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Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander readers are advised that this report contains the names of people who are deceased.



Lily Nungarrayi Hargreaves, Rosie Napurrurla Tasman and Mollie Napurrurla Tasman, Yawulyu Dancers' Chest 1990's, synthetic polymer paint on wood, 46.5 x 115 x 47cm. Gift of Chips Mackinolty and Bernadette Ryan, 2022. MAGNT Collection

# Chair's Foreword

As Chair of the MAGNT Board, I have the privilege of reflecting on the accomplishments and milestones achieved over the past year and it is with immense pride and gratitude that I highlight just some of the many achievements for 2022-2023.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new Director, Adam Worrall, who has brought a wealth of experience to our institution. Under his leadership, we have made significant strides in securing additional funds from the Northern Territory Government and advancing initiatives such the Northern Territory Art Gallery (NTAG) development, collections documentation and the digitisation of the George Chaloupka Rock Art Archive.

The Fannie Bay Gaol Audio tour was successfully launched offering visitors a unique and informative experience when visiting the gaol. This project involved collaborating with Story Projects, a creative production house in Darwin, and underscores our commitment to fostering meaningful relationships and creating enriching experiences across the MAGNT venues. Additionally, we have made significant progress on the Northern Territory Art Gallery, a monumental project that will showcase MAGNT's art collections to a broader audience. Construction of the NTAG has commenced with work continuing at a steady progress.

On behalf of the MAGNT Board I wish to express our gratitude to our long-term donors and substantial contributors, together with the new donors, who have generously supported MAGNT this financial year. I also would like to extend our appreciation to the dedicated MAGNT Foundation members for their unwavering advocacy and support for the public programs and events.

Our Principal Partner, Telstra, deserves special mention for their unwavering support, as we continue



to present the Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards (Telstra NATSIAA). This partnership renewal makes Telstra NATSIAA Australia's most prestigious art awards of its kind. I also acknowledge the partnerships between the Darwin Festival and National Science Week.

I am immensely proud of the dedication, vision and hard work of the MAGNT team, our partners and our supporters. Together, we are writing a compelling chapter in MAGNT's history, one that is driven by a commitment to cultural enrichment, community engagement and a deep respect for the diverse stories of the Northern Territory.

The Hon Clare Martin AO Chair

# Director's Foreword

I am pleased to present this 2022-2023 annual report – a year of significant achievements, transitions and a continued commitment to cultural enrichment and community engagement.

The year kicked off with the 2022 Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards (NATSIAA) which continues to be a testament to our commitment to celebrating the rich heritage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art.

The Telstra NATSIAA holds the distinguished place as Australia's longest running and most prestigious celebration of Aboriginal Art. In 2022 Telstra NATSIAA prize money increased to a collective total of \$190,000, reflecting MAGNT and Telstra's commitment to supporting and nurturing our nations Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists.

I wish to congratulate every participating artist, acknowledging the invaluable role you play in preserving culture through your artistic expression and I congratulate and celebrate the 2022 Telstra Award Winner – Margaret Rarru Garrawurra, Senior Yolŋu artist from Laŋarra, Arnhem Land in the Northern Territory for her artwork *Dhomala* (pandanus sail) 2022.

The Archie 100 exhibition celebrated a century of the Archibald Prize and illuminated the profound impact that this prestigious portrait prize has had on Australian culture. MAGNT was honoured to be able to present this exhibition and associated public programs to Territorians.

My utmost appreciation goes to the MAGNT Foundation for their unwavering support and dedication. Their major commitment to the Archie 100 public program and volunteer guides initiative have significantly enriched our institution and the important contribution we make in the wider Territory community.

Our Alcoota Field Program was also a highlight of the year. MAGNT's natural science staff welcomed 29 other participants to our fossil dig, including Flinders University academics and students in the Flinders University Palaeontology Society. The program included a public Discovery Day where members of the public were also able to experience the exhilaration of fossil discovery and a Community Day with Engawala community Traditional Owners. The fossil dig was a resounding success with many major discoveries, including a partially articulated leg of Dromornis stirtoni, the Thunderbird, a Plaisiodon skull, and small wing bones from a still yet to be identified species.



Several new positions were created in 2022-2023 with MAGNT warmly welcoming a new dedicated Education Officer responsible for developing educational resources, and leading crucial partnership with schools and the Department of Education. We also welcomed MAGNT's first Head of Aboriginal Heritage. This position has been pivotal in shaping our strategic thinking, and policies, ensuring that MAGNT reflects the communities that we work with, and that our work and spaces are enhanced with cultural intelligence from First Nations peoples.

A particular highlight of my first 12 months has been working on the new Northern Territory Art Gallery. Over this period, we have finalised the building design, begun the selection of works from our nationally significant visual art collection to feature in the inaugural exhibitions, and started construction of this new state-of-the-art cultural institution that is anticipated to be completed mid 2025 and planned to open later that year.

As we look back on the accomplishments in 2022-2023, I want to extend my deepest gratitude to our dedicated staff, supporters, donors, Board members and industry stakeholders for your commitment to MAGNT.

Your ongoing advice and support are deeply appreciated, and I eagerly anticipate another year of progress and success at MAGNT. I hope you enjoy this overview of our achievements and milestones from 2022-2023.

Am

Adam Worrall Director

# About MAGNT

Established in 1970 and currently operating under the *Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory Act 2014*, the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT) is the Northern Territory's premier cultural institution.

#### MAGNT, Darwin

Our principal facility since 1981 is on Larrakia land at Bullocky Point in Darwin, and is home to internationally renowned artistic, cultural and scientific collections, and research and exhibition programs. We are best known for our collections and expertise in Aboriginal cultures, natural sciences, histories and arts across northern and central Australia and our neighbours to the north.

Attracting over 300,000 visitors annually, MAGNT also operates the following venues:

#### Fannie Bay Gaol, Darwin

Opened in September 1883, Her Majesty's Gaol and Labour Prison was Darwin's only prison for almost 100 years. It closed in 1979, with prisoners being relocated to the new correctional facility constructed in Berrimah. The gaol precinct was heritage listed in February 1995.

#### Museum of Central Australia (incorporating the Strehlow Research Centre), Alice Springs

Telling the story of Central Australia's unique natural and geological history, the Museum of Central Australia (MCA) follows the evolution of the landscape and the fascinating creatures, past and present, that inhabit it.

MCA is also home to the Strehlow Research Centre, which houses one of Australia's most important collections of film, sound, archival records and museum objects relating to Aboriginal ceremonial life.

#### Megafauna Central, Alice Springs

Megafauna Central presents the story of megafauna in Central Australia through displays of the fascinating fossils found at the Alcoota Scientific Reserve. As well as the fossil material, the Museum includes life-size replicas of the giant bird *Dromornis stirtoni* and *Baru* the fresh water crocodile, which inhabited the region eight million years ago.

#### Alcoota Scientific Reserve, Central Australia

Located 190 kilometres northeast of Alice Springs, the Alcoota Scientific Reserve is a dense fossil site featuring one of the largest concentrations of terrestrial vertebrates from the late Miocene Epoch in Australia. The Alcoota Scientific Reserve has been part of an ongoing MAGNT research program since 1986.

#### We manage the following venues:

## Defence of Darwin Experience, Darwin

The Defence of Darwin Experience tells the story of the bombing of Darwin by the Japanese on 19 February 1942, and was opened in 2012 as part of the 70th anniversary commemoration of that event. It is located at East Point and is operated by the Royal Australian Artillery Association (NT) on behalf of MAGNT.

#### Lyons Cottage, Darwin

Located in Darwin's central business district, Lyons Cottage was built in 1925 as accommodation for executives of the Eastern Extension Australasia and China Telegraph Company. Managed by MAGNT, the building is currently closed for infrastructure upgrades.

#### **Northern Territory Art Gallery**

The Northern Territory Art Gallery (NTAG) is a key component of the revitalisation of the Darwin CBD, and will increase cultural options for Territorians and visitors by providing world-class exhibitions in a striking architect-designed setting. Due to open in late 2025, MAGNT's vision is for NTAG to become a leading cultural institution for the Northern Territory and Southeast Asia, providing a space to showcase MAGNT's extraordinary collections of art from these regions, as well as hosting prestigious Australian and international exhibitions on tour.

#### We connect people to the stories of the Northern Territory.

Our Collection drives curiosity, exploration and partnerships. Our physical spaces are destinations loved by locals and a must-see for visitors, who tell their friends about their distinctive Territorian experience. Our digital connectivity expands the reach of our Collection.

We are brave and passionate. We acknowledge Aboriginal agency and embrace the uniqueness and diversity of the Northern Territory. We take risks and work with integrity to build momentum and be sustainable. We are driven to connect with each other, the public and our stakeholders.

# **Temporary Exhibitions**

## 2022 Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards

#### 6 August 2022 - 15 January 2023 | Gallery 1

Exhibition developed by MAGNT and supported by Principal Partner Telstra, the Australia Council for the Arts and the Northern Territory Government through the Visual Arts and Crafts Strategy.

Telstra NATSIAA is highly anticipated every year on the national cultural calendar and is consistently the largest exhibition staged by MAGNT. It showcases the rich artistic talent of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists from across Australia.

In 2022, after two years of COVID-19's impact on visitor attendance and participation, audiences were able to re-engage with NATSIAA, including the return of the Awards Ceremony on our beachfront lawns and a range of artists' talks and public programs. The Telstra NATSIAA virtual gallery was also produced for its second consecutive year.

MAGNT would like to sincerely thank the selection panel members and judges for their contribution to the 2022 Telstra NATSIAA. "Ganalmirriwuyu gan lakarraŋal ŋanhi Rarru marŋinhin nhanugalaŋawala bäpamirriŋuwal, dhiyak djämaw dhumalaw. Bala ŋayi lakuw-ŋupar malaw dilakun mala marrga ŋayi dhu dilkuma dhuwal rom ga djama, ga ŋayipiny nhakan dal miyalk."

"Ganalmirriwuy said that Rarru was taught by her father and today she's making it. She said that she is following footstep of the Ancestors to make the artworks strong. She's always strong."

Yolŋu Matha transcription provided by Helen Milminydjarrk and Ruth Namalkarra of a conversation between Margaret Rarru Garrawurra and Helen Ganalmirriwuy Garrawurra about Rarru's *Dhomala (pandanus sail)* 2022. English translation by Helen Ganalmirriwuy Garrawurra.



Audiences enjoying the live Awards Ceremony on the lawns of MAGNT following two years of disruptions to the event due to COVID-19



2022 Telstra NATSIAA installation view

## **2022 Award Recipients**

#### **Telstra Art Award**

Margaret Rarru Garrawurra, Senior Yolŋu artist from Laŋarra, Arnhem Land in the Northern Territory, for her artwork *Dhomala (pandanus sail)* 2022.

#### **Telstra Multimedia Award**

Jimmy John Thaiday, who resides in Erub, Torres Strait, Queensland, for his video work *Beyond the lines* 2022.

#### **Telstra General Painting Award**

Betty Muffler, who resides in Indulkana, South Australia, for her artwork *Ngangkari Ngura (Healing Country)* 2021.

#### **Telstra Bark Painting Award**

The late Ms D Yunupiŋu, who resided in Yirrkala, Northern Territory, for her artwork *Yunupiŋu – The Rock* 2021, which was shared with permission from her family.

#### Wandjuk Marika Memorial 3D Award (sponsored by Telstra)

Bonnie Burangarra and Freda Ali Wayartja, who both reside in Yilan, Northern Territory, for their artwork *An-gujechiya* 2021.



Margaret Rarru Garrawurra. Winner of Telstra Art Award. 2022 Telstra NATSIAA. Image: Charlie Bliss 2022. Courtesy of the artist and Milingimbi Arts

#### **Telstra Work on Paper Award**

Gary Lee, who resides in Garramilla/ Darwin, Northern Territory, for his work *Nagi* 2022.

#### **Telstra Emerging Artist Award**

Louise Malarvie, who resides in Kununurra, Western Australia, for her artwork *Pamarr Yara* 2022.

# **Temporary Exhibitions**



Turtle Territory installation view

#### **Turtle Territory**

19 December 2020 – 20 November 2022 | Seaview Gallery

Exhibition developed by MAGNT.

MAGNT's Senior Curator of Molluscs, Dr Richard Willan, collaborated with Darwin-based wildlife photographer Etienne Littlefair to curate a number of remarkable larger-than-life images of freshwater turtles showcased in purpose-built light boxes.



Tiny Territory installation view

#### **Tiny Territory**

26 November 2022 – late 2024 | Seaview Gallery

Exhibition developed by MAGNT.

Invertebrates in the Top End are the most numerous and important ecosystem engineers, service providers and waste managers. They are rarely noticed or revered. Tiny Territory makes large and wondrous the small, colourful and alien-like invertebrates of the Northern Territory.



Exit Art installation view

## Exit Art: contemporary art from 2022 Year 12 students

4 February – 26 March 2023 | Gallery 1

Exhibition developed by MAGNT and presented in partnership with the Northern Territory Government's Department of Education.

A favourite on the annual exhibitions calendar for MAGNT, Exit Art brings together contemporary artworks created by art and design students from Northern Territory high schools in 2022.

Entries were received from students across the Northern Territory, with 51 finalists' artworks representing schools in Darwin, Alice Springs and Nhulunbuy.



Montages: The Full Cut, 1999–2015 Tracey Moffatt and Gary Hillberg installation view

#### Montages: The Full Cut, 1999–2015 Tracey Moffatt and Gary Hillberg

28 January – 26 March 2023 | Gallery 1

Exhibition developed by Artspace, Sydney, and toured nationally in partnership with Museums and Galleries of New South Wales.

This exhibition presented the full suite of eight montage films, interrogating the nature of representation by artist Tracey Moffatt and her longtime collaborator Gary Hillberg. Mining an extensive collection of iconic Hollywood films, telemovies and arthouse cinema, the artists' works utilise and expose common stereotypes in popular cinema.



