

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title:	Curator, 2025 Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards (Telstra NATSIAA).
Location:	Combination of on site in Darwin and working from home (location flexible) 7 weeks work on site will be required at the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin over the duration of the contract.
Terms:	6-month contract from mid-March to mid-August 2025 to be worked as a combination of full-time and part-time as outlined below. Total time of contract equivalent to 3 months full-time work.
Package:	\$30K based on 6 months part-time / 3 months full-time (pro-rata of \$120,000 per annum) plus 11.5% superannuation and all travel and accommodation costs or a living allowance (see below for details).
Responsible to:	Senior Curator of Art

This position is identified as a special measures role open to Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander applicants.

Located on Larrakia Country, the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT) is the Northern Territory's premier cultural and scientific institution. It offers a dynamic and diverse arts, science and cultural program to more than 300,000 visitors each year. A highlight of MAGNT's calendar is the annual Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards (Telstra NATSIAA).

Established by MAGNT in 1984, Telstra NATSIAA are the longest-running awards dedicated to celebrating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art and artists. Selected, curated and judged by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, the Awards reflect the extraordinary richness and complexity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts and cultures.

The Telstra NATSIAA exhibition showcases over 65 artworks by the selected finalists and spans across two galleries within MAGNT. It is a place that is grounded in cultural care and joy and works to be a space for the First Nations community to gather and within which they can feel appreciated. The exhibition opens to the public in June 2025 and is accompanied by a weekend of local exhibition openings and public programs.

This is followed by the Telstra NATSIAA Awards Ceremony in August which sees thousands of artists, families and community members converge on Larrakia Country at the Museum's beachfront lawns for a night of celebration and excellence. The celebrations continue into the weekend with a judges' talk and artists' talks that give audiences insights into the practices and processes that form Telstra NATSIAA.

Telstra NATSIAA exists within an important time of year on Larrakia Country when Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander excellence and leadership in art, music, fashion and culture are all celebrated through national awards and gatherings including Garma, the Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair, Garmmalang, the National Indigenous Fashion Awards and the National Indigenous Music Awards.

The prestige of Telstra NATSIAA has been shaped over the past four decades through the vision and passion of several generations of artists and creatives. The Awards continue thanks to their ongoing support and 2025 marks the 42nd year of Telstra NATSIAA and another new cohort of incredible artists.

Primary Objective

The Curator will form a key part of the Telstra NATSIAA team and is responsible for the curation and delivery of the exhibition of the 2025 Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards (NATSIAA). The role is also responsible for the public programs development and delivery during the opening weekend in June and the Awards Ceremony weekend in August. The Curator will work closely with the MAGNT Curator of Aboriginal Art and Material Culture who will provide advice and support in navigating the role and the organisation.

Responsibilities

1. Deliver the Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards in liaison with the NATSIAA project team.
2. Prepare all exhibition and catalogue text, and other tasks as outlined in the workplan, in liaison with the Curator, Aboriginal Art and Material Culture and the Senior Curator of Art.
3. Contribute to the development and delivery of Telstra NATSIAA public programs and education activities in liaison with the MAGNT Engagement team.
4. Develop and maintain professional networks and partnerships with external stakeholders including project partners, other cultural organisations and community groups.
5. Maintain and promote EEO, cultural diversity, WH&S and ethical principles and practices.

What we are looking for

1. A thorough knowledge of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art and culture including an understanding of the needs of artists and the community, and of current discussions and protocols surrounding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art and its public presentation.
2. Demonstrated experience in the development and delivery of engaging exhibitions in a museum or gallery context
3. High level oral and written communication skills, including professional writing for exhibition-related materials, with the proven ability to tailor communications to different audiences.
4. Experience in the development and delivery of public engagement activities such as artist and curator talks, workshops and tours.
5. Self-motivated, organised and energetic with a demonstrated ability to collaborate with others in a team and across departments, to set priorities and meet competing deadlines.
6. Knowledge of art collection management and conservation practices.
7. An ability to interact effectively with people of different cultures and beliefs and to build relationships with internal and external stakeholders including artists, curators, gallerists, donors and the media.
8. Understanding of Work Health Safety (WHS) practises to ensure WHS system compliance.

Desirable

1. Degree (or equivalent) in art history or visual art combined with relevant curatorial experience and expertise in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art

Our candidate profile is a guide. We understand some relevant experiences and/or knowledges may not be reflected through our criteria. If you believe this role is for you, we would like to hear from you.

Location Schedule

Darwin-based

Over the course of the contract the Curator will be required to spend approximately 7 weeks full-time based at MAGNT over the following three periods:

- > 11 – 29 March - Support the selection panel and assist with the finalist's documentation
- > 8 – 22 June - Facilitate the judging panel and be present for the weekend activities in conjunction with the opening of Telstra NATSIAA
- > 3 – 15 August - Lead up to the Telstra NATSIAA Awards Ceremony, launch events and tours in the days after the Awards

Working from home (flexible location)

Outside fulltime Darwin-based periods, the Curator will be required to work an average of 2 days per week for 15 weeks as follows*:

- > 31 March – 6 June
- > 23 June – 1 August

* This is anticipated to be the total amount of hours required but may vary from week to week. A flexible approach will be necessary to ensure project deliverables are met within the required timeframe. Adjustments to the schedule may be negotiated weekly as necessary.

Remuneration Package

- > The contract will be comprised of approximately 7 weeks full time and 30 days part-time over 15 weeks.
- > Payment will be based on regular invoices. The payment schedule will be agreed in advance with the Curator and linked to the completion of specific project stages
- > MAGNT will pay all travel and accommodation costs for the three required Darwin visits
- > Should the Curator wish to be based in Darwin for the entire contract, a living allowance equivalent to the cost of the above travel and accommodation will be paid at agreed intervals.

Other relevant information

- > MAGNT considers that being Aboriginal or a Torres Strait Islander is a genuine occupational requirement for this position under sub-s 35(1)(b)(ii) of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1996 (NT). By this we mean a person who:
 - identifies as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person; and
 - is of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent; and
 - is accepted as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person by the Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander community in which he or she lives.
- > This role statement is intended to provide an overall view of the role but in addition to this document, the specifics of the role will be described in business work plans.
- > MAGNT is an Equal Opportunity Employer and values diversity in the workplace.
- > MAGNT promotes flexible ways of working. Applicants are encouraged to discuss the flexible working arrangements for this role.
- > Applicants must have full Australian work rights.
- > A current Australian National Police check is required prior to commencing the position.
- > An NT Working with Children (Ochre) card is a requirement of the position.

CULTURAL SAFETY

The Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT) recognises that Indigenous employees have dual responsibilities with obligations to community, as well as their professional roles. MAGNT strives to provide a culturally safe work environment to ensure Indigenous employees feel supported, culturally safe and secure. For the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards the MAGNT Director assumes ultimate responsibility for all decisions and for ensuring the cultural safety of Indigenous employees, artists and contractors.

Further information

For further information about the role please contact the Curator of Aboriginal Art and Material Culture, Rebekah Raymond, ph. (08) 8999 8241 or email: rebekah.raymond@magnt.net.au

For more information about NATSIAA visit www.magnt.net.au/natsiaa

TO APPLY

Your application must include:

- > An expression of interest of up to two pages outlining how your skills and experience meet each of the criteria listed above in the **What We Are Looking For** section.
- > A copy of your resumé or CV including the names of two professional referees

Please email your expression of interest and your CV to careers@magnt.net.au

Applications close Sunday November 30, 2024