



WOW AUSTRALIA

2020 - 2022





Hazel Patterson, Hope Patterson and June Noble, guests at WOW Cairns 2022

FIRST NATIONS FIRST

WOW Australia acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the sovereign First Nations of the continent we now call Australia and its adjacent islands. We acknowledge that this sovereignty has never been ceded. We particularly acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which we live and work the Jagera and Turrbal peoples of Meanjin (Brisbane) and of all the lands on which WOW has taken place in Australia since 2013.

We pay our respects to Elders—past, present and emerging—and recognise the immense knowledge, cultural and linguistic strength that has existed on this land for tens of thousands of years.

In welcoming people from across Australia and the world to our events, we celebrate the unique place and contribution of First Nation women and girls to traditional and contemporary life. We honour our differences, share wisdom and learning and seek to enable deeper connections and change through shared experiences.

We commit to working towards State and Federal actions on Voice, Treaty, Truth and the implementation of the recommendations from Commissioner Oscar's Wiyi Yani U Thangani (Women's Voices) report.



PATRONS' WELCOME



THE HON. QUENTIN BRYCE AD, CVO

It has been a great honour and a true delight to be co-patron of WOW Australia with my dear friend June Oscar AO and to participate in enhancing festivals and myriad enriching gatherings.

This report captures the energy, achievement, selflessness, service and accomplishment of Cathy Hunt and Leigh Tabrett who brought the concept of WOW to Australia. The 'Big Stats' speak for themselves.

I remember with admiration and affection the first Festival in Brisbane at QUT in 2015. I knew straightaway that WOW would make an enormous contribution to the advancement of women and girls. It was fun, thought-provoking, enlightening, filled with friendship; the solidarity of sisterhood shining through. It struck a chord in hearts and minds.

Across my life, I have seen again and again the power and enduring outcomes of bringing women together to celebrate our work and our lives. WOW creates an atmosphere of joy and respectful, engaged listening, and the encouragement of young and old. It has meant a great deal to me to join in rural and regional gatherings so valued, appreciated and sometimes life changing.

I am confident that it has enriched and enhanced the lives of thousands in our community. Sometimes we forget that the most important tool we have in our advocacy, in our hopes to make a difference, to make the world safe and secure, for future generations – is our voice. Thank you WOW for supporting, inspiring, and encouraging us to use ours.



JUNE OSCAR AO

WOW! What a huge and successful three years it has been for WOW Australia. I am honoured to be a co-patron along with the incredible Honourable Quentin Bryce and to be a part of the WOW family and journey.

Reflecting on the recent years of global turbulence, WOW has stayed strong and sailed the waves. Through a global pandemic, snap lockdowns and a reckoning with racism and patriarchy in Australia through Black Lives Matter and the March for Justice, WOW has delivered an outstanding program of inspiring events and conversations. Festivals in the country and

urban centres alike, have united women, celebrating our diverse lives and common bonds. WOW has convened a wonderful array of speakers, thinkers and doers, and the dialogues and performances have reflected the dynamic nature of the present, while always challenging us to work harder and be braver in achieving a gender just and equal future.

Over the last three years WOW has constantly reminded us that women's voices, lives and knowledges, the work we do, our passions and commitments are critical to determining the world we all deserve and have a right to live within.

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WOW—WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO



“WOW has been a guiding force in establishing links with women and girls of all races, class, age and diversities. Their inclusion and respect for all is truly remarkable.” – Jackie Huggins AO

Why do we bother – why in the third decade of the 21st century are we still creating events to discuss the issue of gender inequality?

Because there is still no country in the world where women, men and non-binary people are equal, despite all the legal and social changes we have gone through over the past 100 years, not in political representation, nor in health, nor the economy and in many places in the world in education. And violence against women and girls continues to escalate.



Why discuss this issue in the form of a festival, a place for joy and celebration? Because we believe that through creative expression and storytelling, and in celebrating what we have achieved so far, we can create a new movement for action and change, one that is inclusive of all voices and all experiences and brings men and boys to a place where regardless of culture or creed, gender will not remain a barrier.

WOW Festivals and events have now taken place in more than 30 locations on six continents, presented in partnership with UK charity The WOW Foundation, whose director Jude Kelly CBE founded WOW in 2010 at the Southbank Centre. Following the Hon. Julia Gillard’s famous ‘Misogyny’ speech Cathy Hunt and Leigh Tabrett

formed a non-profit company ‘Of One Mind’ (OOM) to bring the concept of WOW to Australia, initially organised in partnership with cultural organisations in Sydney, Melbourne and Katherine in the Northern Territory.

The first WOW Festival in Queensland was held in Brisbane at QUT in 2015 followed by a highly successful international celebration of the work and lives of women and girls across 25 countries as part of the 2018 Commonwealth Games cultural celebrations

In 2019 the Queensland Government invited OOM to curate and deliver three annual festivals, WOW Australia, in Brisbane – 2020, 2021 and 2022 with support of \$1.6 millionⁱ over three years and work began in 2019 to raise the additional support needed.



ⁱ Subsequently reduced to \$1,395,000 due to program changes as a result of COVID.

WHAT WE DID

2020–2022

April 2020 would have seen the first WOW Australia festival at the Brisbane Powerhouse, with lead up activities and a three-day celebration cancelled 3-weeks out because of the Covid pandemic. We successfully pivoted to online conversations and artists commissions, including for WOW Global 24 in June, and for the **Brisbane Festival** in September we commissioned the *Domesticity* program - three covid-safe events in Brisbane homes to look at the impact of Covid-19 on women and girls.

Given the uncertain health environment and continued State and International border closures predicted for 2021 we proposed a further 'pivot' to a Regional Queensland Program comprising a series of mini-WOW festivals across the year, with the view to hearing the voices of women and girls in regional and rural communities of the State. As a result of invitations sent to all the Queensland mayors, regional road trips and community consultations we confirmed four festival destinations – Charleville, Longreach, Cairns and Logan.

Our 2021 program was also disrupted by on-going local lockdowns. We successfully delivered WOW Charleville and the brilliant **Spinifex Gum** concert for WOW Cairns but had to reschedule most of WOW Cairns, WOW Longreach, and WOW Logan. In partnering once again with Brisbane Festival we delivered a new program, *Momentum*.

2022 saw us successfully complete the rescheduled festival programs in Longreach, Cairns and Logan and deliver our third conversations series in Brisbane – *Making it Matter* – partnering with **Griffith University** and **QPAC** to celebrate the women who don't just 'make it' in life but in doing so, make it matter for all of us. This series focussed on women in power, women's financial security and culminated in the three-time rescheduled conversation *Once Upon a Time in Australia* with the **Hon. Quentin Bryce** and the **Hon. Julia Gillard** reflecting on the unique period when they were the leaders in their respective fields as the first female Governor General and the first female Prime Minister in Australia.



Looking back now in September 2022, the landscape of the past three years looks very different from our original concept of three WOW Australia international festivals in Brisbane. Over the period we have successfully delivered a diverse range of 16 activities, travelled round Queensland collaborating and engaging with many different communities, directly engaged with local, regional, national and international audiences and have learnt a huge amount along the way.

We have learnt about the country/city differences and similarities; the wealth of talent, capability, resilience, pride and strong connections in regional and rural Queensland; what makes communities tick; about ourselves and about the talent, enthusiasm, and appetite for collaboration, serious discussion, celebration, change and events like WOW festivals.

In all situations, we have taken the maxim to heart, First Nations First. First Nations women have been centre stage at all our events, as esteemed speakers and academics, thought leaders and expert teachers, as performers and creatives, in our Healing Spaces and also as part of our staff, our backstage crew, and our organizational board. Additional support for First Nations people to attend our events as participants has been embedded into the production and planning of our events, and we have been delighted to work closely with the Australian Human Rights Commission on the promotion of June Oscar's seminal report, Wiyi Yani U Thanghani (Women's Voices).