Archie 100: A Century of the Archibald Prize installation view

#### Archie 100: A Century of the Archibald Prize

15 April – 25 June 2023 | Gallery 1

In 2021, the Art Gallery of New South Wales (AGNSW) celebrated the 100th birthday of Australia's oldest and most-loved portrait award, the Archibald Prize. To mark the occasion, AGNSW presented Archie 100: A Century of the Archibald Prize, a landmark touring exhibition that explored the prize across its history, revealing fascinating stories behind carefully selected artworks. A special thank you to the MAGNT Foundation who provided financial support for the Archie 100: A Century of the Archibald Prize public program. In addition, the Foundation assisted with a volunteer program, which resulted in 187 guided talks for almost 3,000 visitors to the exhibition – a remarkable 22% of exhibition attendees.



## 40: Celebrating four decades of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards

29 April 2023 – 4 February 2024 | Gallery 4

Exhibition developed by MAGNT.

The 40: Celebrating four decades of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards exhibition presents a selection of artworks from each decade of the Awards. Drawn from MAGNT's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art collection, these artworks offer a unique glimpse into some of the stories, memories and highlights interwoven through NATSIAA's extraordinary journey to the present.



Image opposite and above: 40: Celebrating four decades of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards installation view

# Long Run Exhibitions

#### **MAGNT Bullocky Point**



#### Lower Ramp Gallery

A series of 12 cabinets showcasing different groups of Northern Territory fauna and minerals, the gallery culminates with our most popular resident, Sweetheart, a male saltwater crocodile over five metres long.



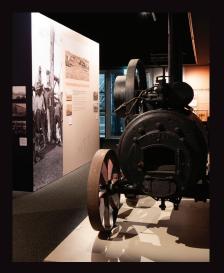
#### **Cyclone Tracy**

Killing 66 people and injuring hundreds more, Cyclone Tracy was a defining moment in Darwin's history. This exhibition provides a visual account of the events leading up to that fateful night and its devastating aftermath.



#### Transformations

This is the tale of ecological change, of seasons and cycles, and the recurring transformation of the environments in the Northern Territory over both short and longer time periods. The inclusion of a Larrakia Seasonal Calendar helps contextualise some of the specimens and stories told in the exhibition.



#### Unruly Days: Territory Life 1911–1921

Unruly Days: Territory Life 1911–1921 draws upon MAGNT's Territory History Collection to chart the tumultuous times that marked the commencement of Commonwealth governance of the Northern Territory in the early years of the 20th century. Due to major infrastructure repairs, MAGNT partially closed the exhibition to the public in January 2022 with plans for the gallery's redevelopment taking place over 2022 and 2023.



#### **Colin Jack-Hinton Maritime Gallery**

The gallery houses traditional boats and canoes from MAGNT's Historic Boat and Ethnographic Watercraft Collection. Visitors encounter 23 traditional vessels originating from the shores of Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Fiji and Cocos (Keeling) Islands. Each boat imparts a fascinating seafaring story intertwined with human culture from the surrounding seas. During the year, work continued on the reinstallation of MAGNT's Pygmy Blue Whale (*Balaenoptera musculus brevicauda*). The skeleton was originally installed on the northern wall of the Colin Jack-Hinton Maritime Gallery from 1991 to 1999. Following a major fund-raising campaign, work commenced in 2021 to reinstate this much-loved display.



#### Gumurr'manydji Manapanmirr Djäma (Making successful business together)

Exhibition developed by MAGNT in collaboration with the Arnhem Land Progress Aboriginal Corporation (ALPA), made possible by the Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand (RISE) Fund – an Australian Government initiative.

A national award-winning photographic exhibition from

ALPA celebrating 50 years of Yolqu economic independence, enterprise, self-determination, culture and ingenuity, Gumurr'manydji Manapanmirr Djäma was proudly produced by an all-Indigenous curatorial team from Galiwin'ku, Gapuwiyak, Ramingining, Milingimbi and Minjilang. It is told through Yolqu Matha language. Winning the 2023 Museums and Galleries National Award for *'Temporary or Travelling Exhibition – Level 3'*, each image was carefully selected by community members and leaders and celebrates the contribution Yolŋu people have made to building better futures and stronger communities.



#### **Collection Lab**

Collection Lab gave visitors a 'behind-the-scenes' view of managing MAGNT's art collections. The temporary decanting of artworks from the Visual Art Store to facilitate the air-conditioning upgrade provided an unexpected opportunity for visitors to experience an art storeroom, where rarely seen works hang alongside popular favourites.

## SHORTS: MAGNT free short film program

A program of 21 short films, comprising interesting and informative 'behind-the-scenes' views and other films from MAGNTs YouTube channel as well as a selection produced by Desart for the 2021 Art Centres on Screen program.

#### **Defence of Darwin Experience**



The Defence of Darwin Experience is an interactive exhibition that interprets the stories surrounding the bombing of Darwin. The displays allow visitors to learn about the impact of World War II on Darwin's built environment and its inhabitants, both civilian and military.



## The Track: Strategic Lifeline to the Top End

The exhibition tells the story of the significant logistics operation that was put in place to supply Darwin and the Top End by road following the bombing in February 1942.

#### **Museum of Central Australia**



## Frontier Journey: photographs by Otto Tschirn 1915–1918

The exhibition is a fascinating insight into the social world of the changing Central Australian frontier during the early years of the 20th century.



#### **Natural History Gallery**

Downstairs at the Museum of Central Australia, displays tell the story of the region's unique natural history, following the evolution of the landscape and the fascinating creatures that inhabited it.

#### **Megafauna Central**



Megafauna Central presents the story of megafauna in Central Australia through displays of fossils found at the Alcoota Scientific Reserve.

#### Tim's Journey Back in Time

Enhancing the megafauna and Alcoota stories is both an animated film and 36-page, full-colour, bi-lingual children's publication produced in collaboration with the Engawala Women's Art Group and Batchelor Institute. Tim's Journey Back in Time is a story inspired by the Alcoota fossil dig site, only a few kilometres from the Engawala Community. Through Eastern Arrernte narration and bilingual text, the story is a delightfully fun journey illustrated with original artwork created by the Engawala Women's Art Group. Although he did think about going back in case he missed school. Wel ra fterrek ingkep untintyek school missem-flekern

AITY

ALCO

FOSSIL

SITE

Tim's Journey Back in Time installation view

# **Visitor Experience**

#### 1. Visits to the Museum: 315,478

Includes all MAGNT sites: MAGNT Darwin, Fannie Bay Gaol, Defence of Darwin Experience, Museum of Central Australia and Megafauna Central.

#### 2. Visits to MAGNT website: 377,085

#### 3. Engagements with social media: 326,575

Social media engagement measured as sum of Facebook, Twitter and Instagram engagement plus YouTube views.

#### 4. Downloads of MAGNT records on the Atlas of Living Australia website: 15,336,038

#### 5. Visits to Virtual Galleries: 7253

Visitation	(2022–2023)
Visitation to MAGNT Darwin site	218,257
Intra-Territory visitors*	72,025
Interstate visitors*	124,406
Overseas visitors*	21,826
Visits to Fannie Bay Goal	10,834
Visits to Museum of Central Australia	9,013
Visits to Megafauna Central	13,634
Visits to Defence of Darwin Experience	63,740

\*estimate from sampling only



Technical Officer (Natural Sciences), Lucyna Kania and Nick Volpe at the Tiny Territory children's workshop

### **On-site programs**

On-site community and family program participants	12,962
On-site community and family programs	602
Formal education visitors to MAGNT	7,992
Intra-Territory students	6,069
Interstate students	1,923
Formal education programs delivered on-site	35

### Enquiries

#### Volunteers

Volunteers play an important role at MAGNT and their commitment is gratefully acknowledged.

During the year, 30 volunteers contributed over 2,000 hours to MAGNT projects in both back-ofhouse and public-facing roles across Collections Management, Natural Sciences, Territory History and the Engagement team.

MAGNT also hosted 10 work experience students and one trainee.

### **Education Programs**

Education Programs at MAGNT have been re-established with the appointment of an Education Officer in January 2023. The Northern Territory Government Department of Education (DoE) has provided financial support towards the salary of the Education Officer for a two-year period.



Members of Flinders University Palaeontological Society volunteering to sort tiny fossils at Alcoota Scientific Reserve

MAGNT has partnered with the Northern Territory DoE since 2004 to present the annual Exit Art exhibition of contemporary art from Year 12 students. Part of the Exit Art program includes intensive Study Days for students in their final year studying Stage 2 Visual and Media Arts. These study sessions are invaluable, providing inspiration and motivation to develop ideas and encourage students in the creative process. As well as developing educational resources that relate to both MAGNT collections and the Australian Curriculum, MAGNT hosted several events for educators in the greater Darwin region including an evening for art educators to view the exhibition Archie 100: A Century of the Archibald Prize and a behindthe-scenes tour of the Natural Sciences dry store for the Primary Science Network.



Senior Curator of Earth Sciences, Dr Adam Yates giving a public talk on Megafauna during National Science Week

# **Aboriginal Heritage**



First and Second Generation Stolen members – L to R: Mr Halpin Hart, Ms Rosanna De Santis, Mr Charlie King, Ms Barbara Nasir, Mr Francis Storer, Dr Eileen Cummings, Ms Lynette Fejo and Ms Tanyah Nasir

#### First Peoples: A Roadmap for Enhancing Indigenous Engagement in Museums and Galleries

The past 12 months have seen a huge commitment from MAGNT to improve our levels of Indigenous engagement and Indigenous employment.

Guided by the First Peoples: Roadmap for Enhancing Indigenous Engagement in Museums and Galleries some of MAGNT's key achievements have included:

- 67% increase in Indigenous employment
- strengthening stakeholder engagement with organisations such as Larrakia Nation, Larrakia Development Corporation, NT Stolen Generation, artists and art centres
- increasing Indigenous agency and voices through programs and projects such as:
  - a Saltwater Ceremony for the public to experience culture through learning and connecting to Larrakia Country, led by a

Larrakia Elder and Larrakia Nation as part of the Telstra NATSIAA opening weekend

- » artists Jimmy John Thaiday, Michelle Woody Minnapinni, Jack Green, Tyrown Waigana, Gary Lee and Dylan Sarra sharing their practices and the stories behind their artworks that were selected for the 2022 Telstra NATSIAA
- » MAGNT's Science team undertaking STEAM Education with Larrakia Rangers.

#### MAGNT Aboriginal Advisory Body

In April 2023, an invitation for EOIs was put out nationally for Northern Territory Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to be a part of the much-anticipated MAGNT Aboriginal Advisory Body (AAB). The purpose of the AAB is to provide advice and cultural guidance to the MAGNT Board, Executive and staff and the SRC Board. At its June meeting, the MAGNT Board endorsed 9 members to form the inaugural Aboriginal Advisory Body.

### **Partnerships**

#### National Film and Sound Archive

In April 2023, the Strehlow Research Centre and National Film and Sound Archive officially launched the recording studio at the Museum of Central Australia in Alice Springs. This studio is crucial to the significant work being done to preserve and digitalise at-risk audio recordings from the Strehlow Collection. The collection contains recordings of cultural practices and language from Central Australia from 1932 and is one of the most important compilations of ceremonial life in the world.

#### Northern Territory Stolen Generation

On 26 May 2023, National Sorry Day had its 25th anniversary. MAGNT partnered with NT Stolen Generation and Friends of Kahlin to deliver a free two-hour Sorry Day Truth Telling Panel Discussion held in MAGNT's theatrette. On the panel were three first generation stolen members, and four next generation members sharing their experiences and the ongoing impacts of the traumatic events, policies and practices of being taken from their mothers and their families.

#### Indigenous Repatriation Program

MAGNT continues its strong partnership under the Indigenous Repatriation Program (IRP) with the Indigenous Repatriation Collections and Cultural Access Branch – Office for the Arts (National).

This year, MAGNT consulted with seven Traditional Owners from the Burarra and Djinang language groups from Maningrida, Milingimbi and Ramingining in regard to 248 restricted cultural objects housed in the Secret Sacred Store. In Central Australia, 28 sacred objects were returned to traditional custodians from the Papunya region. These objects were being housed at the Strehlow Research Centre under a third-party storage agreement until a suitable keeping place was constructed. A total of 15 Senior Men were engaged as consultants throughout this process.

#### Strehlow Research Centre (SRC)

A total of 25 family tree consultations took place this year with local Aboriginal custodians, continuing the SRC's close working relationship with community.

June saw the completion of a wonderful partnership with the Central Land Council, which has enabled the preservation of 157 TGH Strehlow and Carl Strehlow genealogies through a digitisation, condition checking and rehousing project. This project was critical to preserve and enhance accessibility to Aranda cultural knowledge.

# Collection – History, Culture and the Arts

MAGNT is the custodian of significant cultural, historical and arts collections acquired over more than 50 years.

The Collections Management team is responsible for the care of the collections by implementing industry standard museum practices throughout an array of disciplines. This includes providing conservation, storage management and documentation services, coordinating the collection development program, facilitating access visits and public enquiries, and supporting the exhibitions program and regional museums.

Assistant Conservator, Lauren Ravi (foreground) and Conservation Technician, Paula Chappel preparing works for an upcoming exhibition





Collections Officer Wendy Belohlawek and Assistant Registrar, Collection Care and Storage, Kerry Nancarrow undertaking the Southeast Asian Storage ceramics relocation project

#### **Collection Development**

The Collection Development strategy targets projections for quality acquisitions, which enables the strengthening of collections through either building on existing material or working towards filling significant gaps. During 2022–2023, there was a total of 21 new acquisitions comprising 550 individual objects added to the History, Culture and the Arts Collections. Details of the 21 acquisitions are listed in Appendix 1.

#### **Storage Needs**

Year One of the Storage Needs Assessment plan saw the installation of a new cantilever racking system, together with 20 new cabinetry units and three additional shelving units, generating new storage spaces that assisted in the relocation of over 1,200 Southeast Asian ceramic objects.

#### Conservation

MAGNT Conservation staff provide the technical and specialist expertise and knowledge that supports the care and maintenance of the collection and the delivery of the exhibition program, and facilitates incoming acquisitions and loans. In conjunction with the Collections team, conservation staff also deliver environmental monitoring, ongoing monthly gallery maintenance programs and remedial conservation, which includes object condition assessments, treatment of objects and pest management.

#### Access Visits and Outreach

MAGNT's Collections team facilitated a range of access visits across the collections including MAGNT volunteer store tours and access for researchers. PhD candidates, work experience students, advisory boards, donor support groups, community land councils and community repatriation research. Back-ofhouse behind-the-scenes store tours were provided for the Archie 100 volunteers, representatives of the Larrakia Cultural Centre. Tiwi Land Council, delegates from the Australian Archaeology Association, and the Cultural Research Project Coordinator of Bawinanga Aboriginal Corporation. Access visits were also provided for representatives from Arnhem Land as part of their men's repatriation project.

