

ShootingStars



celebrating **10** *years*



ARTWORK

About the Artist

Janine Mongoo is a proud Meenangu and Ngoonooru Wajarri woman from Meekatharra in Western Australia's Midwest. Her strong connection to Country runs deep, with family ties to the land stretching back thousands of years.

Janine's art draws on culture, environment and ancestral knowledge. Her work reflects the stories, strength and spirit of her people, blending traditional themes with contemporary elements to honour the past and speak to the present.

Artwork Story

The artwork *Communities* represents Shooting Stars as a guiding light for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander girls and women.

Like stars in the night sky, Shooting Stars stands as a symbol of strength, unity and possibility. At the heart of the artwork are three guiding pillars:

Empowerment – Lighting the way forward and affirming that every voice matters.

Authenticity – Staying grounded in identity, heritage and self-belief.

Challenge – Encouraging growth, courage and new possibilities.

The foundation of the artwork is built on the values of:

Integrity | Respect | Heart | Pride | Success

The artwork travels with Shooting Stars across communities and Country, carrying a story of connection, resilience and future vision.

Like the stars above, we shine brighter together.

Artwork produced in collaboration with Nani Creative.



Communities

by Janine Mongoo (original artwork)



10

Celebrating 10 Years

Acknowledgement of Country

Shooting Stars acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waters where we live, work and learn. We pay our respect to Elders past and present, and extend that respect to all First Nations peoples and communities.

Our Journey

Shooting Stars began with a simple but powerful idea: when Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander girls and young women are supported in culturally grounded, community-led ways, strong futures follow.

Over the past decade, Shooting Stars has grown from a small regional pilot into a multi-state organisation walking alongside over one thousand young women each year across Western Australia and South Australia.

What has remained constant is our commitment to place, relationships and listening.

This book traces the journey from early beginnings to national growth. It celebrates the people, programs and partnerships that have shaped Shooting Stars, and honours the strength of the communities who lead and guide this work.

We are proud of the past ten years, and excited for what lies ahead.

Governance

Glass Jar Australia's governance structure is designed to ensure the Shooting Stars program remains community-led and place-based.

Each Shooting Stars site operates in ways that reflect the priorities, relationships and strengths of its local community.

The Board of Directors provides oversight and strategic leadership for the organisation. The majority of Directors, past and present, are Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. This ensures decisions are grounded in lived experience and strong cultural understanding, and that the program remains accountable to the communities it serves.

Since its inception, the Board has been chaired by a First Nations leader.



Message from the Executive Officer

Being part of Shooting Stars at this moment, ten years on, is both a privilege and a responsibility that I do not take lightly.

I have known Shooting Stars at different points in my life. I began working on the ground with staff and participants in 2016, later served on the Glass Jar Australia Board, and now have the honour of leading the organisation as Executive Officer. Seeing the program from these different perspectives has given me a deep appreciation for what sustains it over time.

What has always stood out to me is the strength of connection. Shooting Stars is not defined only by its activities or outcomes, but by the relationships that sit around them. The quiet consistency of mentors showing up each day. The trust built with schools, families and communities. The way people stay connected to this work, often returning in new roles, carrying what they have learned forward.

This book reflects those connections and the wider Shooting Stars community we have built together. It tells a story shaped by many voices, and it reminds us that our work is strongest when it remains grounded in listening, care and shared responsibility.

As we look ahead, I am confident in what comes next because of what has already been built.

Thank you to everyone who attended the Shooting Stars 10-Year Gala and took the time to celebrate this milestone with us. And thank you to all those who have been part of this journey so far. Your commitment, trust and belief make this work possible, and they will continue to carry Shooting Stars into the years ahead.

Helen Ockerby
Executive Officer

2016

HIGHLIGHTS

3 Team Members at First

We started the year with three founding staff members delivering the program in communities.

6 Sites, 11 Staff, 230+ Girls

Our numbers by the end of the year showed strong growth.

The First Board Meeting

The Glass Jar Australia Board held their first meeting in June, formalising governance and oversight for the program.

First Chairperson

Professor Colleen Hayward AM was appointed Chairperson.

West Coast Fever

Shooting Stars partnered with West Coast Fever for the Indigenous Round, with Verity Simmons and Erena Mikaere becoming Shooting Stars' first sporting ambassadors.

A World First

Shooting Stars developed a unique longitudinal study for the program, in the form of Yarning Circles, adopting Indigenous research methods.