THE BIG STATS

FIGURES FOR THE THREE YEARS



105 Events

52 Conversations

39 Workshops

47 Performances

223

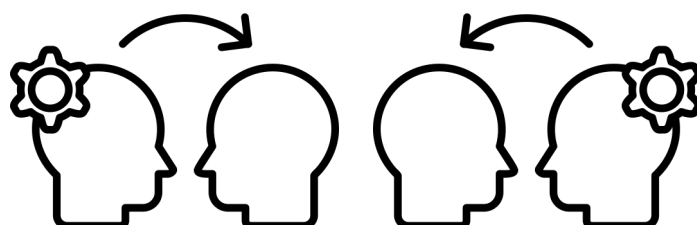
Performing Artists



**104 businesses
benefiting in the
Marketplace**



227 people mentored

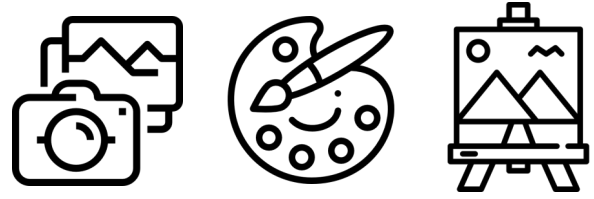


**22 schools
involved**

**232 students
participated**



**4 exhibitions
commissioned**



61 Visual Artists

179563 Digital participants

(Web visitors—May 2020—September 22 + WOW Global 24 + WOW Australia Youtube)

5438 In-person participants

38648 Exhibition visitors

At our In Her Name + m e r i project exhibition at Brisbane Powerhouse

**695 Women & Girls
shared their stories**

Including 231 First Nations people



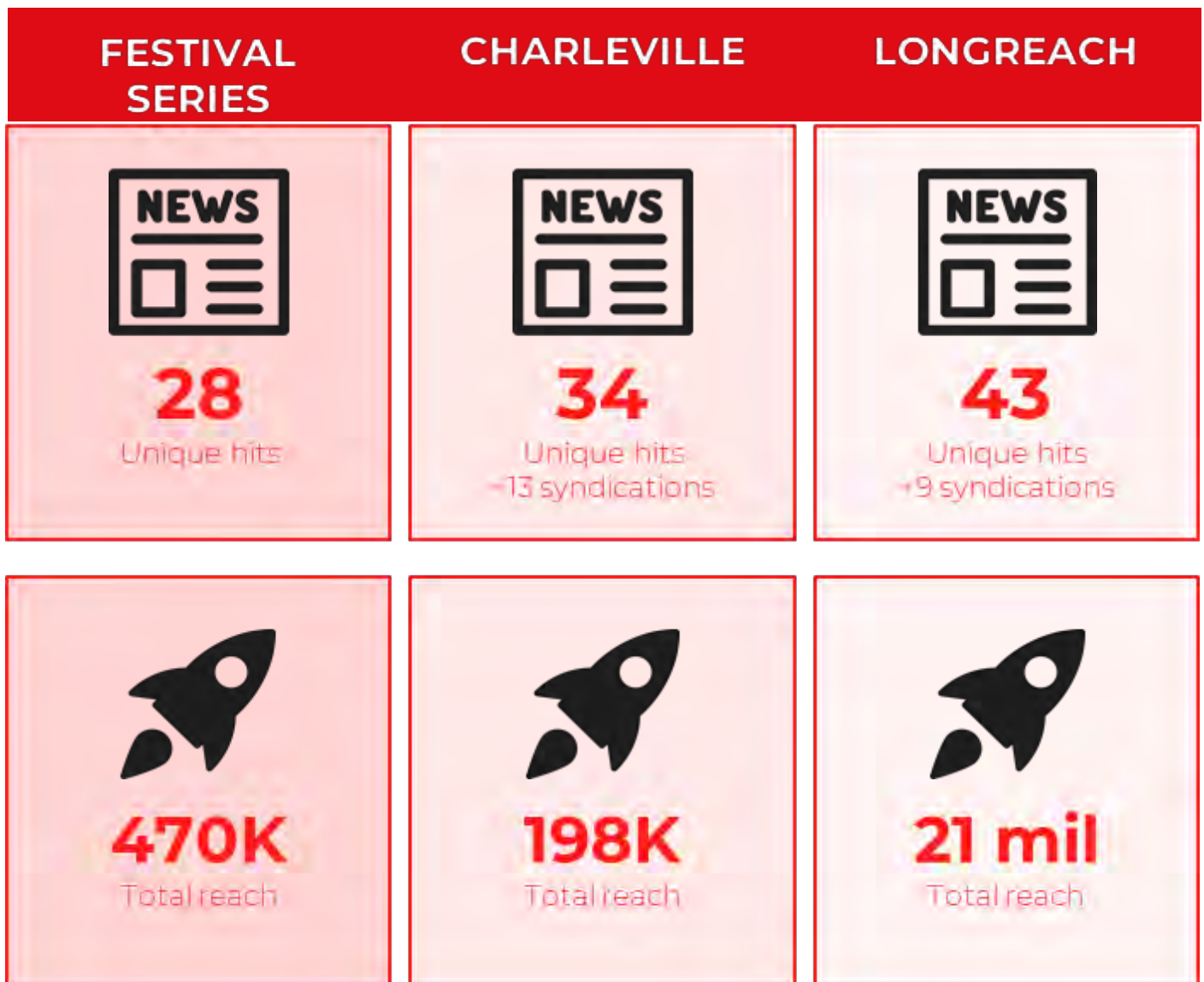
MEDIA STATS

THRIVE PR MEDIA REPORT

WOW Australia worked with Thrive PR for 2021-2022 to engage communities and raise awareness of our Festival series. Thrive's key objective was to generate awareness of WOW (Women of the World) in Australia, its key message being to champion women and girls in regional and metropolitan areas. This meant:

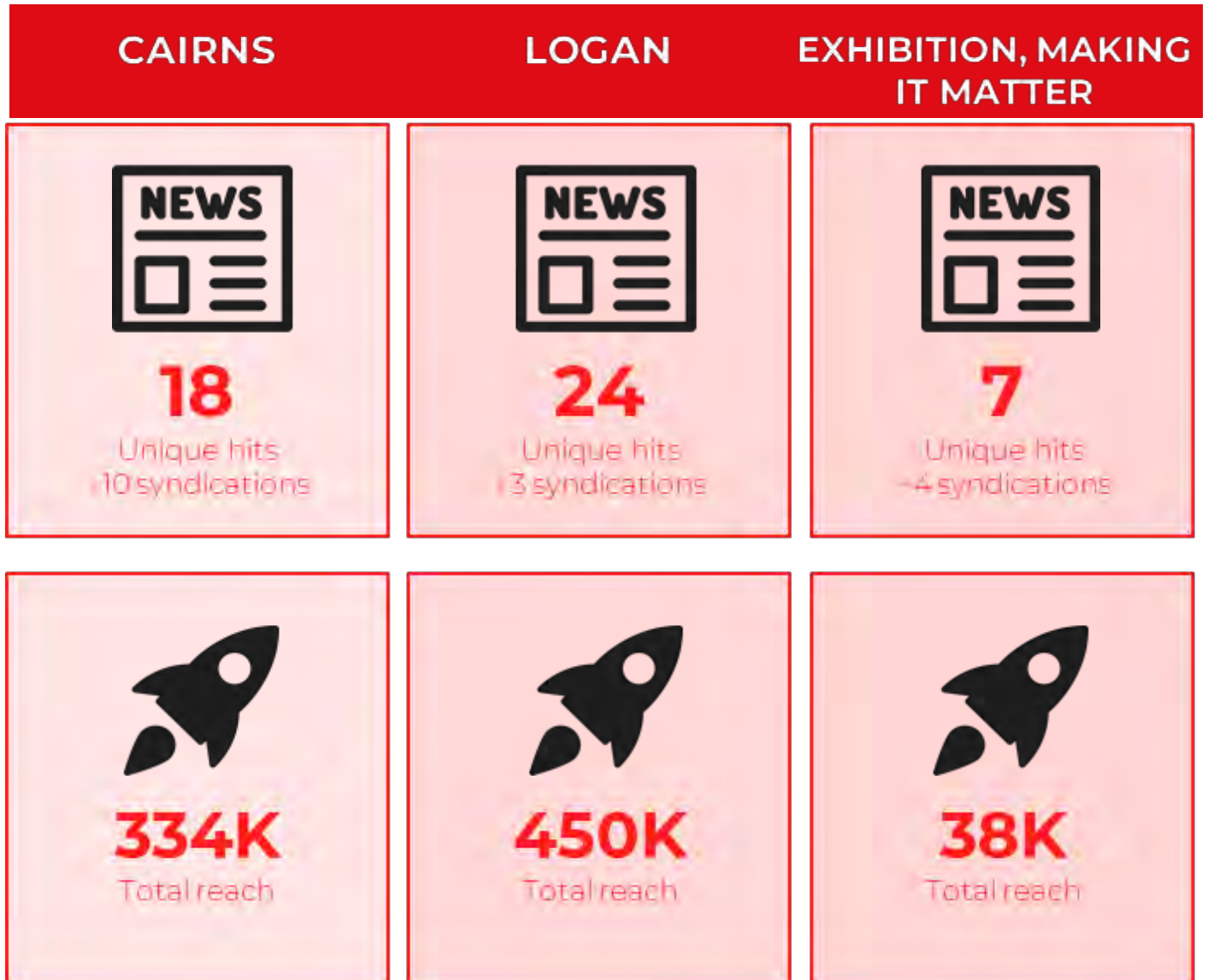
- Spotlight the key issues facing women and girls
- Generating national, metro and local coverage across all media channels
- Raise community and media awareness of WOW's agenda, vision and goals
- Creating strong interest and desire among key audiences to purchase tickets

The campaign included Charleville, Longreach, Cairns and Logan and additional events, which included the Making it Matter conversation series and In Her Name exhibition. We are very grateful to ABC Landline for the extensive digital reach of the Longreach festival.