During 2022–2023, the Collections Management team represented MAGNT at both national and international conferences. In October 2022, Rebecca Mirams, Assistant Registrar, Loans and Acquisitions, presented at the Global Encounters Monash (GEM) symposium Pulau dan Perahu, Islands and Boats: Encounters and Mobilities within Maritime Southeast Asia and Indigenous Australia held in Jakarta. In December 2022, Kerry Nancarrow, Assistant Registrar, Collection Care and Storage, presented at the Australian Archaeology Association (AAA) Annual National Conference held in Darwin. In May 2023, Assistant Conservator Lauren Ravi, with support through ICOM Australia, represented MAGNT at the ICOM Australia and ICOM Singapore collaboration of a pilot training program on conservation and collections management for conservators from the ASEAN region.

#### Honorary Title Holders – History, Culture and the Arts

Dr Christine Tarbett-Buckley retired as Head of Collections at MAGNT in 2016. In 2022 she was awarded her doctorate in the social and material aspects of Australian heritage work in the Northern Territory, by Charles Darwin University (CDU). Christine was appointed an Emeritus Curator in early 2023.

Professor Helen Verran from the Northern Institute (NI) at CDU was appointed a MAGNT Research Associate early in 2023 to research the topic 'Contemporary Museum Futures: caring for ethnographic objects and collections'. In 2023, Professor Verran has given two talks on bringing philosophy into the museum, one at Amsterdam's Tropenmuseum and the other at MAGNT in July as part of a developing partnership between MAGNT and CDU's Northern Institute.



Kerry Nancarrow, Assistant Registrar, Collections Care and Storage, at the AAA Conference Darwin, December 2022

# Curatorial – History, Culture and the Arts

### Art

MAGNT's Australian, Aboriginal and Southeast Asian Art and Material Culture Collections reflect the richness and diversity of art and cultural practice from across our region. Development of these collections focuses on artworks that relate to the people, history, land and culture of the region of central and northern Australia and Southeast Asia.

#### Aboriginal Art and Material Culture

Significant acquisitions for the Aboriginal Art Collection this year included the Yawulyu Dancers' chest gifted by Chips Mackinolty and Bernadette Ryan. The chest, which features paintings by Warlpiri artists, was used by the Yawulyu Dancers to store ceremonial objects used in their performances at events across the Territory.

The Museum acquired an important bark painting and two ceremonial ornaments by Jawoyn artist Djoli Laiwanga OAM to increase our holdings from an underrepresented region of the Territory. Eleven Tiwi cultural objects collected by John and Betty Hemming in the 1960s were donated to MAGNT by Kathy Hemming.

Generous funds from Telstra, the major supporting partner of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards, enabled the acquisition of six artworks from this year's Telstra NATSIAA finalists. These included the winning work, Margaret Rarru Garrawurra's *Dhomala (pandanus sail)* 2022; *Beyond the lines* 2022 by Jimmy John Thaiday; *Balpal* (*traditional feather fan*) 2022 by May Yamangarra; *Foundation* 2021 by Moyurrurra Wunuŋmurra; *Buymarr* 2022 by Gutiŋarra Yunupiŋu; and *Virus Man* 2021 by Ray Mudjandi.

The MAGNT Supporters of Aboriginal Art Donor Circle generously provided funds for the acquisition of two category-winning works from this year's Telstra NATSIAA: *Nagi* 2022 by Gary Lee and an important bark painting, *Yunupiŋu* – The Rock 2021, by Ms D Yunupiŋu (1945–2021). *Yunupiŋu* – The Rock was one of the last paintings undertaken by the highly respected Yolŋu artist before her passing.

#### **Australian Art**

Two significant donations were received under the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program. Kevin Lincoln's painting *Untitled II*  2017, an evocative depiction of the Lake Mackay region at dusk, was donated by Walter Patterson and Pamela Pearce. Leading Australian designer Elliat Rich donated two significant furniture pieces: *Ipomoea Sofa* 2009 and *Curio* 2015.

Three ceramic vessels by Cecily Willis were acquired for MAGNT's Craft Collection. Alongside Elliat Rich's furniture, these add significantly to the Museum's holdings of exceptional Australian craft and design. Paintings and drawings by Andy Ewing (1964–2021) were donated by the Ewing family. Ewing was a significant artist, curator and arts worker within the Darwin arts community.

'It feels only right that some of my earliest significant works are held by a Northern Territory institution. The Territory has inspired, taught and held me throughout my practice. I'm honoured and grateful that my work is a part of this place.' – Elliat Rich



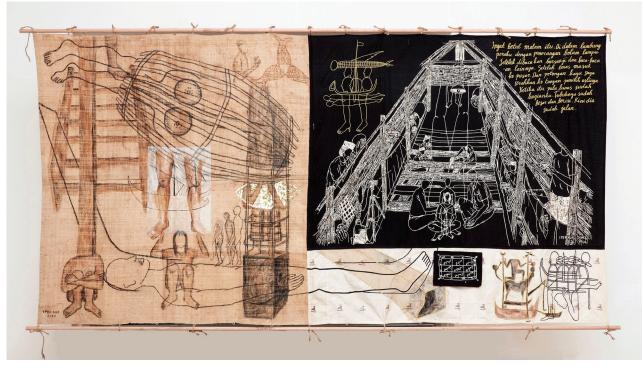
Elliat Rich, *Ipomoea Sofa* 2009, Thermochromatic Ink, digital print, plywood, Laminex, stainless steel components, 78 x 120 x 53 cm. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program, 2023. MAGNT Collection. Image: Elliat Rich

## Southeast Asian Art and Material Culture

This year MAGNT acquired a contemporary work by Ipeh Nur, an Indonesian artist based in Yogyakarta, Java. A textile-based assemblage featuring elements of Mandar silk and cotton and echoing the form of a traditional lanu sail, *Keluar Untuk ke Dalam (Outward for Inward)* 2022 is an outcome of Nur's art residency in coastal West Sulawesi exploring the history and boat building rituals of Bugis and Makassan seafaring traders and their contact with the saltwater peoples of northern Australia.

In March 2023, Dr James Bennett, Curator of Southeast Asian Art and Material Culture, retired but is continuing his involvement with MAGNT through his new role of Emeritus Curator of Southeast Asian Art and Material Culture.

Dr Bennett was co-editor of Interwoven Journeys: the Michael Abbott Collections of Asian Art, a 468-page publication honouring the art collecting and philanthropy of Michael Abbott QC, a generous donor to MAGNT and other Australian institutions. Michael Abbott has gifted in excess of 800 significant Southeast Asian textiles, ceramics and other material culture items to MAGNT over a 27-year period.



Ipeh Nur, Keluar Untuk ke Dalam (Outward for Inward) 2022, Ianu sail, cotton, woven silk (lipa' saqbe), cassava paper, charcoal rock powder, cloves, batik, embroidery, sequins, 145 x 286cm. Acquired 2023. MAGNT Collection. Image: 16albermarle Project Space

Interwoven Journeys is a valuable addition to the wealth of existing scholarship on MAGNT's Collection of Southeast Asian Art and Material Culture.

#### Honorary Title Holders – History, Culture and the Arts

Dr James Bennett, Emeritus Curator of Southeast Asian Art and Material Culture, was the MAGNT Curator of Southeast Asian Art and Material Culture until March 2023, during which time he completed a comprehensive review of the MAGNT Southeast Asian Collection as well as negotiated several major gifts of Indonesian art to MAGNT. As Emeritus Curator, he has been based in Indonesia where he is a visiting guest curator at West Nusa Tenggara (NTB) Museum, Mataram, curatorial adviser for Saka Museum, Bali, and an adjunct post-graduate lecturer at Mataram State University of Islam.

# **Territory History**

The two main projects for the 2022–2023 year were the Fannie Bay Gaol audio tour – '*On the Inside*' – and the Pygmy Blue Whale skeleton installation.

Launched on 27 May, 'On the Inside' was developed as a new and exciting way to interpret the historic gaol precinct, focusing on people stories and soundscapes. Working closely with Story Projects, a creative production house in Darwin, detailed research was carried out to find stories of inmates and workers that helped tell the history of the gaol.



Work continues on the first three neck (cervical) vertebra of the Pygmy Blue Whale which are naturally fused together

These stories were interwoven with facts, figures and sound effects to produce a delightful voice guided tour that gives insights into life inside Fannie Bay Gaol over its 96-year history.

The installation of the 21.9-metre Pygmy Blue Whale skeleton is a massive project, which the Curator of Territory History has overseen. Major achievements this year included:

- the completion of repairs and resin impregnation of all bones, including the skull and lower jaw, and their final coating in an ivorycoloured flow coat
- transferring the life-sized whale silhouette painted on the McMinn Street Offsite Store floor to interlocking boards, cut to shape, painted and installed on the steel armature on the north wall of the Colin Jack-Hinton Maritime Gallery.

#### Key milestones:

- As part of being a director on the Australian Maritime Museums Council (AMMC), the curator attended the Australian Wooden Boat Festival in Hobart and participated in an AMMC Board meeting and two-day workshop.
- The curator supported the 150th anniversary of the completion of the Overland Telegraph Line, which was marked with a public

ceremony at Frew Ponds – the site of the joining of the north and south wires in 1872.

- In October 2022, the curator led an expedition to Auvergne Station in the Victoria River district of the western Top End. He was accompanied by Professor Lee Arnold and Dr Sam Arman and assisted with the collection of soil samples that will be used to age the fossil sediments using the OSL (Optically Stimulated Luminescence) dating technique.
- The assistant curator was instrumental in working through a large portion of the backlog in the Territory History Collection, including the complete rehousing of the PIC photographic collection, accessioning thousands of objects (primarily the Philatelic Collection), updating object records and boxing large numbers of fragile objects.
- Stakeholder and public enquiries throughout the year came to 617.

# Collection – Natural Sciences

The Natural Sciences Collections are the major repository of the faunal biodiversity of the Northern Territory, northern Australia more broadly and our nearest neighbours. The collections inform diverse research both nationally and internationally, and support government decisions and policymaking concerning our natural resources. Curators, government agencies, researchers and students use the physical collections or online data for investigations into taxonomy and biosystematics, environmental assessments, species modelling, biosecurity, citizen science, human health, conservation and sustainable resource management.

The Natural Sciences Collections team ensure the utility and ongoing development of the collections by undertaking a program of collections care and documentation, physical and digital access, specimen and tissue loans, and responding to information requests and enquiries. Our collection also supports MAGNT's exhibition, education and public engagement programs.

Significant additions to the collection during the year included insects collected during the Bush Blitz 2021 Groote Eylandt project, fossils collected during the 2022 Alcoota field season and the registration of a large quantity of backlogged palaeontology, arachnid (spider) and polychaete worm specimens. The Natural Sciences Collections team provided ongoing field support to the Natural Sciences curators and Emeritus curators, most notably Dr Sam Arman with the running of the 2022 Alcoota field season and Olga Biriukova with the discovery of a new species of polychaete worm from the Darwin region.

# Access and Outreach

The Natural Sciences Collections team facilitated regular backof-house tours of the collection and worked on the development and delivery of the Tiny Territory exhibition in the Seaview Gallery, which is due to run until late 2024. Our visiting researcher program was busy, and in a bittersweet farewell we waved goodbye to Lenny, MAGNT's last remaining pig-nosed turtle (*Carettochelys insculpta*) from the Monsoon Garden as he was transferred to the Territory Wildlife Park (TWP). Many thanks to our friends at TWP for keeping wildlife safe in the NT.

# **Collection Loans**

The collections loans program is an ongoing high resource program that sends material to external researchers both within Australia and overseas. Importantly for MAGNT, work commenced on an audit and return of outstanding specimen loans and reviews of the MAGNT Natural Sciences Collection Specimen Loan and Tissue Loan Policies to govern access to our collections and futureproof its use.



Dr Kirsti Abbott, Head of Science, and Lucyna Kania, Natural Sciences Collection Technician, preparing insects for display in the Tiny Territory exhibition

	Collection #		Loans **			
	Total accessions	Total acquisitions to date	Outward sent	Outward received	Inward sent	Inward received
Natural Sciences						
Terrestrial Vertebrates	317	54153	10 / 104	10 / 195	0 / 0	1 / 17
Fish	56	41157	5 / 79	6 / 54	1 / 8	2 / 45
Invertebrates	2875	165281	9 / 52	3 / 20	5 / 111	1/2
Palaeontology/Geology	1981	24716	3 / 27	2/5	0 / 0	0 / 0

# These figures are for the number of specimen lots, not individual animals

\*\* These x/x figures indicate the total number of loans / the total number of loaned specimens

# TOTALExchanges with other institutions1Visiting researchers15Number of new species described from the Natural Sciences Collection11

# Curatorial – Natural Sciences



The legs and feet of a single individual *Dromornis stirtoni* named 'Deb' laid out in the field at Alcoota during the 2022 field season. This is the first time articulated bones belonging to a single individual of *D. strirtoni* have been found

Major changes for the MAGNT Natural Sciences team included the retirement of two long-term staff members: Senior Curator of Molluscs, Dr Richard Willan, after 30 years and Senior Collections Manager, Gavin Dally, after 28 years. New staff are Dr Dan Edwards, Curator of Terrestrial Vertebrates, and Lucyna Kania, Collections Technician, both of whom are based in Darwin.

Concurrent with world class research, our staff have delivered innovative public programs to diverse audiences and initiated a partnership with Darwin Festival and InspiredNT to deliver major National Science Week events grounded in museum science. We have focused on crucial policies and procedures that underpin the care and utility of our collection, safeguarding it for future generations. Head of Science, Dr Kirsti Abbott, has prioritised relationships with Northern Territory science organisations including Charles Darwin University, Department of Environment, Parks & Water Security, Department of Industry, Tourism & Trade, the Federal Government Office of the Supervising Scientist and Larrakia Rangers.