FOUNDATIONS OF A PROGRAM

2016 marked the first full year of Shooting Stars being delivered by Glass Jar Australia as an independent organisation. It was a year of establishing the program's foundations, strengthening relationships across communities, and building a model shaped by culture, care and connection.



2016 *At a glance*

Staff: Sites: Participants:

11 6 230+

Sites launched:

Halls Creek

Derby

Carnarvon

Meekatharra

Wiluna

Mullewa

Board Directors:

Prof. Colleen Hayward AM Chair

Emma Chinnery Interim Chair

Dr Richard Walley OAM

Dr Robyn Smith Walley OAM

Sasha Pandal

Marita Somerford

Simon Taylor

2017

RESEARCH & REPUTATION

In 2017, Shooting Stars began to emerge not only as a program of impact, but as a voice of leadership. The year marked an important shift as the organisation strengthened its strategic direction and shared its learning on the world stage.

HIGHLIGHTS

Strategic Plan Launch

We launched our inaugural five-year strategic plan at Government House, setting a clear direction for the future. We aspired to work with 20 schools by the end of 2021.

Expansion into the South West

The program established a new site in Narrogin.

An International Platform

Regional Managers at the time, Helen Ockerby and Rose Whitau, presented at the World Indigenous People's Conference on Education (WIPCE) in Toronto, sharing results of the program's Yarning Circles methodology.

National Recognition

Then Executive Officer, Fran Haintz was awarded a Certificate of Achievement for the Promotion of Human Rights by the United Nations Association of Australia.



2017 *At a glance*

Staff: Sites: Participants:

13 7 300+

Sites launched:

Narrogin

Board Directors:

Prof. Colleen Hayward AM Chair

Dr Glenda Kickett

Dr Richard Walley OAM

Dr Robyn Smith Walley OAM

Sasha Pandal

Marita Somerford

Emma Chinnery

Simon Taylor

“

This Strategic Plan is the culmination of a year's worth of tireless planning and research from a number of parties to ensure we set Shooting Stars on a course for success that will benefit countless young Indigenous girls.

”

- Netball WA CEO at the time,
- Simon Taylor

2018

GROWTH & PROFILE

2018 was a year of momentum for Shooting Stars. Support strengthened across the education system, national leadership was recognised, and the organisation took confident steps into new regions. The year marked an important shift from early growth into sustained impact.

HIGHLIGHTS

Goldfields Expansion

The WA Department of Education confirmed its support for Shooting Stars, enabling growth into the Goldfields.

A Shooting Stars Patron

The Hon. Julie Bishop joined as Patron, strengthening the program's national profile.

Excellence in Leadership

Shooting Stars received a Community Services Excellence Award for Excellence in Leadership.

AIATSIS Approval

Ethical approval was granted by the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) for participant and community research, reinforcing the strength and integrity of the organisation's evidence-based work.



2018 *At a glance*

Staff: Sites: Participants:

15 8 350+

Sites launched:

Leonora

Board Directors:

Prof. Colleen Hayward AM Chair

Dr Glenda Kickett

Dr Richard Walley OAM

Dr Robyn Smith Walley OAM

Sasha Pendal

Emma Chinnery

Simon Taylor

2019

PARTNERSHIPS & BRAND

2019 was a year of confidence and consolidation. Leadership strengthened, recognition grew, and a new visual identity signalled Shooting Stars' evolution into a mature, established organisation.

HIGHLIGHTS

Dr Glenda Kickett

Dr Glenda Kickett was appointed as Chairperson of Glass Jar Australia. In the same year, she was also named finalist in the Western Australian of the Year Awards.

Gold Industry Group

Gold Industry Group became the program's first Premier Partner, strengthening Shooting Stars' long-term sustainability.

Lotterywest Grant

Shooting Stars was awarded almost \$1 million in grant funding from Lotterywest.

Curtin Postgrad scholarship

A Shooting Stars scholarship was launched for postgraduate studies at Curtin University.

Recognition of Impact

Shooting Stars and partner, Sandfire Resources received a Community Partnership Resources Sector Award.