Key message 1: References WOW Australia's series of festivals or individual festival taking place across regional Queensland
 Key message 2: WOW Festivals are unique to each location in which they take place. WOW Australia will celebrate the achievements of women and girls living in remote and regional areas, analyse the depth and breadth of ongoing gender discrimination and identify solutions to move forward.
 Key message 3: WOW Festivals are part of a global movement to bring about gender equality.



2020



WOW GLOBAL 24

27–28 JUNE 2020

On the weekend of June 27-28, the WOW Foundation and WOW Festivals around the world presented WOW Global 24, a free 24-hour online WOW Festival uniting women and girls across the world.

No time like the present. As WOW globally marked its 10th anniversary of celebrating women and girls achievements, and examining and highlighting the problems they face, the world was facing a new threat to women's rights. The effects of Covid-19 posed a profound risk of reversing progress made towards achieving gender equality; a risk the world could not ignore.

With the overarching theme of “Women and Girls in a Time of Crisis”, WOW Global 24 analysed the issues, explored solutions, spotlighted what is already being done, and heard from women, girls and people of all genders who are working towards a better, post Covid19 world.

We presented four hours of digital program with leading Australian and Pacific women including amongst others Sex Discrimination Commissioner **Kate Jenkins** and author and commentator **Jane Caro**, Queensland Chief Entrepreneur & CEO of Everledger **Leanne Kemp**, Human Rights advocate **Hana Assafiri OAM**, and representation from the Fiji Women’s Fund.



3 workshops

6 performances

92580 total participants

50 women & girls who shared their stories

6 First Nations people across the event

DOMESTICITY

18–20 SEPTEMBER 2020

For Brisbane Festival 2020, we created three unique events to contribute to the global conversation on the impacts of COVID 19 on women and girls, and the changes we wish to see, in a series of events in the homes of Brisbane women.

Each event showcased performances and great conversations on female innovation, resilience and fantastic ideas for the world we wish to create in the future! Challenging the 19th century idea of the role of women, expected to be pious, pure in heart, mind and body, submissive to their husbands, and domestic – making the home their sole sphere of life which led to the cult of domesticity.

In March 2020, after two centuries of struggle to change this, all over the world women were forced back into their homes during lockdown. For some, this meant a new confinement to the domestic sphere with little help, along with responsibilities for supervising children's education, care for aging parents, worries about partners and finances. For others, new anxieties arose from their professional roles as health workers and teachers – on the frontline of caring.



Each DomestiCITY event was recorded by Griffith Film School students, and edited into episodes by Philip Gibb.

Locked Down and Locked In
 Safety of women and girls in a crisis
 Friday 18 September, South Brisbane

The idea of 'home' is the place that is 'safe' for us to be in – and the traditional mythology of gender relations says that the male will provide the shelter and protect his wife and family. We heard from those working in the domestic abuse 'pandemic' in intervention and prevention. We discussed steps taken to create change.

With Gaja Kerry Charlton, and speakers Jane Caro, Shaan Ross-Smith, Michael Jeh, Anoushka Dowling, Angela Lynch, and performers Abbey Church, Saraima Navara, Huda Fadlelmawla, Aurora Liddle-Christie & Anisa Nandaula
 Home of Lesley-Anne Houghton



Shaping a New Economy
 Creating the businesses of the future
 Saturday 19 September, Bardon

Long before the pandemic, the narrative we had around our existing 'economy' was being questioned, its role in society, who is currently benefiting and in particular, how it is being measured. Together we are learning how to 'build back better'.

With Gaja Kerry Charlton, and conversations & performances with Leanne de Souza, Lydia Fairhall, Sheryl Batchelor, Jade Collins, Saraima Navara, Emily Wurraramara.
 Home of Leanne de Souza

A Roof Over Our Heads
 Re-thinking housing
 Eliminating homelessness
 Sunday 20 September, Annerley

A house, a roof over our heads, is supposed to be our final refuge. But for many families, young people, and – increasingly - older women, this is becoming a fantasy. How can we end systemic homelessness beyond this crisis and change thousands of lives forever?

With Gaja Kerry Charlton, and performances and conversations with Anna Yen, Gail Middleton, Emily Wurraramara, Ingrid Burkett, Kate Rose, and householders Celia, Helen, Divo, Trish, Sofia & Sarah



- 3 events
- 4 conversations
- 9 performances
- 86 total participants
- 12 performing artists
- 14 women & girls who shared their stories
- 5 First Nations people across the event



2021 PROGRAM LAUNCH PARTY

3 DECEMBER 2020

To celebrate the launch of our 2021 Regional Program, we brought together supporters, partners and friends of WOW Australia for a fun Christmas event. For our venue we chose **Food Connect**, to help highlight the fantastic work this organisation does connecting people to local, healthy and fresh food, produced by local farmers and artisans. Several of these artisans joined us for the afternoon to show off their wares.

With an acknowledgement of country from **Aunty Ruth Ghee**, and performances from **Queen Muther** and **Sunday Luate**, it was a special afternoon, with the first unveiling of our regional touring program.



- 1 event**
- 2 conversations**
- 74 performances**
- 5 businesses benefitting in the marketplace**
- 8 women & girls who shared their stories**
- 1 First Nations person across the event**



WOW DIGITAL

2020-21

In the wake of the first wave of Covid in 2020, much of the world experienced lockdowns where movement amongst communities was curtailed and many people turned to the digital world for social connection and succour. Our initial digital offering was called The Well, using the simile of the central source of water, which the community gathers around to draw deeply of a needed resource, and along the way gather news and touch base with friends.

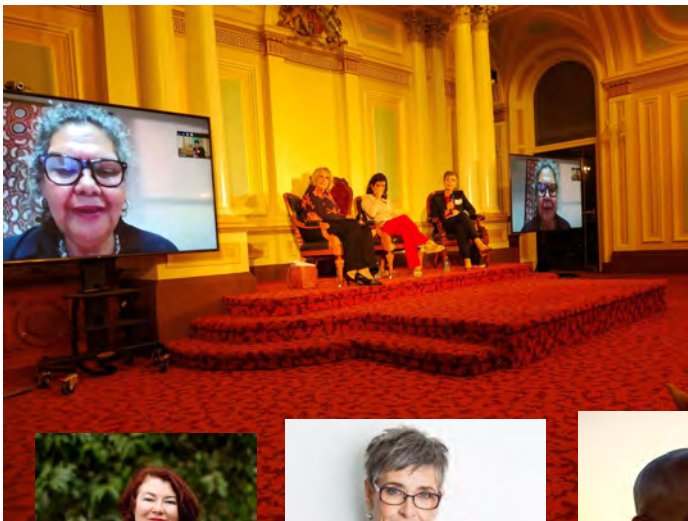
As the most isolating aspects of the pandemic eased in Australia, the need for a high-quality digital resource remained, and we remodelled WOW Digital into the pages you see today.

The content that we host and continue to gather includes commissioned editorials, conversations and recordings from our events, gathered and made into resources for you to enjoy, to challenge the status quo, to encourage deep reflection and to inspire and energise.

We also include a digital WOW Marketplace, where we showcase women-owned businesses

which make all manner of useful and beautiful items for retail therapy or the perfect gift, from women's workboots to handmade umbrellas, accessories for all occasions, high fashion and homewares.

Guest writers for our commissioned article series include **Wendy McCarthy, Nicki Hutley, Leigh Tabrett, Susan Harris-Rimmer, Michael Jeh, Anne Tiernan and Shaan Ross-Smith.**



49,365 web visitors

64,074 visits

100,335 page views

2021

WOMEN & LEADERSHIP

22 MARCH 2021

1 event

1 conversation

2 speakers

91 total participants

6 schools involved

23 students participated



On the 22nd March, Hyatt Regency & Dymocks Brisbane hosted a lunch for the Hon. **Julia Gillard AC** to launch the book which she co-authored with **Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala** :”Women and Leadership – Real Lives, Real Lessons”.

WOW Australia hosted four tables at the event and Executive Producer **Cathy Hunt** was invited by the Hon. Julia Gillard to interview her on the day. In total we hosted 22 Year 11 and 12 students and their teachers from six schools and gifted each school a signed copy of the book for their school library.