Curator of Terrestrial Vertebrates, Dr. Dan Edwards, demonstrating the measurement of body size on a specimen of a Superb Dragon (*Diporiphora superba*). The specimen is one she helped collect on a trip to the Kimberly with former Curator of Terrestrial Vertebrates Dr. Paul Horner in 2005

# **Terrestrial Vertebrates**

Dr Dan Edwards commenced at MAGNT on 1 December 2022 and gave her inaugural curatorial public seminar in February 2023. Dan is the first curator of this Terrestrial Vertebrate Collection (TVC) in 10 years since Stephen Richards left the role in 2013.

The curator has begun mapping the tissue and specimen collections, uncovering critical gaps in MAGNT's TVC in both space and time as well as highlighting the paucity of representation in the tissue holdings. The collection valuation project stressed the need for systematic audits and the development of policies and procedures for streamlining and documenting future collecting, loans and access to specimens and tissues.

Dan became an Adjunct Senior Research Fellow at Charles Darwin University in June 2023 and worked to establish an NT-based research program while continuing to progress projects in the USA and Galapagos Islands.

# Earth Sciences

The 2022 Alcoota field program, in partnership with the Flinders University Palaeontological Society (FUPS), revealed notable discoveries: the first partial articulated leg and feet skeleton of a *Dromornis stirtoni*, a Plaisiodon skull and parts of a small wallaby skeleton.

The northern-most *Diprotodon* in Australia project took a large step towards completion with a field trip to Auvergne Station with Prof Lee Arnold from Adelaide University to collect samples for OSL dating.

Both the Senior Curator Earth Sciences and Technical Officer Earth Sciences have been involved in the Northern Territory Fossil Emblem project. The working group is seeking permission from Traditional Owners (TOs) upon whose land the contenders for the emblem are found and Adam is working on illustrations that will be used in the campaign. Genuine working relationships with TOs are also the foundations of the children's book *Tim's Journey Back in Time*, which was launched in May 2023 at Megafauna Central.

'Flinders University Palaeontology Society has been welcomed to the Alcoota fossil beds since 1989, and every trip members eagerly anticipate their journey north for the field season alongside our friends at MAGNT. The opportunity to learn and hone their skills at a significant fossil site is a rare and invaluable experience for our aspiring palaeontology students. They actively contribute to exciting discoveries and feel like an integral part of the science.' – Dr Diana Fusco, FUPS



The Malanda Rainbowfish is restricted to cool upland streams of the Atherton Tablelands; these types of habitats across northern Australia will come under increasing threat with climate change

# **Fishes**

Highlighting the impact of Museum samples, the Curator of Fishes, Michael Hammer, was involved in a rainbowfish taxonomy project to underpin a high-profile paper in the top journal *Nature Climate Change*, which examined how hybridisation may influence conservation of upland restricted species. Michael also prepared an expert assessment report on freshwater fish biodiversity to inform the Strategic Regional Environmental and Baseline Assessment of the Beetaloo Basin for the Department of Environment, Parks and Water Security, NT Government, and hosted Dr Gerry Allen, world-renowned senior fish taxonomist, examining PNG fishes in collaboration.

The curator participated in two nature discovery expeditions, both in collaboration with the Western Australian Museum, along with local Aboriginal ranger groups, Traditional Owners and school teachers: Wiliggnin Country based in Charnley River Sanctuary in the West Kimberley Bush Blitz (July), and Wudjari Country covering freshwater, estuarine and near shore marine habitats near Esperance. The curator presented a curatorial seminar summarising 10 years of Bush Blitz across northern Australia and also at the Australia New Guinea Fishes Association Convention in Brisbane, and was also invited to present a plenary talk at the Australian Society for Fish Biology Conference, focusing on setting a foundation for taxonomy of Australian fishes.

# Honorary Title Holders – Natural Sciences

Dr Chris Glasby, Emeritus Curator of Annelids, continues to study the Annelid collection after retiring from MAGNT in 2021. His major project over the past ~5 years has been the Annikey project, a Key to Annelids of the World, funded by Australian Biological Resources Study, Canberra, in collaboration with the Australian Museum and Museum Victoria. Further to the Annikey project, Chris discovered a new species of Marphysa bloodworm in the mangrove-lined flats of Ludmilla Creek working with Olga Biriukova, MAGNT Collections Technician, which will be described and incorporated into the MAGNT Collection in the coming year.

Dr Helen Larson, Emeritus Curator of Fishes, focuses on the taxonomy of Indo-Pacific gobioid fishes, and mostly on estuarine and coral reef forms. She carries out generic-level revisions rather than single-species descriptions. For several years Helen has been preparing, with Doug Hoese and other colleagues, a four-volume book on *Gobioids* of the World, containing illustrated species accounts of over 2000 species. The first two volumes will be printed in 2023 and the others are in preparation. Importantly, Helen carries out extinction risk assessments of gobioids and a few other fish groups for the IUCN Red List of threatened species.

Dr Barry Russell, Emeritus Curator of Fishes, continued work at MAGNT on the taxonomy and systematics of lizardfishes (family Synodontidae) and threadfin breams (family Nemipteridae) in collaboration with colleagues around the world. Barry conducts research at several other institutions both nationally and in Europe, working on a major project on the Australian fishes described by the French ichthyologist FL de Castelnau between 1870 and 1879. Barry also is a member of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Species Survival Commission and is Red List Authority for the Snapper, Seabream and Grunt Specialist Group.

Dr Richard Willan, Emeritus Curator of Molluscs, retired in July 2022, since which time he has directed his efforts on a comprehensive monograph of marine molluscs of Darwin Harbour. Richard continues to identify and assess the risk to Australia's waters by marine pests with NT Fisheries and Federal Government bodies. He is an associate editor for the journal *Molluscan Research* and regularly contributes to peer-review editorial processes for international journals, societies and individuals.

In Natural Sciences there are also four research associates who work with the collection for various projects: Dr Chris Austin has a focus on crustaceans and collaborates with Dr Michael Hammer on crayfish taxonomy and conservation; Dr Charlotte Watson is a long-term associate whose work is focused on marine polychaetes; Adam Bourke joined MAGNT for the 2021 Bush Blitz on Groote Eylandt and has extensive mangrove ecology expertise that complements much of MAGNT's work; and Dr Deepak Pazhayamadom is involved in specific research projects with Dr Michael Hammer, and his associateship will end in 2024.



Dr Glenn Moore and Dr Michael Hammer using an electrofisher to sample for freshwater fishes on the Wiliggnin–West Kimberley Bush Blitz. Image: Kate Gillespie, Bush Blitz

# Regional Museums Support



Ricky Ankin and Elijah Nelson, Maningrida Arts and Culture Centre, at the Djomi Museum workshop, September 2022. Image: Be Keillor

In September 2022, two representatives of the Collections Management team shared their knowledge with staff from the Djomi Museum, Maningrida Arts and Culture Centre, and students from the Maningrida school. A two-day workshop was held in Maningrida, discussing and demonstrating collection care, storage and objects conservation.

MAGNT's Central Australia Manager represented the organisation on the Management Committee of the Women's Museum of Australia and Alice Springs Old Gaol (WMoA) from July 2022 to March 2023. During this time, MAGNT assisted the WMoA with governance-related queries, human resource development, developing a strategic plan, advice on museum best practice in conservation, and the acquisition and deaccessioning processes for collection items. Over the course of the year, the Territory History section gave support and advice to various regional museums located across the Northern Territory. This included assistance with queries on insurance of collections, care of objects, specialised advice on trucks and weapon types used in the NT during World War II, governance, and the font size and word length of text for signage. Institutions helped included the NT Chinese Museum, Katherine Museum, Darwin Military Museum, CDU Nursing Museum, Pine Creek Railway Precinct, Darwin Aviation Museum and the NT Police Museum and Historical Society.



Djomi Museum workshop, September 2022. Assistant Teacher, Hayley Brown, Maningrida School. Image: Carolyn McLennan

# Support

The Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory is generously supported by operational funds from the Northern Territory Government. We also acknowledge and give thanks to the invaluable philanthropic, community and corporate partners who enable MAGNT to deliver both a changing and dynamic program of exhibitions and public programs and continue ground-breaking science research projects. This support is essential to helping us build and protect the Collection, as well as increase opportunities for public access.

Thank you to our Principal Partner, Telstra, for their unwavering support in delivering the Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards. Telstra NATSIAA is also supported by the Northern Territory Government, the Australia Council for the Arts as part of the Visual Arts and Crafts Strategy and the donor circle, Supporters of Aboriginal Art.

MAGNT acknowledges and gives thanks for the grants awarded that make nationally significant research projects, repatriation efforts and collection acquisitions possible. These grants give staff opportunities to continue breaking new ground and to share Territory stories locally and beyond.

In June, MAGNT launched our Annual Giving Campaign to support the 50th anniversary of Cyclone Tracy. We were delighted to raise over \$25,000 and welcome new supporters into our donor community. Their efforts will go directly to the refresh of the Cyclone Tracy Exhibition.

Our individual donors are instrumental in helping our team deliver urgent projects. Allan Garraway supported the Territory History Collection by implementing projects to identify and assess undocumented collection material. Janie Mason enabled MAGNT's palaeontologists in Central Australia to work on the preparation and aging of fossils from northern Australia, and to progress species description and genetic research into worm gobies and freshwater crayfish.

We give sincere thanks to our donor community whose ongoing support is highly valued. MAGNT looks forward to growing our impact through the ongoing support of our partners, both public and private, government, corporate and philanthropic. Our work and its meaningful impact is not possible without generous supporters.

Thank you to the Northern Territory Government, Australian Government, MAGNT Foundation, partner institutions and the community for their unwavering support.



Supporters of Aboriginal Art members at the 2022 Telstra NATSIAA Preview

# **MAGNT Foundation Board**



MAGNT Curator of Aboriginal Art and Material Culture, Rebekah Raymond, leading a tour through our art stores for the Donor Program launch

A special thank you to the MAGNT Foundation who provided financial support for the Archie 100: A Century of the Archibald Prize public program. In addition to their financial support, the Foundation assisted with a volunteer program that resulted in 187 guided talks for almost 3,000 visitors to the Archie 100 exhibition.

We thank the MAGNT Foundation Board for volunteering their time and resources to support MAGNT.

#### **MAGNT Foundation Board:**

Michael Rees (Chair) from August 2022 Wendy Pech (Chair) retired August 2022 Neville Pantazis (Dep Chair) Ali Dhirani (Treasurer) Rachael Shanahan Stephanie Hawkins Lesley Richardson Alex Ehrlich Ben Poveda Alfonso (retired) Andrea Wicking (retired)

# Donors

Sincere thanks to the MAGNT Foundation, Northern Territory Government, Australian Government, partner institutions and the community for their unwavering support.

# Platinum

The Hemming Family ^ Janie Mason AM

# Gold

The Hon Clare Martin AO Jeff Pinkerton OAM and Marilyn Pinkerton Elliat Rich ^

# Silver

Anonymous John and Jane Ayers \* Candy Bennett \* Ross Bonthorne \* Peter and Agnès Cooke \* Dr Vicki Krause and Dr Bart Currie Richard and Harriett England \* Rick and Jan Frolich \* Geoffrey Hassall OAM and Virginia Milson \* Elizabeth Kingdon and Michael Rowe \* Diana Laidlaw AM \* Prof Louise Maple-Brown and Simon Niblock Ken Markwell ^ Alice and Edward Richardson \* Arthur and Suzie Roe \* Michael Sitzler and Terri Layman \* Paul and Thelma Taliangis \* Chris and Biddy van Aanholt \*

# Bronze

Mark Chapman Edwin and Kristy Edlund The Ewing Family ^ Jacqueline Healy Paul and Helena Lassémillante Chips Mackinolty and Bernadette Ryan ^ Richard and Emma McFarlane \* Louise Partos Wendy Pech \* Bev Phelts Jude and Jono Tolley \* Angela Tomazos John Hofmeyer, Lesley Booth and the Boyd Family

Acknowledging donors who gave from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023. Donor level reflects cumulative giving for three consecutive years.

\* Supporters of Aboriginal Art ^ Object donors

# **Government Partners**





#### Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications Office for the Arts Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment Parks Australia Visual Arts and Crafts Strategy

National Indigenous Australians Agency

# **Telstra NATSIAA Partners**

Principal Partner







**Project Partners** 























# **Our People**

# **Our Board**

MAGNT is governed by the Board of the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, a statutory body operating under the *Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory Act 2014*. The Board is responsible for the effective management of MAGNT and is directly accountable to the Northern Territory Government, through the Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage.

#### The Hon Clare Martin AO (Chair)

Clare Martin is a former journalist and politician. She was the first Labor Chief Minister of the Northern Territory (2001–2007) and its first female Chief Minister.

#### Franchesca Cubillo

Franchesca Cubillo is a Larrakia, Bardi, Wardaman and Yanuwa woman from the Northern Territory and is currently Executive Director, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts, at the Australia Council for the Arts.

#### Allan Garraway

Allan Garraway is a chartered accountant, property owner and local businessman who has been a Northern Territory resident for more than 50 years.

#### Ray Hall

Ray Hall is an environmental professional with 30 years' experience in northern Australia and is currently Chief Executive Officer of EcOz, the Northern Territory's largest environmental consultancy business.

#### **Professor Barry Judd**

Barry Judd is the Professor and Director of Indigenous Studies at the University of Melbourne. Barry is a descendent of the Pitjantjatjara people of north-west South Australia, British immigrants and Afghan cameleers.

#### The Hon Dr Tricia Kavanagh

Tricia Kavanagh was the first law honours graduate of UTS Law School and practised as a Barrister from 1981–1998. In 1998 she was appointed as a Justice of the Industrial Court of NSW and has served on many tribunals.

#### **Dr Wendy Ludwig**

Wendy Ludwig is a Darwin born and raised Kungarakan and Gurindji woman who has considerable executive leadership experience in the tertiary education, training and employment sectors.

#### **Dr Steve Morton**

Steve Morton is an Honorary Professorial Fellow with Charles Darwin University who joined CSIRO in Alice Springs to work in the desert environment that has long been his focus.

#### Angela Tomazos

Angela Tomazos is second generation Greek Australian business leader, adviser, community advocate and a banking and finance professional of 28-plus years.

#### **James Paspaley**

James Paspaley is the Chief Executive Officer and an Executive Director of the Paspaley Group of Companies.

#### **Philip Watkins**

Philip Watkins was born and raised in Alice Springs and is part of large extended Arrernte and Larrakia families. In August 2011, he was appointed Chief Executive Officer of Desart.



