

Report on Making Your Mark Project in Lockhart River Aboriginal Community July 2018

Brisbane based artists, Roman Schatz and Morgan Schatz Blackrose visited the Lockhart River Aboriginal Community Monday 25/6/18 to Friday 6/7/18 with the purpose of implementing a project called *Making Your Mark*.

Over the past two years they have worked with the community on promoting the *Healthy Dogs, Healthy People* Programme, so have established a rapport with many members of the community.

The purpose of this project was to extend the focus towards promoting Kindness as a value, underpinning the actions of individuals within the community. The foundation for their work is the telling of traditional stories from different cultures and performing contemporary rhymes and songs. These sessions then inform the construction of a collaborative artwork.

The *Making Your Mark* installation was a literal interpretation of the concept whereby local materials such as sticks and coconut fibre were gathered and children created their own paintbrushes and 'made a mark' with them on a canvas. The two parts of the artwork the paintbrushes and artwork will then be hung together as an installation. The installation, while being a collaborative work, also shows the individual work of each of the artists.

The structure of the project was as follows:

Storytelling sessions:

- 3 x 20 minute sessions with the Kuunchi Kakana Children and their carers
- 8 x 30 minute sessions with the school
- 1 x 20 minute session with the Youth Centre
- 1 x 40 minute session at the library

Art sessions:

- 3 x 2 hour sessions with the School Holiday Programme

Photography Sessions:

- 1 at the Youth Centre
- 1 at HACC
- 1 at the library
- 1 at Kuunch Kakana
- Assorted general photos

Following are photos of some of the sessions.



A library storytelling session for the school holidays



Storytelling at Kuunchi Kakana



Storytelling for the girls at the Youth Centre Health and Beauty Day



Songs and Photos for elders at a HACC lunch



Photos given to the elders at the HACC lunch



Paintbrushes made from natural materials at Lockhart River and decorated with wool



Wool winding on the support structure for the Making Your Mark installation



Mark making on the canvas



Each child chooses a brush to make their mark



Angela, Beverly and Morgan tie up the loose ends



The two parts of the Making Your Mark installation are completed and looking for a home