

MEDIA RELEASE

3 June 2021

Aboriginal mural unveiling at SAE represents local Whadjuk women

To celebrate National Reconciliation Week, SAE Creative Media Institute Perth's campus will be unveiling a symbolic mural by highly respected Aboriginal artist, Marcia McGuire today. The beautiful artwork acknowledges the traditional Whadjuk women who gave birth on the land the campus is built on. Following the unveiling, Aboriginal Elder, Joshua McGuire will host a blessing and smoking ceremony.

Marcia is a proud Whadjuk, Ballardong and Yamatji Aboriginal Woman from Perth who has spent her life devoted to learning and exploring Aboriginal and popular modern art. During the ceremony Marcia will talk about the mural and its significance on the land that SAE Perth stands and give her insight into the meaning of what Reconciliation Week means.

"The story behind the mural came more as a feeling rather than something being told. In the centre of the design; the arched circle, horizontal, and vertical lines represent the traditional Whadjuk women," Marcia said.

"I've used the seven SAE discipline logos, as part of the design, to represent respect, nurturing and protection.

"I wanted the logos to illustrate a community of talent, education, journeys, and a sense of belonging to the campus," Marcia added.

Marcia was introduced to SAE by Senior Lecturer, Sam Cutri who has been a friend of the McGuire family for some time. Perth Campus Manager, Dean Pearson was delighted to have someone of Marcia's talent available to create such a symbolic piece of art.

"The land our campus is built on was previously a place on which Whadjuk women gave birth. It is appropriate therefore that Marcia has produced a beautiful mural that illustrates the new beginnings for our students; as they start their journeys into adulthood," Dean said.



Additional information on SAE's support of Indigenous communities:

SAE has a very high retention rate of Indigenous students of 78.6 per cent, compared to the university average of 73.8 per cent, and other non-university higher education institutions average of 59.8 per cent.

Academic Film Department Coordinator and National Film Program Committee Chair, Dr Magali McDuffie, who is based in Perth, has been a strong advocate for Aboriginal communities through her film projects. Both as a volunteer and in her professional capacity as a filmmaker, Magali has travelled across Australia to produce short films with and for different Aboriginal communities, including to the Kimberley to work with Nyikina women. Her collaborative work has led to the presentation of more than 30 short films at the Human Rights Commission in UNESCO, and at national and international film festivals and conferences.

The Aboriginal mural unveiling, blessing and smoking ceremony takes place on Thursday 3 June at 3pm (AWST) at SAE Perth at Northbridge.

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ANIMATION



AUDIO
& MUSIC



CREATIVE
INDUSTRIES



DESIGN



FILM



GAMES



WEB &
MOBILE

Imagery: *Marcia McGuire's mural at SAE Perth*



About SAE

SAE Creative Media Institute is the place for creatives and innovators. Since 1976 we've been the leaders in creative media education across animation, audio, creative industries, design, film, games, web and mobile. Every year, we support more than 10,000 students globally to develop the skills and experience needed to carve successful careers. Students enjoy access to the latest technology and are taught by industry-experienced faculty, while putting their skills to the test in small class environments. Our graduates become part of a highly-respected global community of creatives that's been around for over 40 years. We pride ourselves on being technically explorative, transformative and brave through our range of creative media programs, from short courses and professional training through to bachelor and postgraduate degrees. In Australia, our programs are delivered at campuses in Sydney, Brisbane, Byron Bay, Melbourne, Perth and Adelaide. SAE is a part of Navitas Pty Ltd. More information about SAE is available at sae.edu.au.

About Navitas

Navitas is a proud Australian company that pioneered an innovative university partnership model of education in Perth in 1994. Its entities have delivered education programs across the country since 1976. Further information about Navitas Pty Ltd is available at navitas.com.