Visitor Experience Coordinator, Gillian Jones and Visitor Experience Supervisor, Fabiola Martinez-Hinojosa at the Archie 100: A century of the Archibald Prize opening event

# **Meeting Attendances**

Attendance of each Board member to Board and Committee meetings for the period July 2022–June 2023.

	MAGNT Board meetings		Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee meet	
	Number eligible to attend	Number attended	Number eligible to attend	Number attended
C Martin	5	5	4	4
J Cossons	4	3	4	4
F Cubillo	5	3	-	-
A Garraway	1	1	-	-
R Hall	4	3		
B Judd	5	4	2	2
T Kavanagh	1	1	-	-
W Ludwig	5	3	-	-
S Morton	5	5	-	-
J Paspaley	5	3	4	3
A Tomazos	4	3		
P Watkins	5	5	-	-

# **Our Staff**

### Directorate

Adam Worrall (from Jul 2022)	Director
Gregory Arnott	Assistant Director, Corporate Services
Louise Partos	Assistant Director, Content and Innovation

# **Aboriginal Heritage**

Pauline Schober (from Sep 2022)	Head of Aboriginal Heritage
Francisco Gorey	Aboriginal Heritage Officer*
Ankin Abbott (to Jan 2023)	Assistant Aboriginal Heritage Officer*
Cameron Lindner (from Mar 2023)	Assistant Aboriginal Heritage Officer*
Winston Green (from Jan 2023)	Collections Care Specialist*

# **Collections Management – History, Culture and the Arts**

Elaine Labuschagne	Registrar
Dr Rebecca Mirams	Assistant Registrar
Kerry-Lynn Nancarrow (from May 2023)	Assistant Registrar
Kerry-Lynn Nancarrow (to May 2023)	Registration Officer
Wendy Belohlawek	Collections Officer (History and Culture)
Erin Carew (from Jun 2023)	Collections Officer (EMU)
Philip Blacksmith (to Dec 2022)	Collections System Officer
Lisa Nolan (to Jul 2022)	Conservator
Sandra Yee	Conservator
Lilian Monk (from Nov 2022)	Conservator, Paintings
Lauren Ravi	Assistant Conservator
Mark Sherwood	Digital Imaging Officer

#### **Collections Management – Natural Sciences**

Dr Kirsten Abbott Gavin Dally (to May 2023) Suzanne Horner (from Jun 2023) Suzanne Horner (Jul 2022 – Jun 2023) Olga Biriukova Dr Samuel Arman Lucyna Kania (from May 2022) Lucyna Kania (Oct 2022 – May 2022)

#### **Corporate Services**

Simone Crothers Paula McCullough Jing Zhang Kelly Emmett (from May 2023) Kelly Emmett (Sep 2022 – May 2023) Marie Neenan (to Feb 2023) Marianne Antonio (Jul 2022 – Sep 2022) Kim Watton Haylea Gusling (from May 2023) Haylea Gusling (Oct 2022 – May 2023) Lucyna Kania (to Oct 2022) Josef De Beer Samantha Dubyna (from Oct 2022) Samantha Dubyna (to Oct 2022) Dinorah Morahan Sagar Sapkota (from Nov 2022) Sagar Sapkota (to Nov 2022) Nenita Adolfo

Head of Science Senior Collections Manager (Natural Sciences) Collections Manager (Natural Sciences) Acting Senior Collections Manager Technical Officer (Natural Sciences) Technical Officer, Earth Sciences\* Technical Officer (Natural Sciences) Acting Technical Officer (Natural Sciences)

Corporate Governance Manager Executive Administration Officer **Finance Manager Finance Officer** Acting Finance and Facilities Administration Officer Finance and Facilities Administration Officer Finance and Facilities Administration Officer Human Resources Manager Administration Officer Acting Administration Officer / Visitor Experience Officer Administration Officer Central Australia Manager\* Administration Officer\* Administration Officer / Senior Visitor Experience Officer\* Facilities and Operational Services Officer Senior Cleaner / Facilities Officer Senior Cleaner / Acting Facilities Officer Cleaner

Christian Drilon	Cleaner
Tilak Ghimire (from Nov 2022)	Cleaner

#### Curatorial – History, Culture and the Arts

Jared Archibald	Curator of Territory History
Paige Taylor	Assistant Curator of Territory History
Bryony Nainby	Senior Curator of Art
Dr James Bennett (to Jul 2022)	Curator of Southeast Asian Art and Material Culture
Rebekah Raymond	Curator of Aboriginal Art and Material Culture

#### **Curatorial – Natural Sciences**

Dr Richard Willan (to Jul 2022)
Dr Adam Yates
Dr Danielle Edwards (from Dec 2022)
Dr Michael Hammer

#### Engagement

Alison Copley Nicole Ogilvie (from May 2023) Rebecca Campart (to May 2023) Kate Fennell Jude Dawson (from Jan 2023) **Gillian Jones** Fabiola Martinez-Hinojosa Melanie Harper (from Oct 2022) Sue Barrett Maria Box (to Oct 2022) Leonie Brialey (from Jun 2023) Erin Carew (Sep 2022 – Mar 2023) Martina Capurso (from Aug 2022)

Senior Curator of Molluscs Senior Curator of Earth Sciences\* Curator of Terrestrial Vertebrates Curator of Fishes

Head of Engagement Communications and Marketing Manager **Communications Coordinator** Designer Education Officer Visitor Experience Coordinator Visitor Experience Supervisor Senior Visitor Experience Officer\* Visitor Experience Officer\* Visitor Experience Officer\* Visitor Experience Officer\* Visitor Experience Officer Visitor Experience Officer\*

Gemma Crocetti (to Jan 2023) Madelyn Deigan (to Feb 2023) Madelyn Deigan (from Feb 2023) Christopher Durkin (Aug 2022 – May 2023) Kathy Gardenal Haylea Gusling (to Oct 2022) Tamalyn Hanson (from Nov 2022) Melanie Harper (Jul 2022 – Oct 2022) Martinique Haste Sara Higgs (from Apr 2023) Isla Hooper (from Aug 2022) Louise Jones (from Jun 2023) Ellaby Kenneth (from Jun 2023) Julie Kerr (from Jun 2023) Rita Khayat (from Jun 2023) Aino Koskinen (Nov 2022 – Mar 2023) Jessica Laidlaw (from Jun 2023) Kate Land Silva Landers (to Dec 2022) Sheryl McPherson Comfort Ncube (to Nov 2022) Krittika Nunthasrirat (from Jun 2023) Matthew Parker Eve Pawlik (from Mar 2023) **Flisha** Pettit Aidan Plant (from Oct 2022) Jessica Plant Lucy Wilson-Wells (to Apr 2023)

Visitor Experience Officer Visitor Experience Officer Visitor Experience Officer\* Visitor Experience Officer Visitor Experience Officer Visitor Experience Officer Visitor Experience Officer\* Visitor Experience Officer\* Visitor Experience Officer Visitor Experience Officer Visitor Experience Officer\* Visitor Experience Officer Visitor Experience Officer\* Visitor Experience Officer\* Visitor Experience Officer\* Visitor Experience Officer\* Visitor Experience Officer Visitor Experience Officer Visitor Experience Officer\* Visitor Experience Officer Visitor Experience Officer

### Exhibitions

Wendy Wood	Exhibitions Manager
Fiona Bennie	Exhibitions Coordinator
Kellie Joswig	Exhibitions Coordinator
Antony van Papenrecht	Display Technician
Dylan Owen	Display Coordinator

# Partnerships and Philanthropy

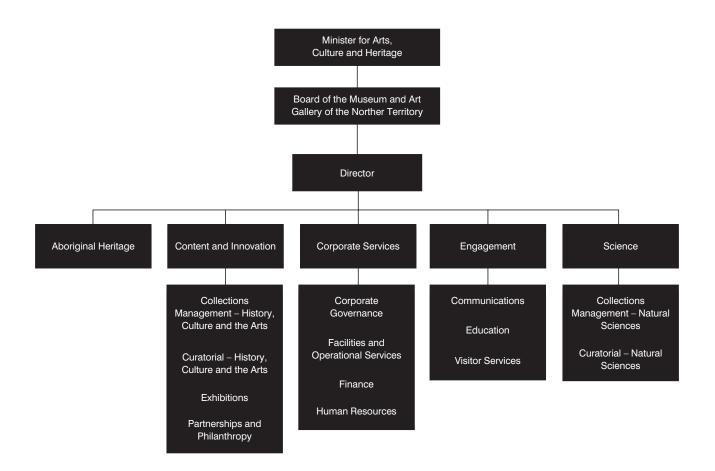
Emily Dunham	Partnerships and Philanthropy Manager
Georgia Beach	Development Officer

# **Emeritus Curators and Research Associates**

Dr James Bennett	Emeritus Curator of Southeast Asian Art and Material Culture
Dr Christopher Glasby	Emeritus Curator of Annelids
Dr Paul Horner	Emeritus Curator of Terrestrial Vertebrates
Dr Helen Larson	Emeritus Curator of Fishes
Dr Daena Murray	Emeritus Curator of Visual Art
Dr Barry Russell	Emeritus Curator of Fishes
Dr Christine Tarbett-Buckley	Emeritus Curator
Dr Margaret West	Emeritus Curator of Indigenous Art and Material Culture
Dr Richard Willan	Emeritus Curator of Molluscs
Michael Cawthorn	Research Associate
Joel Liddle	Research Associate
Prof Helen Verran	Research Associate
Dr Christopher Austin	Research Associate of Crayfish
Adam Burke	Research Associate of Mangroves
Dr Deepak Pazhayamadom	Research Associate of Fishes
Dr Charlotte Watson	Research Associate of Worms

\* Based in Museum of Central Australia, Alice Springs

# **Organisational Structure**



# Our People at a Snapshot

# **Employment Type**

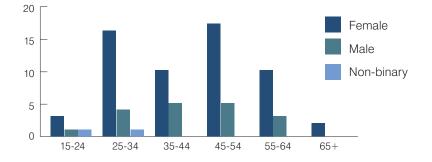
	2021–2022		2022–2023	
	Staff	FTE	Staff	FTE
Full Time	49	49	52	52.0
Part time	3	2.5	2	1.4
Casual	15	5.1	24	4.0
Total Staff	67	56.6	78	57.4

	2021–22	2022-23	
Staff employed by the Board of MAGNT	54	70	
Staff employed by the Northern Territory Government	13	8	_

# **Employees by Salary**

Salary range	Number of staff	FTE	Female	Male	Non-binary
\$0 - \$59,999	2	2.0	1	1	
\$60,000 - \$79,999	40	19.4	31	7	2
\$80,000 - \$99,999	13	13.0	9	4	
\$100,000 - \$119,999	15	15.0	12	3	
\$120,000 +	8	8.0	5	3	
Total staff	78	57.4	58	18	2

# MAGNT Employees by age and gender



Age as at 30/06/2023

Staff undertook a range of training courses during 2022–2023 including mandatory training and professional development.

# Work Health and Safety

MAGNT is committed to providing and maintaining a safe and healthy workplace. Activities undertaken to ensure compliance with the Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act and the Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act (WRC Act) included:

- WHS Committee meetings held quarterly
- WHS newsletters emailed monthly to all MAGNT staff
- First Aid and Fire Warden training delivered to relevant staff
- Consultation, staff surveys and workshops introduced to monitor and implement a staff wellbeing program and obtain feedback on the changes being introduced.
   MAGNT will continue to manage, monitor and adapt to the changing environment as required
- Continued effort to capture all WHS incidents and hazards.

# **Financial Statements**

#### **General Purpose Financial Statements**

This section contains the financial statements of the Board of the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory for the year ended 30 June 2023.

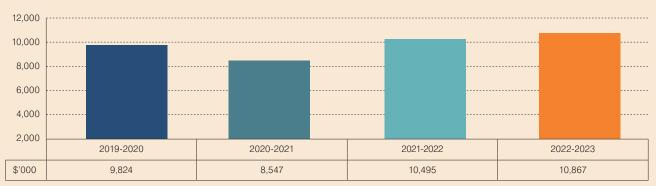
#### **Financial Performance**

In 2022–2023, MAGNT reported a deficit of \$165,000 against a budget surplus of \$42,000. Operating income and expenditure over the past four years is shown graphically below.

#### Income



#### **Expenses**



#### Income

MAGNT received income of \$10.702 million in 2022–2023, \$1.420 million less than budgeted.

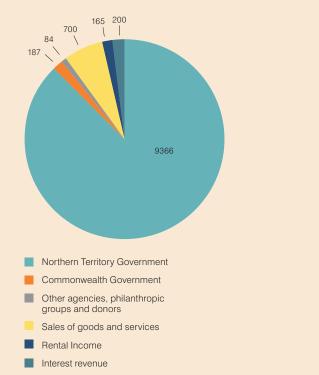
MAGNT is funded predominately through the Northern Territory's Department of Territory Families, Housing and Communities. Grants from the Commonwealth Government are the next highest grant funding source and MAGNT also receives income from other institutions and agencies, philanthropic organisations, donors and sponsors, as well as from charges for goods and services supplied, rent and interest.

#### **Expenses**

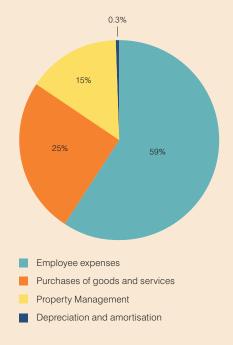
Sources of Income 2022-23

MAGNT incurred \$10.867 million in expenses during 2022–2023 in the delivery of its programs and services, \$1.213 million less than budget.

Payments to employees and purchase of goods and services account for 84% of MAGNT's outlays. Property maintenance is the other major MAGNT expense.



#### Expense categories 2022-23



#### **Balance Sheet**

The balance sheet provides a summary of MAGNT's financial position at the end of the financial year for assets, liabilities and equity.

#### Assets

MAGNT's assets at 30 June 2023 totalled \$3.366 million.

The assets consist of:

- \$3.135 million of cash, held in a financial institution and cash on hand
- \$111,000 of receivables, owed to MAGNT for goods and services provided
- \$120,000 of property, plant and equipment.

#### Liabilities

MAGNT's liabilities at 30 June 2023 totalled \$2.706 million.

