Shalom Gamarada Ngiyani Yana

we walk together as friends

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Shalom Gamarada Ngiyani Yana

1st February 2011

SHALOM GAMARADA ART EXHIBITION SPONSORSHIP PROPOSAL

1. Proposal

1.1 We are seeking a principal sponsor of the annual Shalom Gamarada Art Exhibition for a period of three years.

1.2 This would involve financial support as well as the opportunity for staff participation on a voluntary basis during the two-week long exhibition.

1.3 The financial support will cover

- the costs of promoting and mounting the exhibition
- the promotion of an Art Prize and People's Choice Prize
- prize money for the winners

1.4 The sponsoring organisation will benefit from the association with the Shalom Gamarada Scholarship Scheme which our patron Professor Marie Bashir AO CV, Governor of New South Wales, says "is a strong and eloquent contribution to our journey of reconciliation".

Muru Marri Indigenous Health Unit

THE SHALOM INSTITUTE
Shalom College UNSW

NURA GILI (INDIGENOUS PROGRAMS @ UNSW)

An Initiative of ▮ Muru Marri Indigenous Health Unit ▮ Shalom College ▮ Nura Gili Indigenous Programs @ UNSW

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gamarada@shalom.edu.au ▮ Website www.shalomgamarada.org ▮ ABN 75000 729 064 (Shalom Institute)

The Shalom Institute is a Member of the JCA Family of Communal Organisations

2. Indigenous health and Indigenous health professionals

2.1 According to the Australian Medical Association's 2004 report on Indigenous Health, Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders suffer from worse health than people in a number of Third World Countries. They die younger, their children are sicker, and too many of their babies die at birth or are born with low bodyweight and chronic health conditions. Doctors working in some communities say that the state of Indigenous health is worse than it has been for 20 years. It is Australia's national shame.

A former President of the Australian Medical Association, Dr Bill Glasson said an increase in the number of Aboriginal doctors "could make the single biggest difference to improving Indigenous health and enabling us to get out of the mess we are in."

Ian Anderson, Professor for Indigenous Health at the University of Melbourne agrees. He says that Indigenous doctors and health workers are essential if the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous life expectancy is to be closed.

2.2 Currently there are only 140 Indigenous doctors in Australia out of 61,000 medical graduates. Whilst there are a number of Indigenous health workers, in the critical area of eye care, there is only one Indigenous optometrist in the whole of the country.

2.3 Historically, there has been a significant drop-out rate of Indigenous students from university due to:

- commonly they come from deprived backgrounds – both educationally and socio-economically;
- they often live far from campus and spend many hours a day travelling on public transport;
- generally they have to find part-time work to help support themselves; and
- they are seldom part of a 'learning community.

3. The Shalom Gamarada Scholarship Program

3.1 This innovative scholarship program provides residential scholarships in Shalom College to indigenous students studying medicine and other health-related courses for the term of their studies at the University of NSW. It came about through collaboration between Shalom College at the University of New South Wales and the Muru Marri Indigenous Health Unit, School of Public Health and Community Medicine, UNSW.

3.2 The program was set-up to limit the significant drop-out rate of Indigenous students from university by alleviating financial constraints and time wasted on commuting - and places the students in a learning community with tutoring and counselling support available. The aim of the program is to increase the number of Aboriginal doctors who will then help to improve health outcomes and the quality of life of Indigenous Australians.

3.3 From one scholarship in 2005 the program has grown to 15 scholarships in 2010. This represents more than half the enrolled Indigenous medical students at UNSW. In total, the program has assisted 24 students including our first graduated doctor who completed her MB.BS in 2009.

3.4 The value of each medical scholarship is $17,500 pa or $87,500 over 5 years (this is usually the duration as 1 year is often spent in a hospital setting away from the eastern suburbs of Sydney) or $105,000 over 6 years of the medical degree.

