



## BIG hART CONTINUES IN ROEBOURNE THANKS TO SUPPORT FROM ABORIGINAL ORGANISATION WMYAC

Big hART is delighted to announce that thanks to the generous financial support of the **Wirlu-murra Yindjibarndi Aboriginal Corporation (WMYAC)**, Big hART will continue to run projects in the town of **Roebourne**.

"We are absolutely heartened to receive this vital cornerstone funding from the Wirlu-murra Yindjibarndi Aboriginal Corporation" said CEO and Creative Director of Big hART **Scott Rankin** today. "The last 12 months has been critical for Big hART in Roebourne, and despite meeting continually with Federal and State Government Departments across Australia to sustain funding support, it is this local, independent and inspiring Aboriginal organisation who has stepped up to show the high value our work has for the people of Roebourne."

**John Sandy**, Manager of the Wirlu-murra Yindjibarndi Aboriginal Corporation said "We are delighted to support the work of Big hART who have played a valuable role in Roebourne for 6 years, creating real tangible outcomes. Their work is positive and non-welfare, building on our assets and our resilience, and will assist to create new employment pathways, focusing on the young future leaders of our region and helping to create generational change."

Big hART's program is centred on the young bright future of Roebourne, building on what is strong, developing skills and capacity and long-term change. Big hART's leadership program achieves powerful results, delivering real opportunities, new skills and impact, and pending funding, will work to build 20 young leaders every year. Big hART mentors young women to be change-makers in their community, inspiring and engaging young people in culture strengthening activities, reconnects communities across generations and empowers young people to self-entrepreneur.

Big hART has worked with 80% of the young people aged 7-17. Working with all language groups, Big hART work is practical, non-welfare and task-focused and aims to strengthen skills in the community, support inter-generational cultural work, keep young people safe and return them to education and engagement and foster pride and respect. Big hART has conducted over 2000 workshops with the Roebourne community, produced 60 films, had 42 live performances and won 9 awards for the work in Roebourne.

The Wirlu-murra Yindjibarndi Aboriginal Corporation (WMYAC) is a community group based in Roebourne and is committed to establishing a sustainable self-sufficient future for all Yindjibarndi people and Roebourne community. WMYAC's vision is for family and the community to walk together, united, for a better future.

Big hART is still in need of substantial high-level funding to ensure it can continue in an ongoing capacity in Roebourne however would like to take this opportunity to thank Roebourne elders and current program sponsors, including Fortescue Metals and Ngarluma Yindjibarndi Foundation. Big hART would also like to thank community members and some key organisations who have supported recent projects in Roebourne including Pilbara Development Commission, Woodside, City of Karratha, Yirramagardu Community Association, Country Arts WA, Australia Council, WA Department of Communities Regional Services Reform Unit, Ngarliyarndu Bindirri Aboriginal Corporation, Wintawari Guruma Aboriginal Corporation, Ngarluma Aboriginal Corporation, Marwarankarra Health Service, Ngaarda Media, IBN Corporation, Department of Culture and the Arts, Department of Justice, Department of Communications and the Arts, Prime Minister and Cabinet and the Coins Foundation.

Big hART is Australia's leading arts campaigning organisation, telling Australia's most invisible stories. Begun 25 years ago in NW Tasmania, Big hART has since gone on to work in over 50 disadvantaged communities in regional, remote and urban Australia, winning over 45 awards. Big hART's focus is to make art, build community and drive change and over the years this has seen the charity work in the areas of domestic violence, incarceration, addiction, homelessness, and intergenerational injustice faced by Indigenous Australians.



All Media Enquiries to Big hART Media and Communications Manager Bettina Richter

E: [bettina@bighart.org](mailto:bettina@bighart.org)

M: 0414 441 860

W: [bighart.org](http://bighart.org)



NEW ROEBOURNE