Wemba *Eastern Rosella*, 2024 synthetic polymer paint on papier-mâché

I made this Eastern Rosella because I see them flying around my house. Their colours are amazing. I put some Aboriginal painting under its wings because I think they are Aboriginal birds.

32. Tiannah (11 years)

Yorta Yorta, Gunaikurnai and Gunditjmara PETYAN - Season of the Wildflowers, 2024 ochre and synthetic polymer paint on canvas

33. Tillman (12 years)

Dharug

Marri nuru (big circle), 2024

Taungurung stone and raffia

I like skimming Taungurung badu (water) stones. The river is special to me because it makes me feel happy. The nuru (circle) is the sun rising over the river.

34. Tyreese (9 years)

Gunai/Kurnai

The Animals Around Me, 2024
mixed media on canvas

A bunch of the native animals, there are kangaroo, snake, Bunjil, emu, crow. I wanted to do it because I love these animals. It felt good to make this.

35. William (9 years)

Nyoongar *Dingo*, 2024 digital photographic print

William loves gold and picked the circle for his painting care for Country. The digital print is an image William made on an iPhone and it includes a "sticker" of a dingo, which was from another photo of a dingo sculpture with a gold ear that William saw at the Koorie Heritage trust.

36. Zak (14 years)

Arrernte

Journey the mind takes, 2024

synthetic polymer paint on canvas

My name is Zak and I am a young Arrernte male. This painting represents journey the mind takes, when learning about culture, people and connection to land.

37. Zephyr (16 years)

Gunditjmara Waterhole Spirits, 2024 emu egg