Further Expansion in Narrogin

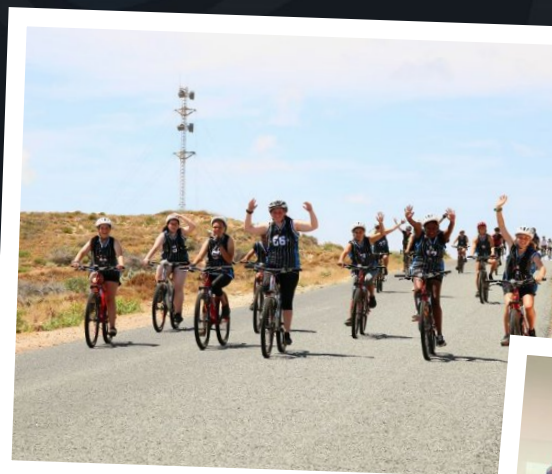
The program extended to include both Narrogin Primary School and East Narrogin Primary School.

Published Research

Shooting Stars' Yarning with the Stars methodology was published in the Journal of Sport for Development, sharing community-led practice with an international audience.

Brand Refresh

Shooting Stars launched a refreshed brand featuring artwork by Bardi-Jawi and Noongar artist Louise Ockerby. Her painting, Leadership Journey, represented the eight Shooting Stars sites across Western Australia and the leadership journey of girls within and beyond the program.



2019 *At a glance*

Staff: Sites: Participants:

14 9 350+

Sites launched:

Laverton

Board Directors:

Dr Glenda Kickett Chair

Dr Richard Walley OAM

Dr Robyn Smith Walley OAM

Emma Chinnery

Simon Taylor

Rishelle Hume AM New

Carol Innes New

2020

RESILIENCE

Amid the disruption of COVID-19, Shooting Stars marked five years of impact in a year that tested resilience across communities, schools and families. While in-person delivery paused in many places, connection, care and creativity continued in new ways.

HIGHLIGHTS

Lockdown Care Packs

During the first lockdowns, staff prepared take-home packs for participants to stay busy and safe during school holidays.

Staying Connected and Active

Together with West Coast Fever, the team delivered online sessions, focusing on physical and mental wellbeing during isolation.

A Shooting Stars Book Project

A special Shooting Stars book was in development, offering support, connection and encouragement at a time of uncertainty.

Deadly Minds Matter

A holistic wellbeing program was launched, focused on social and emotional development and preventative mental health strategies for Aboriginal girls and women. It was called Seven Sisters at the time, but then renamed in 2023 to Deadly Minds Matter.

Goldfields Impact Recognition

Shooting Stars and partner St Barbara received a Community Partnership Resources Sector Award, recognising the partnership's impact in Leonora.

Leadership Honoured

Board member Dr Richard Walley OAM was named 2021 WA Senior Australian of the Year, acknowledging his lifelong contribution to culture, community and leadership.



2020 *At a glance*

Staff: Sites: Participants:

24 9 400+

Sites launched:

Fitzroy Crossing

“

It was great to see our Shooting Stars staff going above and beyond to make sure our participants were well equipped to tackle the challenges ahead these school holidays.

Shooting Stars is more than an education program, it's a family and little gestures such as these take-home packs demonstrate that.

” - Fran Haintz

Board Directors:

Dr Glenda Kickett ^{Chair}

Dr Richard Walley OAM

Dr Robyn Smith Walley OAM

Emma Chinnery

Simon Taylor

Rishelle Hume AM ^{New}

Carol Innes ^{New}

2021

EXPANSION & INNOVATION

2021 was a year of significant growth for Shooting Stars. The program expanded into new regions, new initiatives were introduced, and Glass Jar Australia set a clear strategic pathway for the years ahead. It was also the year Shooting Stars extended beyond Western Australia into South Australia for the first time.

HIGHLIGHTS

We Went National

Shooting Stars went national as it launched in South Australia, thanks to support from the SA Department for Education.

Strategic Plan Launch

Glass Jar Australia launched its new Strategic Plan.

Art Program Launch

The Art with the Stars program launched in Carnarvon and Halls Creek, providing participants with opportunities to connect to culture, Country and identity through creative practice.

Sparks and Pathways

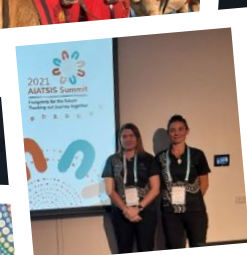
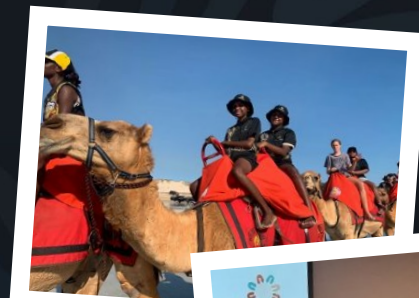
These enrichment programs commenced, supporting young women from Years 8 to 12 to identify their interests and plan for education and post-school futures.