3.5 Funds relating to scholarship program are held and managed by the Shalom Gamarada Trust whose trustees are the executive of The Shalom Institute

4. The Shalom Gamarada Art Exhibition

4.1 The Shalom Gamarada Art Exhibition was initially established to fund the scholarship program. It has been held annually since 2005 at Shalom College for a week's duration. The exhibition is curated by Waterhole Art and contains Indigenous art works procured direct from Indigenous communities. The price of art works ranges from $100 for unstretched works to major pieces selling at up to $70,000. We exhibit about 100 works and the total value of the exhibition is well over $1 million.

4.2 You will note that this proposal suggests that the exhibition should be increased to two weeks' duration as it is felt that the investment in mounting the exhibition warrants an extension of the period.

4.3 The exhibition was opened this year by our Patron Professor Marie Bashir AO CV, Governor of NSW. Previous exhibitions were opened by other dignitaries such as Mr David Gonski AO, Chancellor of UNSW, The Honourable James Spigelman AC, Chief Justice of NSW, and Mr Mark Leibler, Chair of Reconciliation Australia.

4.4 The opening ceremony for the exhibition each year is conducted by the scholarship students who perform traditional dances under the leadership of Clarence Slockee. It is generally attended by over 200 people. During the course of the exhibition, there are two forums , one on Indigenous art, one on Indigenous health with eminent speakers on both topics.

4.5 This year we held a luncheon for corporates who provide scholarships. This included a private tour of the exhibition and talks by two scholarship students who told their stories and what the scholarships have meant to them. Such an event would be offered to a major sponsor.

5. Role of the art exhibition

5.1 In its first year (2005) the Shalom Gamarada Art Exhibition raised sufficient funds for one full scholarship. In addition, it attracted funding for one scholarship from a Foundation. Since then, at each successive exhibition, additional scholarship providers have come forward so that currently there are 10 corporate and private individuals fully funding our students.

5.2 The art exhibition is considered to be the flagship of the scholarship program as it:

- Generates a great deal of publicity about the program
- Promotes Indigenous art appreciation in a positive way
- Raises the self esteem of our students
- Provides an opportunity for visitors to learn about Indigenous health issues
- Provides an opportunity for visitors to learn about Indigenous art
- Provides funds to those communities from whom we obtain the art.
- Provides an opportunity for artists from remote communities to participate at the art forum as well as the opening of the art exhibition

6. Publicity for art exhibition

6.1 In the period immediately before the art show and during the exhibition itself the show receives extensive print, radio and on-line media coverage.

Media	**Number of media outlets**	**Exposure (000s)**
Print	8	1705
Radio	9	564
On-Line	14	275
Total	**31**	**2833**

Some examples of the media exposure are attached.

6.2 We have a database of over 2000 names and each year an invitation with details of the exhibition is posted to each person.

6.3 We believe that with the introduction of the Art prize we will achieve an even greater media penetration and reach wider audience which will greatly benefit the program and increase sales.

6.4 We also have a website which includes images from former exhibitions as well as the upcoming exhibition. This year two major sales to Belgium were generated from the website prior to the opening of the exhibition.

6.5 **Latest developments:** The Fairfax group including the Sydney Morning Herald have taken up the Media Sponsorship for 2011 which will provide generous advertising subsidies and potential editorial coverage.

7. Art Prize and People's Choice Prize

7.1 This proposal requests funds to establish an Art Prize and a People's Choice Prize. Art works would be solicited with strict criteria for entry and the prize would be known by the name of the major sponsor. It is felt that this would be a new focus for publicity as well as providing a monetary incentive to Indigenous artists.

7.2 Our aim is to make this exhibition into a much anticipated annual event in Sydney's cultural calendar similar to the well established Telstra Prize.

8. Details of request

8.1 The Shalom Gamarada Trust is seeking a sponsor who is willing to commit $60,000 per year for a minimum of three years. This amount would cover most of the costs related to the show, including pre show marketing, stretching art works for the show, hanging the art, refreshments for the opening night, reimbursement of Shalom College costs associated with the exhibition and any other expenses directly related to the exhibition.

