



Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards now the richest art awards in the country.

The *Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards (NATSIAA)* are now the richest of any art Award in Australia, with prize money across the seven categories more than doubling as part of a renewed three-year partnership between Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT) and Principal Partner Telstra.

Artists will share in a total of \$190,000 (previously \$80,000) with the prize money for the major Telstra Art Award doubling to \$100,000 and each of the category awards tripling from \$5,000 to \$15,000. Funds for acquisitions by MAGNT into the Telstra Collection have also increased by \$10,000 to a total of \$50,000.

“The Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory is thrilled to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists through our long-standing partnership with Telstra. As the longest running Indigenous art award, *Telstra NATSIAA* has always sought to celebrate the artists, their stories, and their cultures. This prize money increase shows MAGNT and Telstra’s continued dedication to nurture and honour Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists,” said MAGNT Director Marcus Schutenko.

“The prize pool reflects the contribution of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists to *Telstra NATSIAA* and beyond, and recognises the wider growth and appreciation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art nationally and internationally,” continued Mr Schutenko.

“The *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards* celebrate our rich, diverse, and unique First Nations’ Australian stories. I’m so proud of Telstra’s 30 year relationship which helps bring this art to more people all around the world,” said Andrew Penn, CEO of Telstra.

“I’m also delighted that we can more than double the prize money so that together with MAGNT, we can encourage more emerging and established artists to share their work and to improve Australians’ understanding and appreciation of this incredible country and our history,” he said.

“Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are the first artists of this country. It’s wonderful to recognise the *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards* as the biggest art prize in Australia. I have been a finalist twice in *Telstra NATSIAA* and it has been a wonderful experience and a huge honour to exhibit alongside some of my favourite artists,” said Elisa Jane Carmichael, 2021 *Telstra NATSIAA* Finalist and emerging artist from Queensland.

“Being a finalist has introduced me to collectors, curators and institutions opening up great opportunities for me and my practice. With these extra funds donated to the prize money, artists from all age groups and stages of their careers, working across a broad range of mediums will be able to further explore ways of making and support their practice. I would highly encourage all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists to apply - there’s nothing to lose and everything to gain!” she said.

Total prize money for each category is as follows:

Telstra Art Award	\$100,000
Telstra General Painting Award	\$15,000
Telstra Work on Paper Award	\$15,000
Telstra Bark Painting Award	\$15,000
Wandjuk Marika Memorial 3D Award	\$15,000
Telstra Emerging Artist Award	\$15,000
Telstra Multimedia Award	\$15,000

**MUSEUM
AND ART
GALLERY**
NORTHERN
TERRITORY

**TELSTRA
NATSIAA**



The annual exhibition has grown the audiences for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists' works for almost four decades. It sees an increasing variety of art forms and media, collectively demonstrating the richness and diversity of current contemporary Indigenous artistic practice, and the deep cultural knowledge of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices, nationwide, within the visual arts.

Entries for the 2022 *Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards* close on Friday 18 March 2022 at midnight ACST. [Enter now.](#)

The Awards Ceremony is on Friday 5 August, 2022 and the Exhibition opens on Saturday 6 August 2022. Learn more via the [website.](#)

Available to interview

MAGNT Director | Marcus Schutenko

Telstra CEO | Andrew Penn

MAGNT Curator of Aboriginal Art and Material Culture | Rebekah Raymond

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