“

I had a lot of opportunities whilst working for Shooting Stars, I did a number of management courses at the Australian Institute of Management. Shooting Stars also allowed me to be a full-time mum, work and study all at the same time.

The biggest thing was that it grew my self-confidence. Because of this, I am always striving to be better and I don't think I would've had the confidence to apply for a Board of Directors role otherwise.

” - Board Member,
Helen Ockerby



2021 *At a glance*

Staff:

Sites:

Participants:

50+ 15 750+

Sites launched:

Collie

Hedland

Kununurra

Whyalla (x3)

Board Directors:

Dr Glenda Kickett *Chair*

Dr Richard Walley OAM

Dr Robyn Smith Walley OAM

Tara Martin *New*

Helen Ockerby *New*

Brendon Grylls *New*

“

There is nothing more powerful than a former participant who has experienced the positive impact of our program wanting to be part of the organisation to extend that impact to up-and-coming girls in their communities,

” - Fran Haintz

2022

SCALING UP

By 2022, Shooting Stars had grown into a program that was reaching over 1,000 girls and women across Western Australia and South Australia. With growth came a sharpened focus on care, quality and sustainability, ensuring the program continued to be led by community, culture and relationships.

HIGHLIGHTS

Practice Framework with ACF

We formalised a trauma-informed practice framework in partnership with the Australian Childhood Foundation, supporting staff wellbeing, supervision and professional practice.

Kaya Kwopetok Koorlang Yok

Shooting Stars launched Kaya Kwopetok Koorlang Yok – Dear Beautiful Young Woman, a book that celebrates the Shooting Stars yarning process. It captures stories of women involved with the program, who were invited to share what “success” means to them.

Staff and Alumni at WIPCE

Shooting Stars was represented at the World Indigenous People's Conference on Education (WIPCE) by staff and alumni, sharing lived experience and practice knowledge on an international stage.

Black Diamonds Report

Glass Jar Australia partnered with Netball WA to produce the Black Diamonds Report, a landmark review examining how netball systems and policies could better support Aboriginal participation, retention and leadership statewide.

Published Research

Research led through Shooting Stars was published in the Australian Journal of Indigenous Education, examining barriers to school engagement and identifying pathways for change.

Another Curtin Scholarship

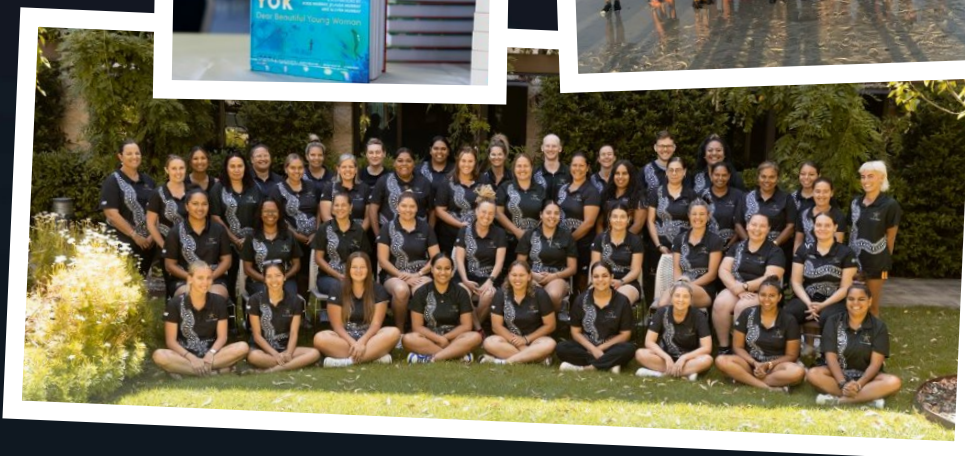
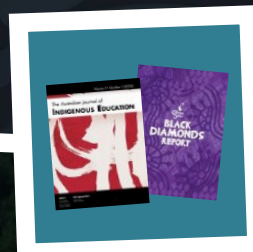
Our partnership with Curtin University supported Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women to access tertiary pathways through the Indigenous Tertiary Enabling Course.

AFLX Camp

The first AFLX Camp expanded the program's sporting opportunities and leadership development into a new setting.