9. Benefits to sponsor

9.1 The sponsor will obtain the following benefits from sponsoring the Gamarada art show:

- identification as a primary supporter of the premier tertiary bursary scheme for Indigenous Medical students
- naming right for art prize
- exposure at the opening function and for the duration of the exhibition
- acknowledgement of sponsorship on all media associated with the show
- acknowledgement on all emails sent to the database and on the website
- a special function for guests of the sponsor which would include lunch, a private tour of the exhibition and the opportunity to meet and hear from some of the scholarship students
- opportunity for staff to participate on a volunteer basis during the show.
- opportunity to engage with the scholarship holders at various functions

9.2 The exhibition is staffed by volunteers who are trained to assist in providing information about the art and the artists, selling the art, and liaising with the public.

10. Conclusion

10.1 This Program results in a win-win win situation. Not only does it provide medical scholarships to Indigenous students but it provides employment of the artists in remote communities resulting in additional income for the art centres which raise funds for community projects such as local swimming pools.

10.2 Expenses for the entire program are kept to the minimum (including the production of this document) due to the fact that the wast majority of services are provided by a dedicated team of volunteers.

11. Appendices

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11.1 YouTube Videos on Shalom Gamarada

11.1.1 Shalom Gamarada Art Exhibition on SBS News:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-qZGlZDzTrs&feature=related

11.1.2 Video on the Art Exhibition

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yi8LXCkgedk

11.1.3 Video on the Scholarship Program

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X0VYsskWJHc

11.2 Shalom Gamarada Ngiyani Yana Art Exhibition

Medical Journal of Australia 2010; 192 (10): 572.
By Professor Lisa R Jackson Pulver

I have been living at Shalom College for four years. It has been a life-changing experience for me. I have had time to work hard at uni, in a racism-free environment in which Indigenous students can live proudly. Without this scholarship it would be impossible for me to study medicine as there is no way my family could afford for me to live in Sydney.— Josef McDonald, 5th Year Medicine, University of New South Wales, Shalom Gamarada Scholarship Recipient

The Shalom Gamarada scholarship program is funded both by the sale of work by Aboriginal artists at the annual, week-long Shalom Gamarada Ngiyani Yana exhibition and by the provision of scholarships by private donors and corporate sponsors. The name of the program comes from the term “gamarada ngiyani yana” in the Eora language and translates to “we walk together as friends.” “Shalom” is a Hebrew word, meaning peace and is part of the name of the Shalom College at the University of NSW. The program was founded in 2005. In 2010, the sixth exhibition and sale will run from 27th June to 4th July.

This year's contributors include the internationally renowned contemporary Indigenous artist, Judy Watson. Other artists include Regina Wilson, Weaver Jack, Jan Billycan and Shorty Jangala Robertson. There will be much sought after ceramic works from the Bagu community from Girringun in Queensland. This year, we will be displaying specially commissioned walls which will include works from Utopia and commissioned installations from Yuendumu and Peppimenarti. For the first time, the exhibition will present new work from the community of Martumili from the Pilbara.

Exhibition audiences will be offered a unique opportunity to experience an incredible and diverse range of Indigenous art practice from across Australia. Shalom Gamarada will showcase an extensive range of more than 120 stretched artworks hanging and many more unstretched works, some of which can be seen in this issue of the Journal (Box 1, Box 2, Box 3, Box 4, Box 5, Box 6, Box 7, Box 8, Box 9, Box 10), with a total value of over one million dollars. All artworks will be available for purchase, with prices ranging from a modest $150 to more than $25,000. Commissions from all art sales go to residential scholarships for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Medical students at Shalom College.

The Shalom Gamarada scholarship program was set up in 2005 to boost the numbers of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander medical students attending the University of NSW and runs in partnership with the UNSW's Shalom College and the Muru Marri Indigenous Health Unit.

Since its inception, the Shalom Gamarada Aboriginal art exhibition has been able to assist 24 students to study medicine, optometry and medical science, covering board and lodging expenses so students are able to focus solely on excelling in their studies. Each scholarship is valued at over $15 000 per year for the duration of the degree.