“It was an opportunity of a lifetime that I am very grateful for and being surrounded by like-minded women and women in leadership from all backgrounds which was truly empowering. The event felt like a “sisterhood” as many of the issues discussed that women face, I could relate to it too. I gained a lot of valuable insight into growing my leadership skills and being in a school captain position.”

Huda - Yeronga State High

“All of us were so enthralled and talked so much on the way home. The chance to meet such a formidable leader is so important for these young women.”

Teacher - Yeronga SHS

“I just wanted to say thank you again for having a few of us Bray Park SHS come to the Lunch with Julia Gillard on Monday. We feel honoured to have joined you and the students loved it! On the way home they were saying that they are inspired to do something within the school; something to empower and encourage young women.”

Teacher - Bray Park SHS

WOW CHARLEVILLE

4 & 5 JUNE 2021



This event was created in partnership with the women of Charleville, Red Ridge Interior Queensland and Murweh Shire Council.

The event kicked off on the Friday evening at the Charleville racecourse with the first fashion performance of the new ready to wear collections by Red Ridge the Label, *Diamantina* and *Georgina*, featuring artwork from Two Sisters Talking, Anpanuawa Joyce Crombie, and Aulpunda Jean Barr Crombie, alongside a special collection of one-off gowns featuring the artwork from Walali Wadyana Gumbi - Strong Black Women, and local artist collective Murweh Women.

The next day featured a full day of WOW events located at Charlotte's Nest, including a day long market place of women-led businesses and local services, conversations on **health and well-being**, developing an **income from your passion**, and hearing from women and girls on their own personal journey, workshops including styling & make-up, managing your finances with QSuper, how to be a good bystander with Griffith University's MATE Bystander, African Dancing & Yoga, and led into the evening with the ever-popular WOW Speed mentoring!

The Country Witches Association brought the house down with a hysterically funny and delightfully frank performance. With Mandy Nolan and Áine Tyrrell in the house, there's not a dry eye in sight.

The WOW Australia team alongside speakers and guests were very pleased to travel to Charleville on a specially decorated coach from Mt Gravatt Coach and Travel, a company established by Del Cole in 1974 with one bus and one school run, driven by mums!

What an experience!!

Thank you for choosing Charleville and it was an honour to have been a very small part of WOW Charleville. From the fashion parade Friday night (which has been much talked about in the community for involving women who often aren't 'up front' women) through to the audacious comedy and very moving songs of Saturday night.

Karen Tully - Charleville speaker



19 events

8 conversations

7 workshops

4 performances

570 total participants

35 businesses benefiting in the marketplace

25 number of people mentored

108 women & girls who shared their stories

54 First Nations people across the event



SPINIFEX GUM

6 AUGUST 2021

Spinifex Gum is a unique album of works, musical snapshots of life in the Pilbara, north Western Australia, performed by the lush voices of **Marliya** from **Gondwana Choirs**, young Indigenous women singing in English and Yindjibarndi. Commissioned to write a song cycle for the choir, Felix Riebl spent several years visiting the Pilbara to build relationships and gather stories. He and co-creator Ollie McGill went on to write the album **Spinifex Gum** about the region’s local tales and characters, true stories of racism and injustice, and the legacies of colonisation with music production that’s staunchly modern, built from found sound samples of the Pilbara – rustling leaves, bouncing basketballs and chugging trains.

The original WOW Cairns program, scheduled for 6 & 7 August was cancelled one week out due to SE QLD snap lockdown. Ten days prior to the event Executive Producer **Cathy Hunt** and cameraman **Phil Gibb** travelled to Cairns to ensure that the major concert **Spinifex Gum** could go ahead (as the company was already in Cairns rehearsing) and to film interviews for digital distribution.

The performance attracted a sold-out audience of nearly 900 people and was a highlight of the year.



- 1 event
- 1 performance
- 920 total participants
- 20 performing artists
- 20 students participated
- 20 women & girls who shared their stories
- 20 First Nations people across the event



MOMENTUM

4, 16, 18 SEPTEMBER 2021

Moment– a point of time; the turning effect of a force

Momentum –mass in motion

On 15th March 2021, thousands demonstrated in shared rage and frustration at the state of gender relations in our nation. March4Justice was a rare moment but now we wanted to ask, how can we turn this moment into momentum? Why is inertia so powerful in this space, what are the forces sustaining inequality, and who or what is going to change them? And why did it take gender inequality striking at the heart of White middle Australia before our institutions sat up and took notice?

During Brisbane Festival, September 2021, we presented three conversations to tackle these questions from differing perspectives alongside performances reflecting the power of the arts to make change.

Women Who Dare

4 September, Adderton House

This exhibition and workshop program at Adderton highlighted 160 years of pioneering work by the Sisters of Mercy, Brisbane - leading and championing social reform to improve the lives of those in need. Taking inspiration from this work, we heard from contemporary change makers in a conversation celebrating their contributions and at the different pathways, tools and experiences they are using to build momentum and make lasting cultural and social change including **Janine Hendry** who harnessed the energy for the 2021 March4Justice, Chair of GetUp **Carla McGrath** and one of the founders of the 'Home to Bilo' campaign on behalf of the **Murugappan family, Angela Fredericks**, in a conversation facilitated by ABC Brisbane presenter **Kelly Higgins-Devine**.

First Nations First

16 September, Lyric Theatre, QPAC

It's Spring 2031 and communities are thriving. People are safe in homes, streets, and workplaces. Country is in balance hearing its languages, feeling its peoples' footsteps. Everyone is equal regardless of gender. How did we get here? UQ Associate Dean (Indigenous Engagement) **Dr. Sandra Phillips** facilitated this memorable conversation with **Dr Jackie Huggins AM FAHA**, First Nations leader and esteemed academic, **Dr. Mary Graham**, and **June Oscar AO**.



The Making of Men

18 September, New Benner Theatre, Metro Arts

As every parent will attest, somewhere along the way, loving little boys, discover a whole set of rules about what it takes to be a man – often with disastrous consequences for themselves, their loved ones, and their communities. We asked a panel of remarkable men to consider how can we overturn this cultural pressure and tradition, and raise men who are happy, emotionally secure, capable of love and tears?



Facilitated by **Michael Jeh** this session included Men4Respect Coordinator for YFS **Andrew Taukolo** and newly appointed MATE Ambassador **Rhys Carroll**. The conversation took place following a performance of *This Ain't No Pussy Show*, a creative exploration of the challenge of raising boys, by contemporary dance company **The Farm**, and the panel were joined by writer/director **Gavin Webber** and performer/collaborator **Toby Angus**.



- 3 events
- 3 conversation
- 1 workshop
- 3 performances
- 12 speakers
- 392 total participants
- 6 performing artists
- 12 women & girls who shared their stories
- 7 First Nations people across the event



YOUR INNER CIRCLES

29 NOVEMBER 2021

Regular WOW guest **Bec Mac** and her colleague **Carmel Haugh** created a campaign to support the annual **United Nations Women's 16-Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence**.

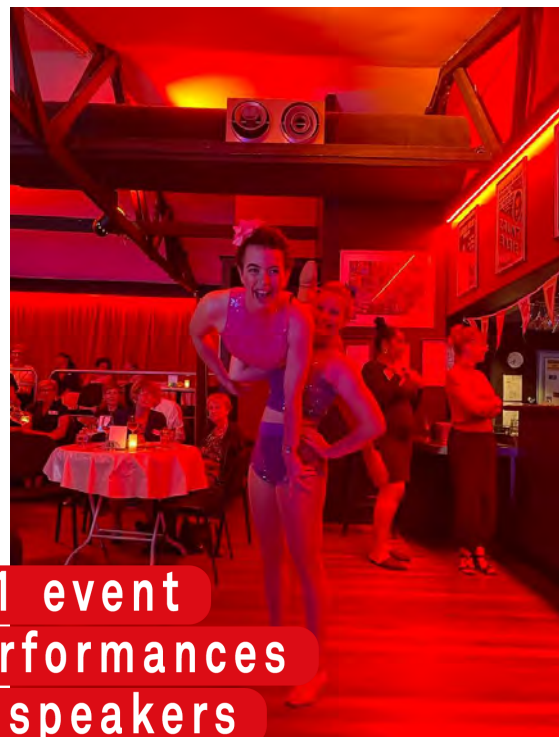
The project she spearheaded was called *Your Inner Circles*, and in collaboration with **Micah Projects**, they hosted a range of arts events across Brisbane to support the 16 Days of Activism.

On the 29 November 2021, WOW Australia guests gathered at the **Brisbane Jazz Club** for an intimate event to launch our program for 2022 and reflect on the purpose of the 16 Days of Activism, so closely aligned with our own goals.

Presenters and performers included host, **Bec Mac**, along with **Gaja Kerry Charlton**, Griffith University MATE Bystander Director **Shaan Ross-Smith**, **Kristal West**, **QLD Conservatorium Jazz Quartet**, **Voices of Colour**, and **Vulcana Circus**.