First Metro Site Launched

Along with four new regional sites, Shooting Stars launched its first metropolitan site, marking a new chapter in the program's reach.



2022 *At a glance*

Staff: Sites: Participants:

57 20 1,000+

Sites launched:

Merredin
Kiara College
Tom Price
Morawa
Whyalla (1)

Board Directors:

Dr Glenda Kickett Chair
Dr Richard Walley OAM
Dr Robyn Smith Walley OAM
Tara Martin
Helen Ockerby
Brendon Grylls

2023

CREATIVITY & CARE

In 2023, Shooting Stars deepened its focus on creative expression and wellbeing, guided by the voices of participants and community. Art, identity and care were central as the program continued to grow in reach and strengthen in purpose.

HIGHLIGHTS

Art with the Stars Exhibition

The first Art with the Stars exhibition launched in Carnarvon, showcasing basket weaving, painting, fashion, textiles and performance created by Shooting Stars participants in collaboration with local Aboriginal artists.

Deadly Minds Matter Rename

Our wellbeing program was renamed Deadly Minds Matter following valued feedback and guidance from community members. The change reflects a commitment to culturally responsive and respectful practice, which sits at the heart of the Shooting Stars Way.

Women's Voices

Staff members, Latoya Bolton-Black and Rokiyah Bin Swani attended the historic Wiyi Yani U Thangani (Women's Voices) Summit.

Sharing Knowledge at AIATSIS

Eight Shooting Stars delegates attended the AIATSIS Summit, delivering presentations on program practice and research, including a panel discussion.



Executive Leadership

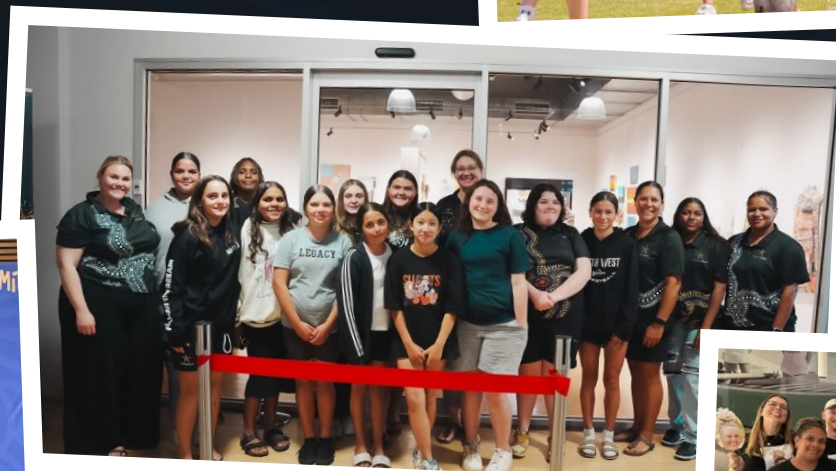
In 2023, we farewelled our inaugural Executive Officer, Fran Haintz. We can't thank her enough for the leadership and heart she poured into the Shooting Stars program for its first eight years.

Southwest Outreach

Thanks to Newmont, Shooting Stars expanded its impact in the Southwest by establishing Narrogin SHS as a hub with outreach to district high schools in the Gnaala Karla Booja region, such as Wagin and Boddington.

An Executive Board Director

The Board welcomed Group CEO, Simone Hansen as an Executive Board Director.

2023 *at a glance*

Staff: Sites: Participants:

60 22 1,200+

Sites launched:

Wyndham

Bindoon

Board Directors:

Dr Glenda Kickett ^{Chair}

Dr Richard Walley OAM

Dr Robyn Smith Walley OAM

Tara Martin

Helen Ockerby

Brendon Grylls

Simone Hansen ^{New}

2024

STRENGTHENING FOUNDATIONS

2024 was a year of renewal and consolidation. With new leadership appointed, Glass Jar Australia focused on strengthening systems, growing internal capability and refining the foundations that support Shooting Stars across communities.

HIGHLIGHTS

A New Executive Officer

Helen Ockerby returned to Shooting Stars as Glass Jar Australia's Executive Officer, bringing deep program knowledge and continuity of leadership.

Growth of the Leadership Team

The Shooting Stars leadership team expanded with the appointment of three Operations Managers, a Childsafe and Compliance Manager, and an Enrichment and Development Manager.