We graduated our first Shalom Gamarada doctor in December 2009, Dr Beth Kervan. This year, another scholarship recipient and UNSW's first Aboriginal optometry student, Jenna Owen — who was the top student in 4th Year Optometry in 2009 — will graduate.

Details of the Exhibition and show

Open: 11 am to 7 pm each day from 27 June to 4 July
Address: Caspary Learning Centre, Shalom College, University of New South Wales, Kensington (enter via Barker St)
Admission: Free
More information: visit http://www.shalomgamarada.org/ or call Professor Lisa Jackson Pulver on 0404 859 989.

11.3 Websites

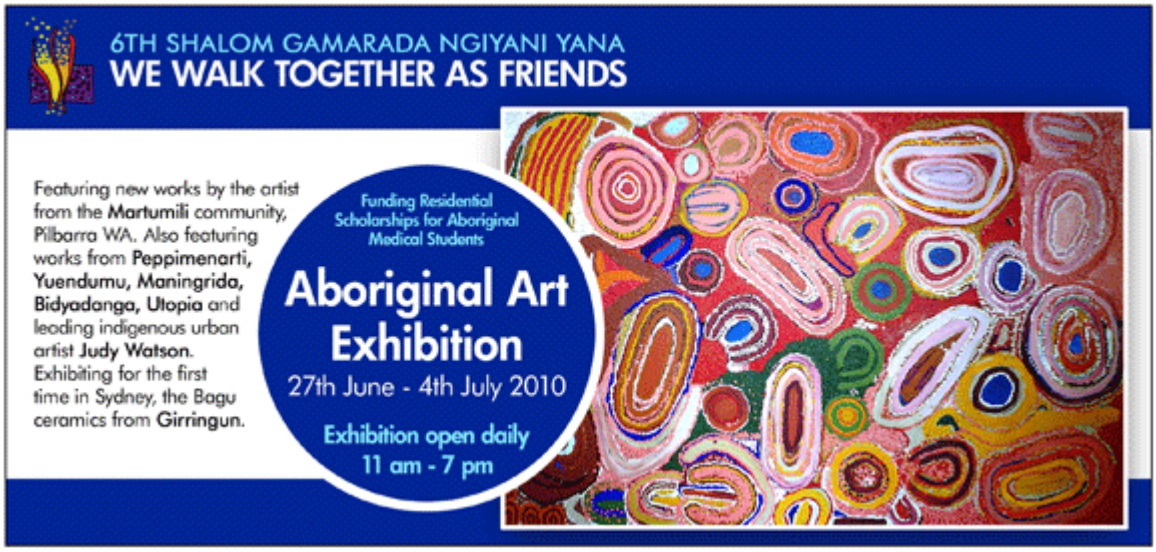
http://www.shalomgamarada.org/shalom-gamarada-scholarship-students

http://www.shalomcollege.unsw.edu.au/Shalom-Gamarada-Scholarship-Program/default.aspx

11.4 How to really close the gap –

The Shalom Gamarada scholarships

June 29, 2010 by Bob Gosford from www.crickey.com.au



There has been a lot of guff spoken by politicians and commentators over the past few years about "closing the gap" between mainstream and Aboriginal health and life-expectancy outcomes in this country.

But, as my mate Chris Graham noted in a scathing piece over at the ABC's *The Drum*, the Rudd Government, while happy to spout endless reams of rhetoric about how well it has done in this toughest of policy areas, was an abject failure at delivering any meaningful closure of the gap.

You can see Chris's piece at *The Drum* here. This is a part of what he had to say about Rudd's gap-closing efforts:

"I'm proud of the fact that we are closing the gap between Indigenous and non Indigenous Australians," Rudd told a packed parliamentary courtyard. Right. Except that under Rudd the gap widened. Some readers may recall it was Rudd who promised, with a flourish of his hand, that on the first parliamentary sitting day of the year he would personally deliver a report card about the Government's progress in 'Closing the Gap'…And then on every single occasion, he missed his own self-imposed deadline. Indeed, the first year, Rudd missed it by almost a month, blaming the Victorian bushfire tragedy for the delay…When Rudd finally did deliver his

reports, they always showed the gap between black and white Australians widening across most major social indicators."