In a dynamic evening of performance and ideas, guests were challenged to think of the many ways in which we can make a safer and stronger society through strong connection.

One of the most powerful and positive resources a woman can have is a circle of trust, allies and hope, "her inner circle".



1 event

5 performances

17 speakers

97 total participants

10 performing artists

17 women & girls who shared their stories

1 First Nations person across the event

2022

IN HER NAME + M E R I PROJECT

25 MAY–25 JUNE 2022



Our In Her Name campaign series began as a fundraising campaign in late 2020. An opportunity for our supporters to make a donation and put it in name of a woman who has been or still is, important to them in their lives. This gallery of images and stories was hosted on our website. We did this in recognition of the many women whose names are not written in our history books, whose deeds may go unnoticed in their communities, or simply whose love, friendship and caring we wish to acknowledge.

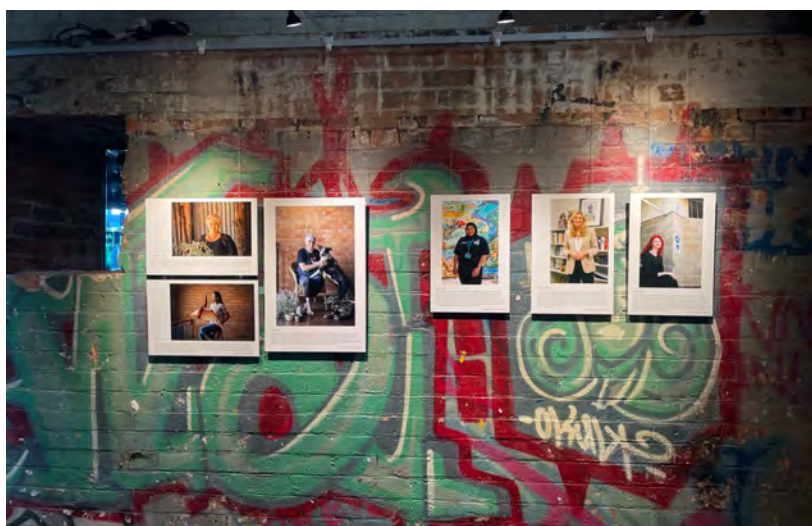
This was expanded into the 2021 The WOW Foundation and Google Arts & Culture global on-line exhibition, 'The Hope Project', celebrating and honouring the women of Queensland.

As we toured Queensland in 2021 and 2022, we engaged with regional local female photographers to take portraits of female changemakers in their towns, and gathered their stories.

This culminated with a month-long exhibition at the Brisbane Powerhouse from 25 May to 25 June 2022, in which all the images and stories were displayed across this fantastic building. During this time, more than people visited the Powerhouse and learned these stories.

Our four featured photographers were **Katrina Lehmann**, **Mana Salsali**, **Tatenda Dhoba**, and **Cristina Bevilacqua**. The Brisbane Powerhouse exhibition was curated by **Jodi Haines**, and also included the exhibition The 'm e r i' Project by **Wendy Mocke**, a collection of photographs and stories initiated from years of conversations with young Papua New Guinean women.

This creative project focused on the re-contextualizing of PNG women. Its aim is to find innovative ways for PNG women to define themselves. To speak their truth to power, without fear of erasure. m e r i took her first breath on Gimuy Walubara Yindiji country through **NorthSite Contemporary Arts** gallery within Bulmba-ja Arts Centre.



WOW LONGREACH

4-6 MARCH 2022



WOW Longreach was planned in partnership with the women of Longreach, Red Ridge Interior Queensland, and Longreach Regional Council, to align with celebrations for Queensland Women's Week and International Women's Day and took place on the traditional land of the Iningai and Bidjara peoples.

Red Ridge brought a WOW factor by once again opening the event on the Friday night at Longreach Civic and Cultural Centre, once again presenting a **Red Ridge the Label** catwalk experience with the *Diamantina* and *Georgina* collections featuring artwork from Two Sisters Talking, **Anpanuawa Joyce Crombie**, and **Aulpunda Jean Barr Crombie**. A special feature included a unique one off design representing a collection from artworks by local Longreach artists and a special performance of *Matya (Long Ago)* in collaboration with the **Central West Aboriginal Corporation**.

The conversation, workshop programs and marketplace culminated in 'The Future is Ours' catered lunch celebrating International Women's Day. Highlights of the festival included an opening address from our co-patron the Hon. **Quentin Bryce**, powerful contributions from Bidjara traditional owner **Keelen Mailman**, honest and life changing stories from many local presenters, practical and inspiring workshops from some of our great sponsors including podcasting from **Radio 4EB**, poster making from the **Queensland College of Art at Griffith University** and financial literacy with **QSuper**. We were delighted to be joined by the team behind **ABC Landline** who recorded a terrific episode which aired in May 2022.

Saturday night went off with a bang, with comedian and mother-of-six **Jenny Wynter** and guests presenting the **Funny Mummies Cabaret Spectacular**.

It was a confirmation of the power of women coming together and being strong, resilient people who care about their community and each other. It changes my conversations about how Australian women are tracking from a city centric position to a more holistic perspective. *WOW Longreach participant*

- 23 events
- 8 conversations
- 8 workshops
- 5 performances
- 102 speakers
- 485 total participants
- 25 businesses benefiting in the marketplace
- 20 number of people mentored
- 62 performing artists
- 1 exhibition commissioned
- 1 visual artist
- 1 schools involved
- 20 students participated
- 102 women & girls who shared their stories
- 53 First Nations people across the event

I am so glad I had the opportunity to share my story in the WOW Bites session. In the sharing there is my own healing and like I said there I found my voice in my journey and if sharing just helps one person then I am a happier person. After speaking and seeing the reaction from so many I was truly amazed at the impact and have been encouraged now to speak again and I will when asked or happy to. Encouraging others to share as part of their healing, we all have a story. *Robin Strang*

Definitely starting conversations in our community. It's inspired me to really speak up and hopefully one day become a leader in my community by inspiring others. *WOW Longreach participant*





WOW CAIRNS

13 & 14 MAY 2022

We were delighted with our second festival of the year which took place at **Bulmba-Ja Arts Centre** on Gimuy country.

Special guests included our co-patron, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner **June Oscar AO**; comedian and cabaret artist **Jenny Wynter** and leading Cairns creatives **Miriki Performing Arts** and artist and designer **Francoise Lane**.

Beyond the inspiring stories from women and girls and their own personal journeys in the popular **WOW Bites** sessions, **WOW Cairns** also featured an absolutely huge marketplace of local, women-led businesses and services, workshops and performances.

Kicking off the Festival on the Friday was the unique opportunity to join **Cairns Business Women's Club** on their Tropical Food Safari, visiting great local businesses and innovators in the food and beverage eco-system of the tropical north.

Friday night saw the opening concert at Bulmba-ja with unique performances including new songs from **Marliya from Spinifex Gum**, **Miriki**, and the **Poly Sisters of Austronesia**.

Local women including First Nation leader **Henrietta Marrie AM**, **June Oscar AO**, Centacare FNQ Executive Director **Anita Veivers**, CQUniversity Associate Vice-President for Cairns and Far North Queensland **Jodie Duignan-George**, CEO of Cairns City Council **Mica Martin**, business leader **Julie-Ann Lambourne** and entrepreneur **Krista Watkins** were joined by other leading Queensland changemakers including Secretary of the Queensland Nurses and Midwives Union **Beth Mohle**, ImpaQt Queensland Managing Director **Lisa Siganto**, Community Services Industry Alliance CEO **Belinda Drew**, Femeconomy co-founder **Alanna Bastin-Byrne** and British Consul General for Queensland and the NT **Joanne Freeman**.



I wanted to say a huge thank you for all of the support over the last five years, and for bringing WOW to me and me to WOW. I found a sense of

belonging with WOW, I was able to explore parts of myself that I never would have otherwise. Thank you for encouraging me and providing me the platform to do this in a safe space.

*Anoushka Dowling, Assistant Director
Griffith University MATE Bystander*

I am ALWAYS trying to start and expand on conversations where both men and women can explore and support gender issues in the workplace - WOW gives me tools and information through which to start and support these conversations. *WOW Cairns participant*



- 24 events
- 8 conversations
- 10 workshops
- 3 performances
- 118 speakers
- 920 total participants
- 24 businesses benefiting in the marketplace
- 50 number of people mentored
- 49 performing artists
- 1 exhibition commissioned
- 3 visual artists
- 118 women & girls who shared their stories
- 38 First Nations people across the event



WOW LOGAN

15 & 16 JULY 2022

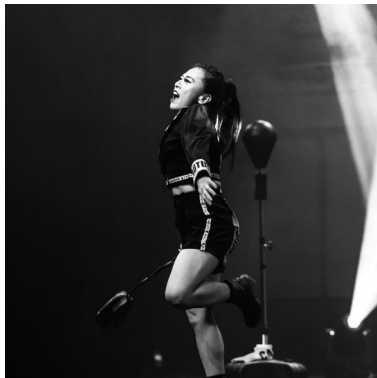
The achievements of Logan women and girls in the city and surrounding areas were celebrated at a Festival held at Logan Entertainment Centre on Yugambah & Jagera country.

