



PROJECT O YOUNG WOMEN FEATURE AT TAMAR WRITERS FESTIVAL

Young women from Big hART's Project O initiative in Wynyard are featuring at the Tamar Writers Festival this weekend, alongside award-winning authors and commentators from around the country including Steve Biddulph, Christine Milne, Julian Burnside, and YA star Amie Kaufman.

The Project O young women will be hosting a session called 'Change From the Ground Up' on Friday, which will include a screening of short films generated by Big hART's work on Tasmania's North West Coast. The session will explore stories of Aboriginal Tasmania, young women and leadership on the Coast, and go behind the scenes of the Acoustic Life of Sheds through film. Young women will also share their journey through the Project O program, learning the leadership and skills to become change-makers in the community.

Three young women Yazmyn Butcher, Kimberley Chaplin, Georgia Manning and Kailee Hansen from Project O will be presenting the films and hosting a Q&A following the screenings. One of the films is the Cape Grim film created by Big hART with a group of young people from Smithton High School last year, where the young people were involved in researching and scripting, camera work, voice over and being on camera.

An initiative of award-winning arts campaigning organisation Big hART, Project O is a primary prevention project which has run across 5 states, where young rural women develop new skills and learn to advocate for change in their community. It invests in young rural women as change-makers, building resilience and identifying employment pathways, removing the barriers arising from family violence and delivering generational change in communities. Project O has been running in Wynyard for over 4 years, is now in Smithton and also commencing in Frankston Victoria.

To date Big hART has worked in over 50 communities for 25 years, alongside over 8000 individuals in urban, rural, regional and remote Australia and won over 45 awards, most recently the nationally APRVAMCOS Music Art Award for Best Regional Event for Acoustic Life of Sheds.

Project O is proudly supported locally by Wynyard High and Smithton High.



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