The balance of liabilities consists of:

- \$492,000 of payables, being the amount owed to creditors for goods and services
- \$492,000 of current and non-current provisions
- \$1,722 million of other liabilities for unearned revenue, which including \$711,000 Goods and Services Tax (GST) liabilities to be remitted to ATO.

#### Equity

Equity reflects MAGNT's net assets less the liabilities. Equity at 30 June 2023 was \$660,000.

### **Statement of Changes in Equity**

Capital relates to cash and assets that have been transferred directly to MAGNT. The balance of capital at 30 June 2023 was \$241,000. There is a reserve of \$30,000 at that date.

Accumulated funds move each year by the profit or loss of MAGNT. In 2022–2023, accumulated funds have been decreased to \$389,000 as a result of the operating deficit of \$165,000.

#### **Cash Flow Statement**

The Cash Flow statement provides information on how cash was received and spent during the year. MAGNT's cash balances were \$3.135 million at 30 June 2023.

The cash flows are summarised as follows:

2022–2023	\$'000
Operating activities	
Cash received	12,172
Cash spent	11,270
Net Increase (decrease) in cash held	902
Investing activities	
Cash Payments for Investing Activities	0
Financing activities	
Advance received	0
Cash at beginning of financial year	2,233
Cash at end of financial year	3,135

# CERTIFICATION OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

We certify that the attached financial statements for the Board of the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory have been prepared based on proper accounts and records in accordance with the prescribed format, the *Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory Act 2014* and directions from the Treasurer.

We further state that the information set out in the comprehensive operating statement, balance sheet, statement of changes in equity, cash flow statement, and notes to and forming part of the financial statements, presents fairly the financial performance and cash flows for the year ended 30 June 2022 and the financial position on that date.

At the time of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances that would render the particulars included in the financial statements misleading or inaccurate.

flow

The Honourable Clare Martin CHAIR

14 September 2023

Adam Worrall DIRECTOR 14 September 2023

# COMPREHENSIVE OPERATING STATEMENT

#### For the year ended 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 \$000	2022 \$000
INCOME			
Grants and subsidies revenue	4	9,637	9,681
Sales of goods and services		700	534
Rental income		165	153
Interest revenue		200	17
TOTAL INCOME		10,702	10,385
EXPENSES			
Employee expenses		6,446	5,966
Administrative expenses			
Purchases of goods and services	5	2,765	2,890
Property management		1,626	1,607
Depreciation and amortisation	8	30	32
TOTAL EXPENSES		10,867	10,495
NET DEFICIT		(165)	(110)
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		-	-
TOTAL OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		-	-
COMPREHENSIVE RESULT		(165)	(110)

The comprehensive operating statement is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

# **BALANCE SHEET**

As at 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 \$000	2022 \$000
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash and deposits	6	3,135	2,233
Receivables	7	111	144
Total Current Assets		3,246	2,377
Non-Current Assets			
Property, plant and equipment	8	61	70
Heritage and cultural assets	8	59	80
Total Non-Current Assets		120	150
TOTAL ASSETS		3,366	2,527
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Payables	9	492	360
Provisions - Current	10	419	631
Other liabilities	11	1,722	659
Total Current Liabilities		2,633	1,650
Non - Current Liabilities			
Provisions – Non-current	10	73	52
Total Non - Current Liabilities		73	52
TOTAL LIABILITIES		2,706	1,702
NET ASSETS		660	825
EQUITY			
Capital		241	241
Reserves	12	30	30
Accumulated funds		389	554
TOTAL EQUITY		660	825

The balance sheet is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

# STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

#### For the year ended 30 June 2023

	Note	Equity at 1 July 2022 \$000	Comprehensive result \$000	Equity at 1 July 2023 \$000
Accumulated Funds		554	(165)	389
Reserves	12	30	-	30
Capital		241	-	241
TOTAL EQUITY		825	(165)	660

#### For the year ended 30 June 2022

	Note	Equity at 1 July 2021 \$000	Comprehensive result \$000	Equity at 1 July 2022 \$000
Accumulated Funds		664	(110)	554
Reserves	12	30	-	30
Capital		241	-	241
TOTAL EQUITY		935	(110)	825

# CASH FLOW STATEMENT

#### For the year ended 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 \$000	2022 \$000
Cash Flows from Operating Activities Operating Receipts			
Grants and subsidies received		10,408	9,681
Receipts from sales of goods and services		1,564	245
Interest received		200	17
TOTAL OPERATING RECEIPTS		12,172	9,943
Operating Payments			
Payments to employees		(6,504)	(5,816)
Payments for goods and services		(4,766)	(4,728)
TOTAL OPERATING PAYMENTS		(11,270)	(10,544)
Net Cash From (Used In) Operating Activities	13	902	(601)
Cash Flows Used In Investing Activities Cash Payments			
Purchases of assets		-	(29)
Net Cash Flows Used In Investing Activities		-	(29)
Net increase (decrease) in cash held		902	(630)
Cash at beginning of financial year		2,233	2,863
CASH AT END OF FINANCIAL YEAR	6	3,135	2,233

# INDEX OF NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### For the year ended 30 June 2023

#### NOTE

- 1. Objectives and Funding
- 2. Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

#### INCOME

- 3. Comprehensive Operating Statement
- 4. Grants and Subsidies Revenue

#### **EXPENSES**

5. Purchases of Goods and Services

#### ASSETS

- 6. Cash and Deposits
- 7. Receivables
- 8. Property, Plant and Equipment

#### LIABILITIES

- 9. Payables
- 10. Provisions
- 11. Other Liabilities

#### EQUITY

12. Reserves

#### OTHER DISCLOSURES

- 13. Notes to the Cash Flow Statement
- 14. Financial Instruments
- 15. Related Party Transactions
- 16. Events Subsequent to Balance Date
- 17. Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets
- 18. Write Offs, Postponements, Waivers, Gifts and Ex Gratia Payments
- 19. Budgetary Information

# **1. OBJECTIVES AND FUNDING**

The objectives of the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT) are to collect and preserve, research and interpret, facilitate scientific, artistic and cultural activity and communicate the stories of who and where we are.

#### Our vision is 'We connect people to the stories of the Northern Territory'.

MAGNT was established on 1 July 2014 as a statutory authority under the *Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory Act 2014*, the Board of MAGNT is responsible for the management, operation and development of MAGNT.

MAGNT is predominantly funded by and is dependent on the Northern Territory Government through the Department of Territory Families, Housing and Communities. The financial statements encompass all funds through which the MAGNT controls resources to carry on its functions and deliver outputs.

# 2. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### a) Statement of Compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory Act 2014* and directions from the Treasurer.

The financial statements of MAGNT include:

- 1) A Certification of the Financial Statements;
- 2) A Comprehensive Operating Statement;
- 3) A Balance Sheet;
- 4) A Statement of Changes in Equity;
- 5) A Cash Flow Statement; and
- 6) Applicable explanatory notes to the Financial Statements.

#### b) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared using the accrual basis of accounting, which recognises the effect of financial transactions and events when they occur, rather than when cash is paid out or received.

Except where stated, the financial statements have also been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention.

The form of MAGNT's financial statements is also consistent with the requirements of Australian Accounting Standards. The effects of all relevant new and revised Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) that are effective for the current annual reporting period have been evaluated.

# 2. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

### Standards and interpretations issued but not yet effective

No Australian accounting standards have been early adopted for 2022-23.

Several amending standards and AASB interpretations have been issued that apply to the current reporting periods, but are considered to have no impact on public sector reporting

#### c) Reporting entity

MAGNT is a statutory authority established under the *Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory Act 2014*. Its principal place of business is at 19 Conacher Street, Darwin.

#### d) Comparative

Where necessary, comparative information for the 2021-2022 financial year has been reclassified to provide consistency with current year disclosures.

#### e) Presentation and Rounding of Amounts

Amounts in the financial statements and notes to the financial statements are presented in Australian dollars and have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars, with amounts of \$500 or less being rounded down to zero. Figures in the financial statements and notes may not equate due to rounding.

#### f) Changes in Accounting Policies

There have been no changes to accounting policies adopted in 2022-23 as a result of management decisions.

#### g) Accounting Judgments and Estimates

The preparation of the financial report requires the making of judgements and estimates that affect the recognised amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses and the disclosure of contingent liabilities. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Judgments and estimates that have significant effects on the financial statements are disclosed in the relevant notes to the financial statements.

#### h) Goods and Services Tax

Income, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of Goods and Services Tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred on a purchase of goods and services is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office (ATO). In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included as part of receivables or payables in the Balance Sheet.

# 2. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Cash flows are included in the Cash Flow Statement on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities, which are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are classified as operating cash flows. Commitments and contingencies are disclosed net of the amount of GST recoverable or payable unless otherwise specified.

#### i) Contributions by and Distributions to Government

MAGNT may receive contributions from Government where the Government is acting as its owner. Conversely, MAGNT may make distributions to Government. In accordance with Treasurer's Directions, certain types of contributions and distributions, including those relating to administrative restructures, have been designated as contributions by and distributions to Government. These designated contributions and distributions are treated by MAGNT as adjustments to equity.

The Statement of Changes in Equity provides additional information in relation to contributions by and distributions to Government.

#### j) Impact of COVID-19

The Territory Government modified its debt recovery process and postponed the payment date for a number of regulatory fees and charges to ease financial hardship faced by individuals and businesses as a result of COVID-19.

Although MAGNT was not entitled to the job keeper scheme payments in relation to casual employees, it was decided to maintain the services of all casual employees by the creation of additional duties, for example back of house activities.

# 3. COMPREHENSIVE OPERATING STATEMENT

#### Income

Income encompasses both revenue and gains.

Income is recognised at the fair value of the consideration received, exclusive of the amount of GST. Exchanges of goods or services of the same nature and value without any cash consideration being exchanged are not recognised as income.

#### Grants and Other Contributions

Grants, donations, gifts and other non-reciprocal contributions are recognised as revenue when MAGNT obtains control over the assets comprising the contributions. Control is normally obtained upon receipt.

Contributions are recognised at their fair value. Contributions of services are only recognised when a fair value can be reliably determined and the services would be purchased if not donated.

#### Sale of Goods

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised (net of returns, discounts and allowances) when:

- a) the significant risks and rewards of ownership of the goods have transferred to the buyer;
- b) MAGNT retains neither continuing managerial involvement to the degree usually associated with ownership nor effective control over the goods sold;
- c) the amount of revenue can be reliably measured;
- d) it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to MAGNT; and
- e) the costs incurred or to be incurred in respect of the transaction can be measured reliably.

#### **Rendering of Services**

Revenue from rendering services is recognised by reference to the stage of completion of the contract. The revenue is recognised when:

- a) the amount of revenue, stage of completion and transaction costs incurred can be reliably measured; and
- b) it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the entity.

## 4. GRANTS AND SUBSIDIES REVENUE

	2023 \$000	2022 \$000
INCOME		
Grants from Northern Territory Government	9,366	9,384
Commonwealth Government	187	260
Other agencies, philanthropic groups and sponsors	84	37
	9,637	9,681

# 5. PURCHASES OF GOODS AND SERVICES

The net (deficit) has been arrived at after charging the following significant expenses:

	2023 \$000	2022 \$000
Goods and services expenses:		
Agent service fee	485	358
Artwork and public programs	574	577
Communication	62	52
Consultants fees	244	366
Consumables and general expenses	479	647
Freight	37	83
Information and technology expenses	351	347
Insurance Premiums	60	51
Marketing and promotion (1)	109	268
Motor vehicle expenses	74	65
Official duty fares	191	19
Office equipment expenses	60	14
Training and studies expenses	39	43
TOTAL	2,765	2,890

<sup>(1)</sup> Marketing and promotion

Includes advertising for marketing and promotion but excludes marketing and promotion consultants' expenses, which are incorporated in the consultants' category.

# 6. CASH AND DEPOSITS

	2023 \$000	2022 \$000
Cash on hand	1	1
Cash at bank	3,134	2,232
	3,135	2,233

For the purposes of the Balance Sheet and the Cash Flow Statement, cash includes cash on hand, cash at bank and cash equivalents. Cash equivalents are highly liquid short-term investments that are readily convertible to cash.

# 7. RECEIVABLES

	2023 \$000	2022 \$000
Accounts receivable	73	99
	73	99
GST receivables	21	45
Prepayments	17	-
	38	45
TOTAL RECEIVABLES	111	144

Receivables include accounts receivable and other receivables and are recognised at fair value less any allowance for impairment losses.

There is no allowance for impairment losses as none of the receivables are considered uncollectible and doubtful. Analyses of the age of the receivables that are past due as at the reporting date are disclosed in an aging schedule under credit risk in Note 14 Financial Instruments. Reconciliation of changes in the allowance accounts is also presented.

Accounts receivable are generally settled within 30 days and other receivables within 60 days.

# 8. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	2023 \$000	2022 \$000
Plant and Office Equipment		
At cost	442	508
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(381)	(438)
	61	70
Heritage and Cultural Assets		
At cost	122	109
Less: accumulated depreciation	(63)	(29)
	59	80
TOTAL PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT	120	150

#### Acquisitions

All items of property, plant and equipment with a cost, or other value, equal to or greater than \$10,000 are recognised in the year of acquisition and depreciated as outlined below. Items of property, plant and equipment below the \$10,000 threshold are expensed in the year of acquisition.

#### Subsequent Additional Costs

Costs incurred on property, plant and equipment subsequent to initial acquisition are capitalised when it is probable that future economic benefits in excess of the originally assessed performance of the asset will flow to MAGNT in future years. Where these costs represent separate components of a complex asset, they are accounted for as separate assets and are separately depreciated over their expected useful lives.

#### Impairment of Assets

An asset is said to be impaired when the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount.

Non-current physical and intangible MAGNT assets are assessed for indicators of impairment on an annual basis or whenever there is indication of impairment. If an indicator of impairment exists, MAGNT determines the asset's recoverable amount. The asset's recoverable amount is determined as the higher of the asset's depreciated replacement cost and fair value less costs to sell. Any amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds the recoverable amount is recorded as an impairment loss.

Impairment losses are recognised in the Comprehensive Operating Statement. They are disclosed as an expense unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount. Where the asset is measured at a revalued amount, the impairment loss is offset against the asset revaluation surplus for that class of asset to the extent that an available balance exists in the asset revaluation surplus.