Human Rights Advocate and Lawyer **Nyadol Nyuon** and Queensland's Attorney-General, Minister for Justice, Minister for Women and Minister for the prevention of Domestic and Family Violence, **Shannon Fentiman**, were amongst a long list of distinguished guests to speak at the Festival. Inspirational speakers fuelled conversations covering a range of matters of importance to women in Logan, including finance, jobs, business, family and religion.

Challenging the roles and expectations of womanhood were leading First Nations academic and author **Jackie Huggins** and Maori leader **Tat Mahuru Stanley**. Co-Director of the Griffith University Yunus Centre **Ingrid Burkett**, led an inspirational session with local business women on their money-making ventures. Griffith University MATE Bystander trainer **Michael Jeh** facilitated a discussion on the raising of boys and young men.

Academic and social change expert **Faiza el Higzi** led a fascinating conversation on the role of faith in women's lives. Leading First Nations consultant **Michelle Deshong** shared the recommendations and next steps for the landmark **Wiyi Yani U Thangani (Women's Voices)** report in one of a number of interactive workshops including those on sustainable design and the slow clothing movement with **Jane Milburn**.

In a moving final session we were honoured to hear from the women who led the 'Home to Bilo' campaign together with **Priya Nadesalingam** in her first speaking engagement since the family's return, before the final night concert, an exploration of traditional songlines and origins, **Ailan Songs Project** with Torres Strait Islander **Jessie Lloyd** and guests.



- 21 events
- 12 conversations
- 8 workshops
- 6 performances
- 102 speakers
- 1319 total participants
- 15 businesses benefiting in the marketplace
- 40 people mentored
- 60 performing artists
- 1 exhibition commissioned
- 12 visual artists
- 7 schools involved
- 96 students participated
- 102 women & girls who shared their stories
- 27 First Nations people across the event

Occasionally you get gobsmacked. #wowaustralia in Logan did that to us this weekend. A pinnacle of WOW festivals across Australia which have provided stages for women's voices to be heard.

Katherine, Brisbane, Charleville, Longreach, Cairns. I have lived in Brisbane for over 40 years. I did not comprehend the diversity and multiculturalism, the strong community and the extraordinary cultural talent that we have centred in the city of Logan, a 30-minute drive from where we live. In just 26 hours we were exposed to Polynesian inspired Apocalipstick produced by Lisa Fa'alafi. We sang with the Ailan Songs project of the Torres Strait, community faith leaders and female leadership of the Logan City Council, "we may not have the money, but we have our families, we have love, we have song" was a key message.

On top of that, tears were running down my face and of others as we were introduced to the #backtobilo campaigners Angela Fredericks, Bronwyn Dendle, Simone Cameron and we had the privilege of meeting Priya and Nades. We have an imperative that our country does not act with such malice or terror ever again. There are beautiful stories of these magical accidental young female leaders, but I will let them do that themselves at the appropriate time. There is lots of hope in our community.

Lisa Siganto, Executive Chair, ImpaQt Qld & WOW Australia Changemaker





Much is said and written about how slowly women are gaining access to positions of leadership and power in the world. But after they get there, what then? What difference do we see from their presence?

‘Making it Matter’ was a conversation series curated by WOW Australia and in partnership with QPAC and Griffith University, presenting the voices of women who have used their public roles or voices for change – who haven’t just ‘made it’ but are also ‘making it matter’.

Whether in politics, the arts, health, corporate, or education sectors, we asked what are the changes they are leading? In a world facing increasingly severe disruption from disease and disastrous weather events, how will gender justice form part of the solution for a safer and fairer world?

So far, we have held three invigorating conversations as part of this ground-breaking series.

3 events

3 conversations

2 performances

440 total participants

2 performing artists

17 women & girls who shared their stories

5 First Nations people across the events



Women & Power

6.30pm 27 April, Queensland Parliamentary Annexe.

The first of our 'Making It Matter' conversation series took place in the former Legislative Council Chamber, Queensland Parliamentary Annexe, with lawyer and former federal politician **Julia Banks**; author, cultural leader and former editor of Griffith Review Emeritus Professor **Julianne Schultz AM** and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner **June Oscar AO**, in a conversation facilitated by political scientist and commentator Professor **Anne Tiernan**.



What a Way to Make a Livin'

Saturday 11 June, Lyric Theatre.

It's over 40 years since Dolly Parton penned those lyrics to the film and now musical '9 to 5', so what has changed for working women in that time? As our mothers liked to say: A woman's work is never done! If she works at home caring for her family, the value of that work is not captured in official statistics, although caring, cleaning and child-minding, if provided commercially, are recognised in the national accounts. If she goes out to work, she can still expect to be paid less than her male colleagues for her efforts, encounter casual sexual harassment, retire with less than her male peers and still shoulder the lion's share of the domestic and emotional labour when she does get home!

We were joined on stage for this lively, thought-provoking conversation by our facilitator, leading Australian economist **Nicki Hutley**, and four guest speakers, singer, songwriter, actress **Casey Donovan**, Co-Producer of 9to5 **Suzanne Jones**, General Secretary of Queensland Teachers Union & Trustee of the Australian Retirement Trust **Kate Ruttiman**, and First Nations mother, wife, volunteer and Managing Director of Iscariot Media **Leesa Watego**.



Once Upon A Time in Australia...

12pm Friday 2 September, Customs House

Postponed from 2020 and 2021 this conversation eventually took place at Customs House where 200 women and girls including 40 students had the chance to hear from the Hon. **Quentin Bryce** and the Hon. **Julia Gillard** in an inspirational, thought-provoking & memorable conversation, about the time when they held the two highest positions in the country, and their thoughts on women and leadership today. Well worth waiting for!

WHO DELIVERED WOW?

OF ONE MIND—BOARD

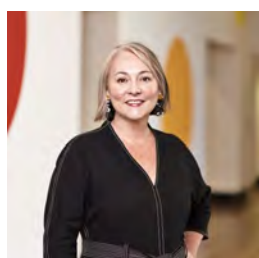
Of One Mind, is a cultural enterprise formed by Cathy Hunt & Leigh Tabrett in 2014 to develop & support cultural activities which address or communicate pressing social issues and create lasting cultural change.



LEIGH TABRETT PSM
CHAIR (TO 2022)



CATHY HUNT
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
& PRODUCER



RENAI GRACE
DIRECTOR



FAIZA EL HIGZI OAM
DIRECTOR



BRIAN TUCKER
TREASURER

WITH THANKS TO DR SANDRA PHILLIPS, DIRECTOR TO 2021

WOW AUSTRALIA—CORE PRODUCTION TEAM



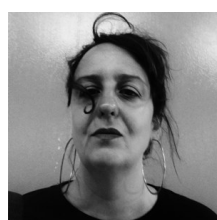
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SENIOR
PRODUCER



JULIE BAIKIE
GENERAL
MANAGER



QUEENIE PELESA
PRODUCER



NADIA JADE
ADMIN & DIGITAL
COMMS



RUTH GHEE
FIRST NATIONS
CULTURAL ADVISOR

Brisbane-based non-profit company *Of One Mind* works in partnership with **Southbank Centre** and the **WOW Foundation** to facilitate the delivery of WOW Festivals.

PRODUCTION CREW, INTERNS & REPEAT OFFENDERS

Phil Gibb, Grace Edward, Alex Nagl, Melita Jane, Alofaina Mamea, Kira Watz, Mitch Gough, Alice Eddison, Simon Mula, Phoebe Green, Laura Nicholls, Jill Usher, Courtney Bylett, Teri Sommerfield, Rebecca Horsburgh, Lyn Streader, Kareen Ghee, Cruz Pearson, Jordan Marinucci, Heather Hale, Melissa Robertson, Catherine Curnow, Susan Price, the crew from DIYDG & Naytive Mentorship - Merrisa Nona, Semara Jose, Stacey Ketchell, Lana Tukaroa, Layla Schrieber, Naomi Wenitong and James Minion, Moesha Sagigi, Jeorjah Minion, Nina Taukiri, Laurissa Pona, Hosanna Aloalii, Eliana Taaseu, Mariah Pelesa, Victoria Morgansen, Ida Lorenz, Maria Alier, Michaela Cantiga, Ni Liu Nirmala (Shaysa) Last.