Art and Culture Shared with 41,171

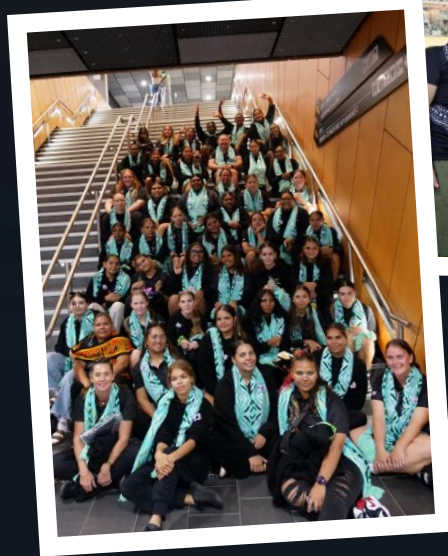
The second and third Art with the Stars exhibitions were held in Fremantle and Collie, sharing participants' work with approximately 41,171 visitors to the galleries.

Enrichment at the Core

Our Enrichment programs underwent thorough optimisation and redevelopment to become part of Shooting Stars' core delivery.

Research Fanning the Flame

Shooting Stars research was published in the Evaluation Journal of Australasia through the article 'Fanning the flame': *Aboriginal girls, women, and their communities define success for the Shooting Stars program, centring community voices.*



2024 *At a glance*

Staff: Sites: Participants:

60 22 1,200+

BOARD DIRECTORS:

Dr Glenda Kickett *Chair*

Dr Richard Walley OAM

Dr Robyn Smith Walley OAM

Tara Martin

Simone Hansen

Sophie Coffin *New*

Jeremiah Frewen *New*

Patrick Ryder *New*

2025

THE NEXT CHAPTER

Ten years on, Shooting Stars stands on strong foundations built by communities, staff, partners and the young women who have shaped the program from the beginning.

What began as a small regional sporting pilot program has grown into a holistic place-based, community-led initiative working across two states, grounded in relationships, trust and deep listening.

HIGHLIGHTS

A New Strategic Plan Developed

The development of a new five-year strategic plan set the organisation's direction for its next chapter.

Alumni Program

We launched our first official Alumni Program, strengthening ongoing connection and opportunities for past participants.

The SISTA app

A brand new data collection platform has been developed.

Mother Country & Me

The launch of this new initiative supported by Telethon is deepening opportunities for intergenerational learning and cultural connection.

On Country Enrichment

The introduction of this new enrichment program is to strengthen learning through connection to place and community.

Innovation in Service Delivery

Deadly Minds Matter was recognised with the Innovation in Service Delivery Award at the WA Association for Mental Health Awards, celebrating community-led approaches to wellbeing.



2025 *At a glance*

Staff:

Sites:

Participants:

60

22

1,200+

BOARD DIRECTORS:

Dr Glenda Kickett *Chair*

Dr Richard Walley OAM

Dr Robyn Smith Walley OAM

Tara Martin

Simone Hansen

Sophie Coffin

Jeremiah Frewen

Patrick Ryder

2026

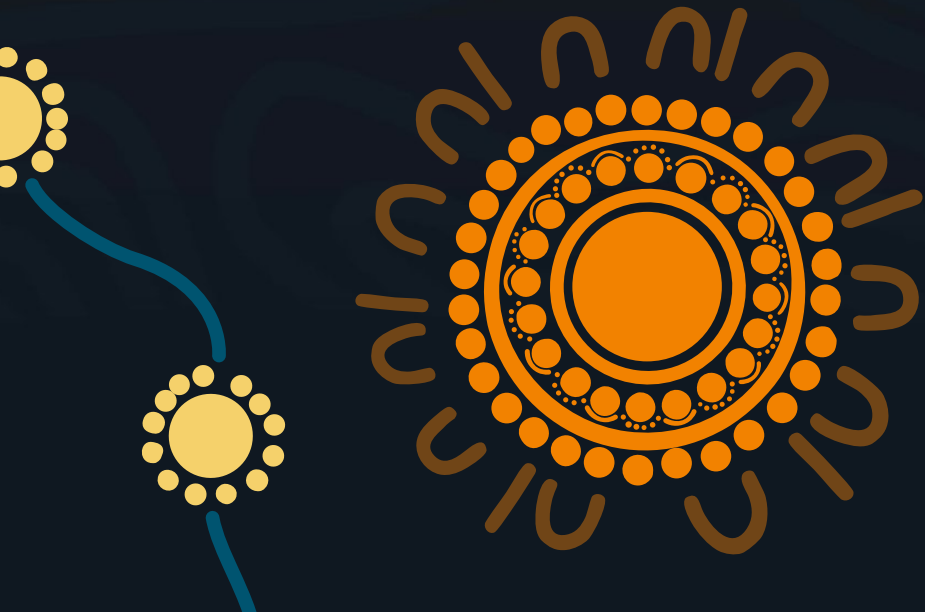
LOOKING FORWARD

Our 10-year milestone marks more than celebration. It marks readiness. As we look ahead, Shooting Stars enters its next chapter with renewed purpose, a refreshed strategic direction and ambitious plans for growth.