# 8. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (CONTINUED)

In certain situations, an impairment loss may subsequently be reversed. Where an impairment loss is subsequently reversed, the carrying amount of the asset is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised in the Comprehensive Operating Statement as income, unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount, in which case the impairment reversal results in an increase in the asset revaluation surplus.

MAGNT property, plant and equipment assets were assessed for impairment as at 30 June 2023. No impairment adjustments were required as a result of this review.

## **Depreciation and Amortisation Expense**

Items of property, plant and equipment, including buildings but excluding land, have limited useful lives and are depreciated or amortised using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives.

Amortisation applies in relation to intangible non-current assets with limited useful lives and is calculated and accounted for in a similar manner to depreciation.

The estimated useful lives for each class of asset are in accordance with the Treasurer's Directions and are determined as follows:

Asset Category	2023	2022
Office Equipment	5 to 15 years	5 to 15 years
Computer Hardware	4 years	4 years
Transport Equipment	10 years	10 years
Plant and Equipment	10 years	10 years

Assets are depreciated or amortised from the date of acquisition or from the time an asset is completed and held ready for use.

# 8. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (CONTINUED)

## 2023 Property, Plant and Equipment Reconciliations

A reconciliation of the carrying amount of property, plant and equipment at the beginning and end of 2022-23 is set out below:

	Plant & Office Equipment \$000	Heritage & Cultural Assets \$000	Total \$000
Carrying Amount as at 1 July 2022	70	80	150
Depreciation	(9)	(21)	(30)
Carrying Amount as at 30 June 2023	61	59	120

## 2022 Property, Plant and Equipment Reconciliations

A reconciliation of the carrying amount of property, plant and equipment at the beginning and end of 2021-22 is set out below:

	Plant & Office Equipment \$000	Heritage & Cultural Assets \$000	Total \$000
Carrying Amount as at 1 July 2021	73	80	153
Additions	29	-	29
Depreciation	(32)	-	(32)
Carrying Amount as at 30 June 2022	70	80	150

# 9. PAYABLES

	2023 \$000	2022 \$000
Accounts payable	40	54
Accrued expenses	351	227
Other payables	101	79
Total Payables	492	360

Liabilities for accounts payable and other amounts payable are carried at cost, which is the fair value of the consideration to be paid in the future for goods and services received, whether or not billed to MAGNT. Accounts payable are normally settled within 30 days.

# **10. PROVISIONS**

	2023 \$000	2022 \$000
Current		
Employee benefits		
Recreation leave	334	452
Leave loading	19	24
Other current provisions		
Other provisions	66	155
Total Current Provision	419	631
Non-Current		
Employee benefits		
Long Service Leave Provision	73	52
Total Non-current Provisions	73	52
TOTAL PROVISIONS	492	683

MAGNT employed 75 employees as at 30 June 2023 and 65 employees as at 30 June 2022. Other provisions include payroll tax, fringe benefit tax and employee superannuation contributions

#### **Reconciliations of Provisions**

Balance as at 1 July	683	452
Additional provisions recognised	20	738
Reductions arising from payments	(211)	(507)
Balance as at 30 June	492	683

#### **Employee Benefits**

Provision is made for employee benefits accumulated as a result of employees rendering services up to the reporting date. These benefits include wages and salaries and recreation leave.

Liabilities arising in respect of wages and salaries, recreation leave and other employee benefit liabilities that fall due within twelve months of reporting date are classified as current liabilities and are measured at amounts expected to be paid.

No provision is made for sick leave, which is non-vesting, as the anticipated pattern of future sick leave to be taken is less than the entitlement accruing in each reporting period.

Employee benefit expenses are recognised on a net basis in respect of the following categories:

- · wages and salaries, non-monetary benefits, recreation leave, sick leave and other leave entitlements
- other types of employee benefits including long service leave and on cost provision.

# **10. PROVISIONS (CONTINUED)**

As part of the financial management framework, the Central Holding Authority assumes the long service leave liabilities of Government agencies. Within MAGNT board employees, two staff members have more than six years' of service, and another one was reaching seven years' of service and eligible to access the long service leave at the balance date. Therefore, long service leave liability is recognised in these financial statements for the board employees.

# **11. OTHER LIABILITIES**

	2023 \$000	2022 \$000
Current		
Unearned revenue	951	659
GST payable	771	-
TOTAL OTHER LIABILITIES	1,722	659

# 12. RESERVES

#### Asset revaluation surplus

(a) Nature and purpose of the asset revaluation surplus

The asset revaluation surplus includes the net revaluation increments and decrements arising from the revaluation of non-current assets.

(b) Movements in the asset revaluation surplus

	Plant and office equipment				
	202320222023\$000\$000\$000				
Balance as at 1 July	30	30	30	30	
Transfers to accumulated funds	-	-	-	-	
BALANCE AS AT 30 JUNE	30	30	30	30	

# 13. NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT

#### (a) Reconciliation of Cash

The total of cash and deposits of MAGNT recorded in the Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2023 and 30 June 2022 are consistent with cash recorded in the Cash Flow Statement.

	2023 \$000	2022 \$000
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	(165)	(110)
Non-cash items:		
Depreciation and amortisation	30	32
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Decrease/(Increase) in receivables	33	(87)
Decrease/(Increase) in prepayments	-	85
(Decrease)/Increase in payables	132	(26)
(Decrease)/Increase in provision for employee benefits and other provisions	(191)	231
(Decrease)/Increase in other liabilities	1,063	(726)
NET CASH FROM (USED IN) OPERATING ACTIVITIES	902	(601)

# **14. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

A financial instrument is any contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another entity.

MAGNT manages its assets and liabilities to ensure going concern of the entity by maintaining a balance between its assets and liabilities. The capital structure of MAGNT includes equity and net surpluses retained. In both financial years 2022 and 2023, MAGNT did not hold any loans or borrowings from third party institutions.

#### a) Categorisation of Financial Instruments

The financial instruments held by MAGNT include cash and bank deposits, trade receivables and receivable from other government entities, trade and other payables and financial leases. MAGNT has limited exposure to financial risk.

The carried forward amounts of MAGNT's financial assets and liabilities at the end of financial year are disclosed in the table below:

	2023 \$000	2022 \$000
Financial Assets		
Cash and deposits	3,135	2,233
Receivables	73	99
TOTAL	3,208	2,332
Financial Liabilities		
Payables and other liabilities	1,443	1,019
TOTAL	1,443	1,019

# 14. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (CONTINUED)

## b) Credit Risk

MAGNT has limited exposure to credit risk (risk of default). MAGNT has adopted a policy to deal with credit worthy entities and obtain collateral or other security when necessary as a means of mitigating the risk of financial loss from defaults.

The amounts recorded as financial assets in the financial statement are net of allowance for impairment losses and represent maximum exposure to credit risk with no consideration for any collateral or other security obtained.

#### Receivables

MAGNT's receivable balances are monitored regularly to minimise exposure to bad debts. A reconciliation of receivables and their aging analysis is presented below:

Internal Receivables	Aging of Receivables \$000	Aging of Impaired Receivables \$000	Net Receivables \$000
2022-23			
Not overdue	55	-	55
Overdue for less than 30 days	-	-	-
Overdue for 30 to 60 days	-	-	-
Overdue for more than 60 days	-	-	-
TOTAL	55	-	55

#### 2021-22

Not overdue	-	-	-
Overdue for less than 30 days	-	-	-
Overdue for 30 to 60 days	-	-	-
Overdue for more than 60 days	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	-

External Receivables	Aging of Receivables \$000	Aging of Impaired Receivables \$000	Net Receivables \$000
2022-23			
Not overdue	18	-	18
Overdue for less than 30 days	-	-	-
Overdue for 30 to 60 days	-	-	-
Overdue for more than 60 days	-	-	-
TOTAL	18	-	18
2021-22			
Not overdue	98	-	98
Overdue for less than 30 days	-	-	-
Overdue for 30 to 60 days	-	-	-
Overdue for more than 60 days	1	-	1
TOTAL	99	-	99

# 14. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (CONTINUED)

MAGNT's exposure to credit risk is minimal as most receivables are governed by contracts. Receivables are assessed and allowances are made for impairment where necessary.

## c) Liquidity Risk

The liquidity risk highlights the ability of MAGNT to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. MAGNT manages its cash flow effectively to ensure adequate funds are available to meet its contractual liabilities when they fall due.

## Maturity analysis for financial assets and liabilities

Contractual maturity for the carried forward financial assets and liabilities of MAGNT are summarised below:

	Variable	e Interest R	ate	Non-Interest Bearing		
	Less than a Year \$000	1 to 5 Years \$000	More than 5 Years \$000	Less than a year \$000	Total \$000	Weighted average effective interest rate %
2023 Financial assets						
Cash and deposits	3,135	-	-	-	3,135	5.44
Receivables	-	-	-	111	111	-
TOTAL FINANCIAL ASSETS	3,135	-	-	111	3,246	5.44
Financial Liabilities						
Payables	-	-	-	492	492	-
Other financial liabilities	-	-	-	1,722	1,722	-
TOTAL FINANCIAL LIABILITIES	-	-	-	2,214	2,214	-
2022 Financial Assets						
Cash and deposits	2,233	-	-	-	2,233	1.82
Receivables	-	-	-	144	144	-
TOTAL FINANCIAL ASSETS	2,233	-	-	144	2,377	1.82
Financial Liabilities						
Payables	-	-	-	360	360	-
Other financial liabilities	-	-	-	659	659	-
TOTAL FINANCIAL LIABILITIES	-	-	-	1,019	1,019	-

The figures are based on undiscounted cash flows on the earliest period where they may fall due for payment or receipt of funds. MAGNT does not hold financial assets or financial liabilities at fixed interest rates.

# 14. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (CONTINUED)

## d) Market Risk

Market risk describes the risk of exposure of MAGNT in terms of fluctuations in the rate of its financial instruments and the effect on the fair value of its future cash flows. Market risk is derived after evaluating interest risk, currency risk and price sensitivity.

## Market Sensitivity Analysis

Changes due to fluctuations in variable interest rates on 100 points scale is deemed appropriate (1 per cent) and will have the following effects on MAGNT's profit and loss and equity on the balance date.

## Profit or Loss and Equity

	100 basis points increase \$000	100 basis points decrease \$000
30 June 2023		
Financial assets – cash at bank	31.35	(31.35)
NET SENSITIVITY	31.35	(31.35)
30 June 2022		
Financial assets – cash at bank	22.3	(22.3)
NET SENSITIVITY	22.3	(22.3)

## Interest Rate Risk

MAGNT does not have any interest bearing loans or borrowings, hence has limited risk in terms of interest rate fluctuations. However, the bank deposits held by MAGNT are subject to fluctuations in variable interest rates, the effect of which is disclosed in the table above and under liquidity risk.

## Foreign Currency risk

MAGNT has limited exposure to currency risk as it does not hold borrowings denominated in foreign currencies but has minor transactional currency exposures arising from occasional low value purchases in a foreign currency.

## Price Risk

MAGNT is not exposed to price risk as it does not hold units in unit trusts.

## e) Net Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The value prescribed as carried forward in the financial statement, approximates the value of financial assets and financial liabilities held by MAGNT at the end of the financial year.

# **15. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

### i) Related Parties

The Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory is a statutory authority established by the Northern Territory Government. Related parties of MAGNT include:

- key management personnel (KMP) because they have authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of MAGNT directly; and
- spouses, children and dependents who are close family members of KMP;
- all public sector entities that are controlled and consolidated into the whole of government financial statements; and
- any entities controlled or jointly controlled by KMPs or controlled or jointly controlled by their close family members.

## ii) Key Management Personnel (KMP)

Key management personnel of MAGNT are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of MAGNT. These include Board members, the Director and Assistant Directors.

The following table provides quantitative information about donations made by KMP to MAGNT. These donations were all settled in cash:

	2023 \$000	2022 \$000
Type of KMP		
Board members	4	9
Directorate	2	-
TOTAL	6	9

#### iii) Remuneration of Key Management Personnel

The aggregate compensation of key management personnel of MAGNT is set out below:

	2022-23 \$000	2021-22 \$000
Short-term benefits	585	533
Post-employment benefits – superannuation	61	53
Long-term benefits	-	-
Termination benefits	-	-
TOTAL	646	586

# 15. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS (CONTINUED)

#### iv) Related party transactions:

#### Transactions with Northern Territory Government controlled entities

MAGNT's primary ongoing source of funding was received as an allocation from the Department of Territory Families, Housing and Communities.

The following table provides quantitative information about related party transactions entered into during the year with all other Northern Territory Government controlled entities.

Related Party	Revenue from	Payments to related	Amounts owed by	Amounts owed to
	related parties	parties	related parties	related parties
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
All NTG Government departments	9,348	746	-	5

MAGNT's transactions with other government entities are not individually significant.

#### Other related party transactions are as follows:

There were no related party transactions between Key Management Personnel, their spouses, children and dependents who are close family members, and MAGNT during 2022-23.

Funds donated in the 2017/18 Financial Year and 2018/19 Financial Year totalling \$40,000 from a related party were used in this financial year for a Territory History Collection project.

# **16. EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO BALANCE DATE**

No significant events have arisen between the end of the financial year and the date of this financial report that require any adjustments to or disclosure in these financial statements.

# **17. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND CONTINGENT ASSETS**

MAGNT had no contingent liabilities or contingent assets as at 30 June 2023 or 30 June 2022.

# 18. WRITE OFFS, POSTPONEMENTS, WAIVERS, GIFTS AND EX GRATIA PAYMENTS

There were no write offs, postponements, waivers, gifts or ex gratia payments during the year ended 30 June 2023.

## **19. BUDGETARY INFORMATION**

Comprehensive Operating Statement	2022-23 Actual \$000	2022-23 Original Budget \$000	Variance \$000	Note
INCOME				
Grants and subsidies revenue	9,637	11,394	(1,757)	(1)
Sales of goods and services	865	695	170	
Interest revenue	200	33	167	
Total income	10,702	12,122	(1,420)	
EXPENSES				
Employee expenses	6,446	6,680	(234)	(2)
Administrative expenses	4,392	5,367	(975)	(3)
Depreciation and amortisation	29	33	(4)	
TOTAL EXPENSES	10,867	12,080	(1,213)	
NET (DEFICIT)/SURPLUS	(165)	42	(207)	
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	-	-	-	
TOTAL OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	-	-	-	
COMPREHENSIVE RESULT	(165)	42	(207)	

Notes: The following note descriptions relate to significant variances compared to budget.