PHOTOGRAPHY & DESIGN

WOW Australia has been supported by many photographers and designers including
Phil Gibb (2020—2022), Leesa Hickey—DesignFront

Albert & Nez Santos, Alice Eddison, Cristina Bevilacqua, Jodi Haines, Kate Hastelow, Katie Bennett, Katrina Lehmann, Mana Salsali, Melita Spooner, Skinn Deep Photography, Tatenda Dhoba.

VOLUNTEERS

Plus special shout to the dozens of volunteers that joined us across the state to make each event as special as it was, all of us joined in our quest for a gender equal world.



THE CHANGE WE MAKE

Over the last three years we have measured our success not just through statistics but also stories, the latter giving us real insight into the change that we are looking to make. Every 'stat' tells a story but every story explains a 'stat' and it is these we try to capture after each event. We look for impact across the lives of individuals, communities, the organisations and institutions that engage with us and bringing men and boys with us in the journey to end gender discrimination. We aim to inspire women, girls and non-binary people to make the changes they need in their own lives, and in their communities, and to give them the skills, resources and confidence to do so.

In the communities in which we work, we look for evidence of community capacity building, collaboration and an enhanced sense of well-being through forming new networks. We seek to impact the organisations we work with by building a greater sense of the policies required for gender justice (as with the Queensland Government Women's Strategy and our work with QSuper) as well as developing organisations and businesses through new initiatives for women and girls. More and more we have brought men into our conversations and have seen the numbers attending our events grow.

We also structure and design our events in a way that creates a powerful environment for change, through the way conversations and activities are curated but also the nature of the spaces and venues we use.



WOW brings this culture of care that is really powerful which again is undervalued and under-respected but when it happens it actually changes people's lives.

Bec Mac, POPS Art



The format of the event also made me feel able to connect with those around me. I liked that we weren't put at a kids table and that we got to join in as much as anyone else.

Student - Making it Matter Conversation

IMPACT ON INDIVIDUALS

I just wanted to congratulate you on a fantastic event.
I burst into tears, I burst into laughter, learned a lot, felt quite vulnerable, with talks that were at once confronting, reassuring and eye opening.

Miette Stevens-Lelievre, Thrive PR

One of the key sessions I remember was from being allocated to work in one of the Finance sessions when I was 19 and my shock hearing all these stories about the implications of women not having super when they were older having worked part time, been Mums and perhaps separated and the big problems it causes. When I went home after that shift I straight away consolidated my 2 super accounts and have been aware of the importance of having super and managing my finances ever since! I think it is critical information that should be taught at school as it is never talked about and the implication is almost that it's a 'mans job to manage money' etc.

Laura Nichols – WOW Volunteer 2015-2022

Definitely looking into my superannuation.
WOW Cairns Participant

For myself, going to the WOW Festival sparked my passion towards women's rights and being able to achieve anything I put my mind to.

For my mum, the festival literally changed the way she viewed parenting a child in their late teens. She also felt compelled to reconsider her views on how she saw different nationalities and cultures. We both grew closer together and loved hearing so many different opinions and views even if we didn't agree with them. We attended the festival thinking we would go to a few fun activities, but we came away from it feeling enlightened by the celebration of cultures and diversity and overall, we were immensely empowered and it changed our lives.

Mikayla Mason – WOW participant 2018 and 2022

The part that resonated most with me was Julia Gillard explaining the need to 'grasp the opportunity.' She mentioned how when she was given the role and power of leadership as Prime Minister, she wanted to do good and make change to young females around the world.

This resonated with me because in my incoming position as college captain, I want to do good for the students and make change that is meaningful and adds value.

Student Mt Alverina

IMPACT ON INDIVIDUALS



I wanted to express my deepest gratitude for all that you and your team do for the promotion of women and the positivity, inclusivity and opportunity (for connection and conversation) that is associated with the WOW organisation. It was a pleasure to be involved in the WOW festival in Longreach.

I was both inspired and enlightened by what I learned from all of the speakers I listened to and through the conversations that the event facilitated for me.

When your email arrived requesting an invoice I took it as a sign that I was heading in the right direction and it is truly wonderful that my very first invoice will be issued to the Women of the World organisation and further, that through this invoice, I have the opportunity to invest back into your organisation to support the amazing work that you do.

So, Cathy, deepest thank you. You and your team have ripped through my life in a profound way.

Jody Brown — WOW Longreach Speaker

The elements of the lunch that made it special for me was the fact that there were women of power who wanted me to be there and feel inspired by them. I feel that the discussion of the struggles of women of colour is what resonated with me the most. I was honoured and excited to be part of the event as a student and inspired woman.

Student - St James



I appreciate being acknowledged in this way and the voices of older women in relation to our efforts to secure a forever home with and for all who need one. It is rare that people with lived experience are recognised for their expertise and the learning that it brings. It is empowering to be paid for sharing the insights gained from a lived experience. I deeply appreciate your efforts and those of WOW Australia for providing such a fantastic platform to showcase the incredible and transformative work of many fabulous women.

Maggie Shambrook - Speaker

IMPACT ON INDIVIDUALS

Definitely starting conversations in our community. It's inspired me to really speak up and hopefully one day become a leader in my community by inspiring others.
WOW Longreach Participant

It was great to get out of my comfort zone (as an introvert Covid has been great - so a big emotional challenge to go back into crowds). My career has been stale, but WOW has helped pick up my pre-Covid ideas and start thinking about how to make them happen in what I think might be bigger and better.
WOW Longreach Participant

Going to the region was a great eye opener. It was the furthest west in Qld I had ever been. I have been talking about changing my career and moving to a regional town, and this experience has given me another pro to add to my list of reasons to make a change.
WOW Charleville Participant

I am ALWAYS trying to start and expand on conversations where both men and women can explore and support gender issues in the workplace - WOW gives me tools and information through which to start and support these conversations.
WOW Logan Participant

Attending the 2021 book launch with Julia Gillard was an opportunity of a lifetime that I am very grateful for and being surrounded by like-minded women and women in leadership from all backgrounds which was truly empowering. I wrote a journal entry reflecting on the event and the wise wisdom Ms Gillard gave which was exceptional. The event felt like a "sisterhood" as many of the issues discussed that women face, I could relate to it too. It also allowed me to learn from other incredible women in regards to being in a leadership position.
School student

The panel discussion with Henrietta Marrie and June Oscar was inspiring and will result in me educating myself further on local First Nations history.
WOW Cairns Participant



Attending the festival gave me the insight and courage to say no to work that I did not particularly enjoy and has sent me down a path of exploring other opportunities and actually finding new openings.
WOW Charleville Participant

IMPACT ON COMMUNITIES

I spoke to people who had driven for many hours to be there because they really wanted to be there and experience the opportunities offered. Everyone I spoke to was adamant they would do it again. It is really important that such events continue.

WOW Longreach participant

I drove out to Charleville from Brisbane with three other women, two of whom I did not know beforehand. Each of us felt our minds and hearts had been expanded through our varied and different experiences during the festival. We all came back lighter in ourselves, with a bond of friendship with something 'WOW' between us.

WOW Charleville participant



It was a great event and so many women and even men connected. These events in the outback are worth their weight in gold due to travel times and expenses to anything in

'the big smoke'.

Events like this link and connect people in conversations – bridges gaps and I hope will continue in the future.

Danielle Lancaster- WOW Charleville speaker

Events like WOW Cairns are a necessary part of the development of the women in this area to be able to showcase their talents and skills, be able to network with each other, to build better relationships with each other, that can then expand into healthier, happier families and communities.

WOW Cairns participant



WOW has continued to put its money where its mouth is by organising events in outback Queensland and what a tremendous catalyst for the celebration of rural and remote women that has been.

The WOW events in Western Queensland earlier this year (2021) brought not only interesting guest speakers and stimulating conversation but also the opportunity for personal and professional growth as local women were engaged and invested in staging the event, delivering content and honouring their role models and rising stars.

It was such a fantastic illustration of the strength and beauty of women and the power of collective voices. Developing and delivering events, as the WOW team does, on the country in which women live, and not from a distance, has made a significant difference to rural and remote women.

Annabelle Brayley—Morven resident and WOW Speaker 2015

IMPACT ON COMMUNITIES

I spoke with some of the regional women, and especially the young regional women. They were so excited and passionate to be hosting the festival.

One young woman was like a bottle of champagne that you couldn't keep the cork on. A delight to meet.

WOW Charleville participant

Bringing these events out to the smaller communities and providing a great platform for women to shine that often don't get to the bigger centres.... keep them coming!!

WOW Longreach participant



Hosting a WOW event in a regional community provides great opportunities for connection and understanding of life differs from urban areas. It also provides communities with increased activities leading to money being spent in community and at local businesses.