Through sustained and new partnerships, expanded program delivery and opportunities to reach more communities, we will continue to strengthen our impact.

We look forward to celebrating the achievements of future graduates, strengthening connections through our growing alumni network, and seeing more young women emerge as leaders in their communities, workplaces and within Shooting Stars itself.

While the next decade will bring new opportunities and exciting change, what will remain constant is our commitment to walking alongside Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander girls and young women with care, respect and purpose.



Thanks to Shooting Stars Partners

Underpinning Partners



Department of
Education



Australian Government
National Indigenous
Australians Agency



NIAA



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

Major Partners

BHP



Fortescue™



Gold Industry
Group



MINERAL
RESOURCES

Newmont™



ORICA



PLS

Partners



AEC
Australian Electoral Commission



GENESIS
MINERALS LIMITED

MURRIN MURRIN
OPERATIONS
GLENORE

HORIZON
POWER



PILBARA PORTS

Supporters



Curtin University

danjoo
BUSINESS
SOLUTIONS



healthway

LEICHHARDT



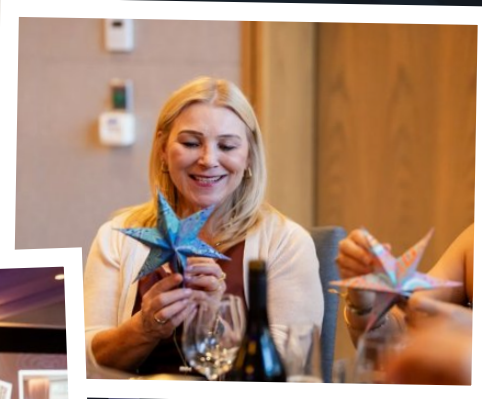
OneSteel
Manufacturing

RSM



Morialta Charitable Trust

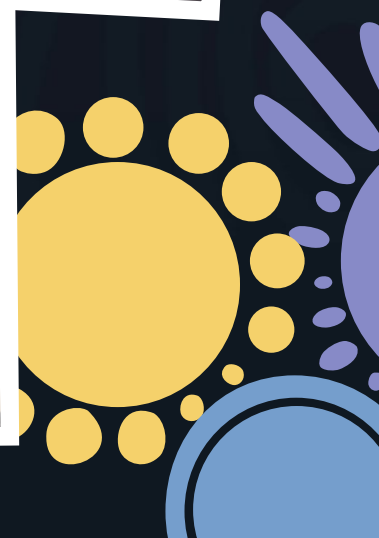
Photos from the Evening

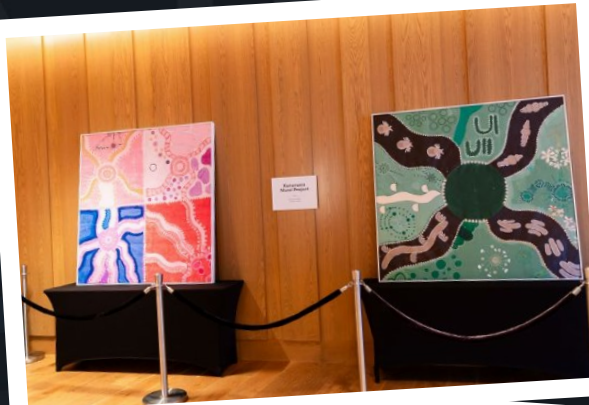






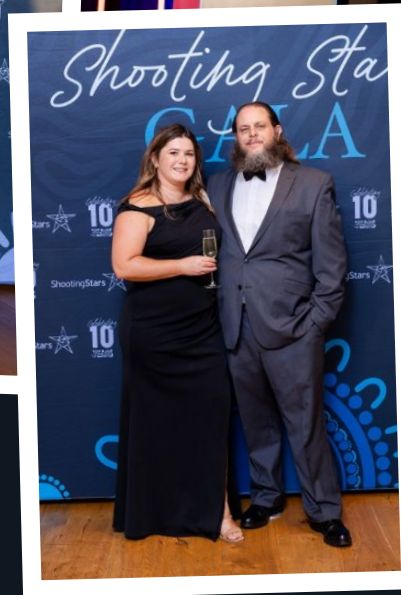


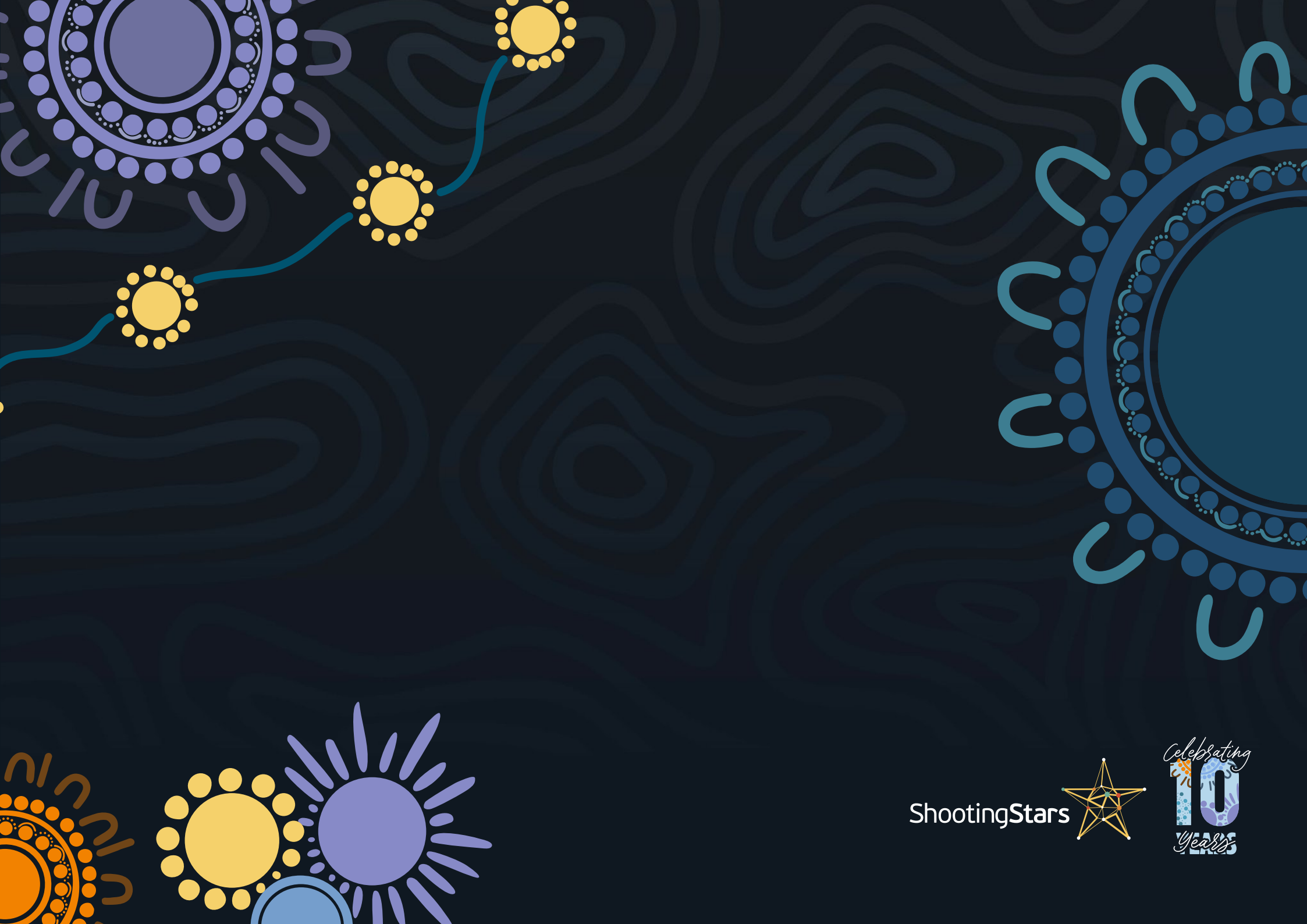












ShootingStars



Celebrating
10
Years



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