(1) The budgeted revenue is 1.7 million more than actual, the reasons are:

- Operational Funding from the Northern Territory Government was budgeted as \$7.8 million pursuant to signed funding agreement, however, the actual received was \$7.6 million. The Northern Territory Art Gallery content development grant actual funding received is \$124,000 less than budgeted pursuant to signed funding agreement.
- Revenue for licence fees for Lyons Cottage was budgeted for \$50,000 however there was no actual fees received due to works at Lyons Cottage being delayed.
- The Holocaust Museum project was budgeted for \$750,000 in revenue, however the project did not proceed, therefore, no revenue was received from this project.
- The Rock Art exhibition project grant was budgeted to receive \$174,000 in revenue, however the project was deferred for commencement in FY2023/24.
- The Indigenous repatriation program grant revenue was reduced by \$30,000 as the result of the deferral of one project in the budgeted program.
- \$50,000 less in donations for acquisition was received compared to budget.
- There was \$10,000 less received in Visitor Experience Enhancement Program (VEEP) Grants compared to the budget.
- (2) The actual salary expense is \$234,000 less than budgeted, primarily due to delays in recruitment of particular positions being difficult to recruit to resulting in vacancy for a periods.
- (3) The actual administrative expenses are \$975,000 less than budgeted due to some projects (eg, Rock Arts, Blue Whale) being deferred to the following financial year; and \$662,000 saving in Holocaust Museum as the project did not proceed.

# **19. BUDGETARY INFORMATION (CONTINUED)**

Balance Sheet	2022-23 Actual \$000	2022-23 Original Budget \$000	Variance \$000	Note
ASSETS				
Current assets				
Cash and deposits	3,135	2,233	902	(1)
Receivables	111	144	(33)	
Total current assets	3,246	2,377	869	
Non-current assets				
Property, plant and equipment	61	70	(9)	
Heritage and cultural assets	59	80	(21)	
Total non-current assets	120	150	(30)	
TOTAL ASSETS	3,366	2,527	839	
LIABILITIES				
Current liabilities				
Payables	492	360	132	
Provisions	419	631	(212)	(2)
Other liabilities	1,722	659	1,113	(3)
Total current liabilities	2,633	1,650	983	
Non-Current liabilities				
Provision –non current	73	52	21	
Total non-current liabilities	73	52	21	
TOTAL LIABILITIES	2,706	1,702	1,004	
NET ASSETS	660	825	(165)	
EQUITY				
Capital	241	241	-	
Reserves	30	30	-	
Accumulated funds	389	554	(165)	
TOTAL EQUITY	660	825	(165)	

Notes: The following note descriptions relate to significant variances compared to budget.

(1) 771,000 GST paid from TFHC on operational funding that does not incur a GST liability. This amount is recorded in the Receipts – Clearing Account (911211 on 30 June 2023, and it is transferred to GST Payable account to be lodged to ATO in BAS July 2023.

(2) Provisions for recreation leave, leave loading for staff has reduced as a greater amount of leave was taken than was expected to be taken during the year. There was also the payment of leave liabilities to long term employees with large leave liabilities that exited MAGNT.

(3) Other Liabilities balance has increased as the balance of unearned revenue has increased, due to the deferral of projects to the following financial year. These projects include the Education officer grant (\$226,000); Aboriginal Benefit Account (ABA) grant (\$110,000); Territory history and ALPA. The account also includes the \$771,000 GST payable. Refer to Note 1 above.

# **19. BUDGETARY INFORMATION (CONTINUED)**

Cash Flow Statement	2022-23 Actual \$000	2022-23 Original Budget \$000	Variance \$000	Note
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES				
Operating receipts				
Grants and subsidies received	10,408	11,394	(986)	(1)
Receipts from sales of goods and services	1,564	703	861	(2)
Interest received	200	25	175	(3)
TOTAL OPERATING RECEIPTS	12,172	12,122	50	
Operating payments				
Payments to employees	(6,504)	(6,680)	176	
Payments for goods and services	(4,766)	(5,367)	601	(4)
TOTAL OPERATING PAYMENTS	(11,270)	(12,047)	777	
NET CASH FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	902	75	827	
Net cash from/(used in) financing activities	-	-	-	
Net increase in cash held	902	75	827	
Cash at beginning of financial year	2,233	2,233	-	
CASH AT END OF FINANCIAL YEAR	3,135	2,308	827	
Non Cash	-	-	-	

Notes: The following note descriptions relate to significant variances compared to budget.

(1) Operational Funding from the Northern Territory Government was budgeted as \$7.8 million pursuant to signed funding agreement, however, the actual received was \$7.6 million; The Holocaust Museum project was budgeted for \$750,000 in revenue, however the project did not proceed, therefore no revenue was received from this project.

(2) There is \$861,000 variance in the receipts from sales of goods and services compare to the budget, due to the revenue from NATSIAA \$370,000 sponsorship, admission revenue for ARCHIE100 exhibition is \$120,000 more than the budgeted; \$40,000 more revenue for Territory History; \$120,000 more payment received for education officer grant, as it was paid for two years; a various of small grants received in science research projects.

(3) There is \$175,000 variance in Interest received, this is due to the average term deposit interest rate raised from 0.3% in FY2021/22 to 3.76% in FY2022/23.

(4) There is \$601,000 underspent in the payment for goods and services compared with the budget. This is due to projects (e.g., Rock Arts, Blue Whale) being deferred to the following financial year; travel trips have been cancelled due to reduction of the funding revenue.



Erth's Prehistoric Picnic presented in association with Darwin Festival during National Science Week



#### Auditor-General

#### Independent Auditor's Report to the Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage

#### Board of the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory

#### Page 1 of 2

#### Opinion

I have audited the accompanying Financial Report of the Board of the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory.

The Financial Report comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2023, the comprehensive operating statement, the statement of changes in equity and the cash flow statement for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the certification of the financial statements on behalf of the Board.

In my opinion, the accompanying Financial Report of the Board of the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory has been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory Act 2014* giving a true and fair view of the financial position of the Board of the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory as at 30 June 2023, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year ended on that date.

#### **Basis for Opinion**

I conducted the audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of my report.

I am independent of the Board of the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards) (the Code) that are relevant to the audit of the Financial Report in Australia. I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

#### Responsibilities of the Director for the Financial Report

The Director of the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and for such internal control as the Director determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, management is responsible for assessing the ability of the Board of the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Board of the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the financial reporting process of the Board of the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory.



#### Auditor-General

#### Page 2 of 2

#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud
  or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence
  that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a
  material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may
  involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal
  control.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures
  that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the
  effectiveness of internal control within the Board of the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern
  Territory.
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the Board of the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report however, future events or conditions may cause the Board of the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory to cease to continue as a going concern.
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

Julie Crisp

Auditor-General for the Northern Territory Darwin, Northern Territory

29 September 2023

# Appendix 1 -Acquisitions

# Aboriginal Art and Material Culture

**Djoli Laiwanga OAM** (Jawoyn, born Wugularr, Northern Territory, 1925–1998)

*Life of the Jawoyn People*, 1967, natural earth pigments on bark, natural fibres and wood. Purchased 2023. MAGNT Collection.

*Ceremonial dance belt,* 1967, natural earth pigments and natural fibres. Purchased 2023. MAGNT Collection.

*Ceremonial armband*, 1967, natural fibres. Purchased 2023. MAGNT Collection.

Gary Lee (Larrakia, born 1952, Darwin, Northern Territory) *Nagi,* 2022, oil pastel and pencil on digital print. Purchased with funds donated by the MAGNT Supporters of Aboriginal Art, 2022. MAGNT Collection.

**Gutiŋarra Yunupiŋu** (Yolŋu signing and Dhuwala, born 1997, Nhulunbuy, Northern Territory) *Buymarr*, 2022, graphite pencil, recycled parchment paper, digital projection. Purchased 2022. Telstra Collection, MAGNT Collection. Hemming Collection Eleven art and cultural material items from the communities of Milikapiti purchased by or gifted to John and Betty Hemming between 1964 and 1966. Gift of Kathy Hemming, 2023. MAGNT Collection.

Jimmy John Thaiday (Torres Strait Creole, born 1978, Thursday Island, Torres Strait) *Beyond the lines*, 2022, single channel HD video: 16:9, colour, sound. Purchased 2022. Telstra Collection, MAGNT Collection.

#### Margaret Rarru Garrawurra

(Dhuwal, born 1940, Galiwin'ku, Northern Territory) *Dhomala* (*pandanus sail*), 2022, pandanus, kurrajong, bush dyes. Purchased 2022. Telstra Collection, MAGNT Collection.

**May Yamangarra** (Manharrngu, born 1970) *Balpal (traditional feather fan)*, 2022, wood, synthetic polymer paint, wax, stringybark and paper currency. Telstra Collection, MAGNT Collection. **Moyurrurra Wunuŋmurra** (Yolŋu Matha, born 1971, Gängän, Northern Territory) *Foundation*, 2021, earth pigments on stringybark. Purchased 2022. Telstra Collection, MAGNT Collection.

**Ms D Yunupiŋu** (Yolŋu Matha, born Inglis Island, Northern Territory, 1945–2022) *Yunupiŋu – The Rock,* 2021, earth pigments and recycled print toner on stringybark. Purchased with funds donated by the MAGNT Supporters of Aboriginal Art, 2022. MAGNT Collection.

Ray Mudjandi (Kriol, born 2000, Garramilla/Darwin, Northern Territory) *Virus Man*, 2021, earth pigments, gumnuts, wire, plywood. Purchased 2022. Telstra Collection, MAGNT Collection.

**Warlpiri artists** (Lajamanu) *Yawulyu Dancers' chest,* 1990s, synthetic polymer paint on wood. Gift of Chips Mackinolty and Bernadette Ryan, 2022. MAGNT Collection.

# **Australian Art**

Andy Ewing (born Melbourne, Victoria, 1964–2021) Collection of 10 works on paper, 2015, synthetic polymer paint, graphite, oil pastel, collage. Gift of The Ewing Family, 2022. MAGNT Collection.

**Cecily Willis** (born 1953, Waratah, New South Wales)

Shadow and Light 9, 2022, stoneware, organic material, copper. Purchased 2022. MAGNT Collection.

Shadow and Light 13, 2022, stoneware, organic material, copper. Purchased 2022. MAGNT Collection.

Shadow and Light 20, 2022, raku clay, organic material, copper. Purchased 2022. MAGNT Collection.

**Danny Murphy** (born 1963, Katherine, Northern Territory) *Trio*, 2021, three earthenware vessels saggar fired with terra sigillata. Purchased 2022. MAGNT Collection.

**Elliat Rich** (born 1978, Paris, France) *Ipomoea Sofa*, 2009, thermochromatic ink, digital print, plywood, Laminex, stainless steel components. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by the artist, 2023. MAGNT Collection.

*Curio,* 2015, timber, brass, clear acrylic. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts

Program by the artist, 2023. MAGNT Collection.

Kevin Lincoln (born 1941, Hobart, Tasmania) Untitled II, 2017, oil on linen. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Walter Patterson and Pamela Pearce, 2023. MAGNT Collection.

# Southeast Asian Art

**Ipeh Nur** (born 1993, Yogyakarta, Indonesia) Keluar Untuk ke Dalam *(Outward for Inward)*, 2019, Lanu sail, charcoal, rock powder, sequins, cassava paper, hand-drawn batik, embroidery, silk weaving. Purchased 2023. MAGNT Collection.

# **Territory History**

## Crammond Radio Manufacturing

**Company** (established 1928, Brisbane, Queensland) *Methodist Overseas Mission Base Station Radio*, 1950s, metal, rubber, plastic, Bakelite. Gift of Uniting Church Northern Synod, 2022. MAGNT Collection.

## Ken Markwell Collection

(born 1930s) Collection of 291 photographs, 43 negatives and 132 digital images of the Northern Territory produced by Ken Markwell during his service as a Royal Australian Air Force photographer and 12 memorabilia items. 1972– 1974. Gift of Ken Markwell, 2022. MAGNT Collection.

#### **Stokes & Son Proprietary Limited**

(established 1911, Melbourne, Victoria) *Aboriginal Identification Disc,* metal. Gift of William Harburn, 2022. MAGNT Collection.

# Appendix 2 -Publications

Brock KM, Chelini MC, Ayton C, Madden I, Ramos C, Blois J, Paffilis P and **Edwards DL** (2022) Colour morph predicts social behaviour and contest outcomes in a polymorphic lizard (*Podarcis erhardii*). Animal Behaviour 191: 91–103.

Edwards DL, Avila LA, Martinez L, Sites JW Jr and Morando M (2022) Environmental correlates of phenotypic evolution in ecologically diverse *Liolaemus* lizards. *Ecology & Evolution* e9009.

Edwards DL and Hutchinson MN (2023) Sand dragons: Species of the *Ctenophorus maculatus* complex (Squamata: Agamidae) of Australia's southern and western interior. *Journal* of *Herpetology* 57(2): 176–196.

Elgetany AH, Struck TH and **Glasby CJ** (2022) Three new species of the genus Perinereis (*Annelida: Nereididae*) from Egyptian coasts. Zookeys, 1132: 163–188. Lavesque N, Daffe G, **Glasby CJ,** Hourdez, S and Hutchings P (2022) Three new deep-sea species of *Marphysa* (Annelida: Eunicidae) from Papua New Guinea (Bismarck and Solomon seas). *Zookeys*, 1122: 81–105.

Georgieva MN, Wiklund H, Ramos DA, Neal L, **Glasby CJ** and Gunton LM (2023) The annelid community of a natural deep-sea whale fall off eastern Australia. In RV Investigator— *Abyssal Annelida,* EK Kupriyanova and LM Gunton (eds). *Records of the Australian Museum,* 75(3): 167–213.

Hadiyanto H and **Glasby CJ** (2023) Epiphytic Nereididae (Annelida: Phyllodocida) from intertidal macroalgae in Western Australia. *Zootaxa*, 5239 (2): online [work largely completed at MAGNT].

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