WOW Charleville participant

Life changing. Women in regional Australia often don't feel heard.

I feel like this event has given them courage to be their authentic selves.

WOW Longreach participant



Events like WOW Cairns are a necessary part of the development of the women in this area to be able to showcase their talents and skills, be able to network with each other, to build better relationships with each other, that can then expand into healthier, happier families and communities.

WOW Cairns participant

It shows small rural towns can create amazing and meaningful events for community engagement.

WOW Charleville participant

IMPACT ON ORGANISATIONS



My involvement with WOW as a participant and speaker has made me look at what we do here at the Consul office in Brisbane including inspiring me to mentor women in our

network – a young indigenous leader from Cooktown job shadowed me in March 2022, and I am mentoring two young female colleagues in our Asia Pacific network – Kuala Lumpur and Taipei. We are also developing a young female leaders network in Brisbane, a pilot project for Queensland which if successful we will take across other states in Australia.

Jo Freeman – British Consul General to Queensland and Northern Territory

It has been a honour to work with you and your team to deliver WOW in Longreach and Charleville.

For our team it has been an empowering experience to come together and showcase our rural women living in small communities not just in Longreach but also surrounding towns. And from a Longreach participant.

Red Ridge the Label

So glad to see Red Ridge hit the scene out here, great to see how well they are starting to go, but the locals knew very little about them, as far as seeing their products. As a result of the WOW weekend, I know of at least three people who have dropped in to see them in Blackall and have purchased something.

WOW Longreach participant



WOW has given Femeconomy a platform to advocate for gender equality procurement and to bring people on the journey to understand how it impacts women's economic security. Since this advocacy work commenced in 2019, four State Governments have now committed to gender equality procurement as part of their strategies. WOW has given a voice to people in our network that are working in various areas of gender equality. There are few other spaces I have been in where such an intersectional group of women congregate to share freely of their life experience, to support one another and to have robust and practical discussions on real solutions to create gender equality. WOW's superpower is bringing such a diversity of people and views into one place.

Femeconomy – Jade Collins and Alanna Bastin-Byrne

IMPACT ON ORGANISATIONS

The opportunities to network and learn is very valuable to many across Griffith. This applies to activities in the main city areas but also into regional areas where universities do not traditionally have a great deal of access. The networking potential of the WOW activities is very powerful. I have followed up with a number of women across Brisbane and this has led to involvement in more activities at work.

Professor Rosemary Stockdale, Dean Engagement for Griffith Business School, Griffith University – Strategic Partner



On behalf of the Zonta Club of Brisbane I would like to share our thanks to you, the Board of Women of the World Australia and your remarkable team. Since 2021 our club members have attended three WOW events and each one brought us into a new space to listen to women's stories, hear their voices on issues and challenges and to witness the strength and determination that is innate in women and enables them to rise up and overcome so many difficulties.

WOW is always a truly global conversation and that is the magic of WOW and its unique formula that mixes entertainment, ideas, storytelling and sharing – we can be in Longreach, Charleville, Cairns, or Logan and yet we could be anywhere in the world as the conversations, themes and stories are universal and inspiring. This has been the gift of WOW to us and the thousands of women who have attended over the past years. This is a rare achievement.

Sandra McLean - President, Zonta Club of Brisbane Inc

4EB were extremely pleased to partner with Of One Mind for 4 amazing regional Festivals with a combination of workshop delivery, collecting interviews and covering panel conversations and broadcasting live from each event.

This partnership expanded our regional visibility and reach, providing an amazing professional development opportunity for staff and attending volunteer broadcasters and facilitating new regional partnerships with organisations and individuals, including the establishment of a regional hub with Arts Nexus in Cairns, and seeded a number of new content projects, such as Many Voices exploring the impact of sexual and domestic violence against women in diverse communities.

Additionally we undertook our own internal assessment of our gender equity 'performance' and resulted in the appointment of a new female Technical Assistant trainee, addressing gender imbalance in this area of our operations.

Jo Pratt - General Manager, Radio 4EB

IMPACT ON MEN

The sharing of stories, views, perspectives; how ever you want to describe it and the vibrant discussions this facilitated was definitely the most impactful part of this project for me. I was able to have in depth conversations with an older paternalistic male volunteer who accompanied the broadcast team about equality, sexism and the concept of modern masculinity that would not have naturally occurred in our day to day lives.

Some of the men who I interreacted with at the festival locations were initially wary of the project, feeling like the festival 'wasn't for them'. This view however, quickly changed as they participated (some tentatively!) and came to the realisation that the festival encourages ALL voices to be a part of the discussion.

Alex Nagl – Radio 4EB

One of the most interesting and thought-provoking conversations I had was with a lady from another small community. She believed that by spreading the WOW message of empowering woman, it will not only strengthen the women of our communities, but will have a flow on effect to the way we raise our sons and the message we spread to our husband and fathers, with strong woman we can each help to educate and strengthen our entire community.

Kristie Carroll – Charleville participant

The most enduring memory of my time working with WOW Festivals in Brisbane, Charleville and Logan was the sense that it was for a higher purpose. It felt "special" which is hard to crystallise in words but there was certainly an intangible element to the raison d'etre of the mission.

I have met people whom I have gone on to form enduring relationships with which might be the very point I was making above. - it draws kindred spirits together in an atmosphere of trust and common purpose. It is laudable and courageous that a festival like WOW dares to bring men into this conversation, and what's more, is able to execute that concept in such an elegant manner.

The issues around gender equality and gender violence is clearly an issue where men should be at the forefront of driving change but it's all-too-easy to shy away from making this a conversation that necessarily needs buy-in from men and boys.

WOW clearly understood the vital role that men play in being part of the solution but more importantly, found a way to deliver on that solution by creating a safe space for awkward conversations. It remains one of the best things I have done in this space because it was so artfully executed by the program design team.

Michael Jeh – Griffith University MATE Bystander Trainer



IN THEIR WORDS

GATHERED FROM FEEDBACK 20-22



PARTNERS 2020-22

PRINCIPAL PARTNER



Queensland Government

STRATEGIC PARTNERS



OUR CHANGEMAKERS

Allison Baden-Clay Foundation • Australia Pacific Training Coalition • Betty Amsden Foundation • Cathy Hunt • Leigh Tabrett • Lesley-Anne Houghton • Lisa Siganto and the Siganto Foundation • Meta Goodman • Morgans Foundation • Rae Baikie • Zonta Club of Brisbane Inc. • Hand Heart Pocket

EVENT PARTNERS



PRODUCTION PARTNERS



OUR DONORS

Alanna Bastin-Byrne • Andrew Taukolo • Anita Veivers • Professor Anne Tiernan
Anoushka Dowling • Belinda Drew • Bernadette Rutyna • Carla Gorton Cordelia Fine
Christine Castley • The Hon. Cynthia Lui • Denise Edwards • Elizabeth “Thumper” Clarke
Faiza El-Higzi • Francoise Lane • Isabelle Reinecke • Jade Collins • Jeanne McConnachie
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PHOTOGRAPHER CREDITS

Page 1: Hero image design by Nadia Jade
Page 2: Cristina Bevilacqua
Page 5: Philip Gibb (top), Albert & Nez Santos (bottom)
Page 6: Philip Gibb
Page 7: Top to bottom: Kate Hastelow, Philip Gibb, Kate Hastelow, Philip Gibb
Page 11: Supplied by WOW London, Nadia Jade
Page 12: Hero image design by Nadia Jade
Page 13: Philip Gibb
Page 14: Philip Gibb
Page 15: Top left (behind) and bottom right (behind) Kate Hastelow, others supplied.
Page 17: Staff
Page 18: Katrina Lehmann
Page 19: Philip Gibb, final 2 images Nadia Jade
Page 20: Philip Gibb
Page 21: Hero image design by Nadia Jade
Page 22: Top two images: Nadia Jade, Bottom three images Kate Hastelow
Page 23: Nadia Jade
Page 25: Top: Cristina Bevilacqua, Bottom: Jodi Haines
Page 26: Skinn Deep Photography
Page 27: Albert & Nez Santos
Page 28 & 29: Cristina Bevilacqua
Page 30: Katie Bennett
Page 31: Top to bottom, Alice Eddison, Alice Eddison, Melita Spooner, Alice Eddison, Katie Bennet
Page 32: Katie Bennet
Page 35: Top to bottom, L-R, Cristina Bevilacqua, Cristina Bevilacqua, Katie Bennett, Albert & Nez Santos, Melita Spooner, Melita Spooner, Nadia Jade, Cristina Bevilacqua, Philip Gibb.
Page 36: Kate Bennett
Page 38: Katrina Lehmann
Page 41: Katie Bennett, Philip Gibb
Page 43: Cristina Bevilacqua