On Sunday evening I had the pleasure of attending the opening of a selling exhibition of Aboriginal art in support what to me is just about the most effective way of closing the gap – helping Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander medical students through their university studies.

A wall of Shorty Jangala Robertson paintings

The Shalom Gamarada Indigenous Scholarship Program at the University of New South Wales is supported by the annual Shalom Gamarada Ngiyani Yana art exhibition and sale of work by acclaimed Aboriginal artists from across the country.

Last night, Sunday 27th June I went along to this year's exhibition at the Shalom College at UNSW.

There was a great crowd and the place was fit to burst – and next year they might need a bigger venue. On display there were hundreds of great paintings and artworks from across the country – all at realistic prices.

There were also some uplifting and inspiring speeches – not least from Jenna Owen, a recent graduate in Optometry from the UNSW and who says of the support she received from the Shalom Gamarada scholarship that:

"…it would have been impossible for me to study Optometry having to live so far away from home because of the financial stress of accommodation, living expenses and travel costs. The Shalom Gamarada Scholarship has made my dream a reality and enabled me to be the first member of my family to attend university."

Governor Marie Bashir (centre rear) with Shalom Gamarada volunteers

The exhibition was opened by the Shalom Gamarada Patron – and one of my favourite Australian's of all time – the Governor of NSW, Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO (to give her full and well-deserved title), who gave an inspiring and heart-felt speech that not only praised the hard work of those behind and in receipt of the scholarship but also revealed much about the reasons for her own involvement as it's Patron since its inception in 2005.

In her opening speech to the first exhibition in 2005, Governor Bashir noted that:

"Most of you are aware that national health statistics continue to demonstrate vast and unacceptable differences between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Australians. Life expectancy for Indigenous males is 56 years compared with 77 years for other Australians, and for Indigenous females 63 years and 83 years respectively. Levels of cardiovascular and renal disorders, as well as high rates of diabetes and premature death from all these problems continue to cast a long shadow across all Aboriginal communities.

Distressing variances also occur with infant deaths in the first year of life (four times greater for Indigenous infants), and I am ashamed to tell you that suicide rates are nearly three times that of non-Indigenous people. In particular, this is a tragic loss of young men whom their families, their communities, and this nation can ill afford to lose. It is only right to remind ourselves that a mere 217 years ago when the first fleet, led by Governor Arthur Phillip, arrived in this pristine land, the Australian Aboriginal people were considered to be the healthiest people in the world…It is no accident that this initiative was so speedily taken up by the Sydney Jewish community, the elders of whom are well aware of the impact of great loss and grief, and also of the healing quality of renewed spirit and culture. This program is a strong and eloquent contribution to our journey of reconciliation."

Shalom Gamarada's website has this background to the exhibition:

The scholarship is the result of collaboration between Shalom College, a residential college at the University of NSW, and the Muru Marri Indigenous Health Unit, School of Public Health and Community Medicine at University of NSW. From one scholarship holder in 2005, we have 14 scholarship holders in 2010. This is more than half the total number of Indigenous medical students at the University of NSW. Our first Indigenous graduate, Beth Emma Kervin, graduated as a doctor at the University of New South Wales on 1st December 2009. The program was set-up to limit the significant drop-out rate of Indigenous students from university as they find the task of working to support themselves while conducting their studies an exceedingly arduous undertaking. It is well on the way to achieving this goal.

You can see the show – and buy what works haven't been sold so far – at the Caspary Conference Centre in the Shalom College at Barker Street, Kensington in Sydney, runs from the 27th of June through to the 4th of July 2010 and is open from 11am until 7pm.

I had a great night, saw some wonderful art and had the opportunity to mix with some of the real movers and shakers behind this exceptional program. If you are in Sydney over the next week or so take the opportunity to see some great artwork and help this worthy cause.

You'll most likely walk out a little lighter in the pocket but you will be able to say that you've done more to close the gap than a whole lot of people in Canberra have done of late.