



Ben Franklin

Minister for Aboriginal Affairs
Minister for the Arts
Minister for Regional Youth

MEDIA RELEASE

Sunday, 3 July 2022

NAIDOC Week 2022

As NAIDOC Week 2022 commences, the NSW Government celebrates and acknowledges the continued history, culture, excellence and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people across the country.

NAIDOC Week is an opportunity for people of all walks of life to learn and celebrate the oldest, continuing culture on the planet.

This year the NAIDOC theme is *Get Up! Stand Up! Show Up!* – calling on everyone to show up in driving effective change, whilst commemorating and acknowledging the many Aboriginal people who fought for equal rights.

Minister for Aboriginal Affairs Ben Franklin said NAIDOC Week is a significant week for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

“NAIDOC Week this year will be back bigger and better than ever,” Mr Franklin said.

“Due to the impact of COVID-19 restrictions over the past two years, many NAIDOC events were postponed or cancelled.

“Aboriginal communities are looking forward to the return of a full program for NAIDOC Week and the opportunity to showcase their cultural and remarkable achievements, while celebrating connection and historic rituals, dance and performance.”

The NSW NAIDOC Grant Program will fund community festivals and fun days, public exhibitions, gatherings, cultural workshops, NAIDOC-themed activities and competitions.

Mr Franklin said 93 events and celebrations would share in \$212,819 under the program.

Lightning Ridge Local Aboriginal Land Council received \$3,000 to support mob working together to learn about protected and tended plant species, habitats and horticultural techniques and how different plants are used for different purposes.

The Wiradjuri Cultural & Environmental Rangers received funding to support a NAIDOC community corroboree on Saturday, July 9, to promote greater awareness and understanding of Wiradjuri history.

In the Shoalhaven, Waminda South Coast Women's Health and Welfare Aboriginal Corporation received funding to host an event for young women to grow their knowledge and skills through learning about Aboriginal activism, rights and claims for sovereignty.

On the North Coast, the Jarjum Centre will work with local children and youth to showcase contemporary and traditional ways to participate in Aboriginal cultural activities.

Mr Franklin said 2021 grant recipients who were unable to hold events due to COVID-19 restrictions were able to rollover funds to host projects this year. "I am looking forward to attending a number of NAIDOC Week celebrations and I encourage everyone to take part in the festivities.

"NAIDOC Week is for all Australians and a great opportunity for non-Aboriginal people to be involved, learn and celebrate with Aboriginal communities and organisations across the country."

For more information about National NAIDOC Week, visit www.naidoc.org.au

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