ABOUT THE ARTWORK
Created by Sonny Green from the Kamilaroi people.
“The main idea that I wanted to work on is how important it is for influential people in the Aboriginal health sector to come together and discuss issues that require attention and to strategise a way forward. The symbols in this artwork work together in unison to tell a story about the strength of the voices coming together to the ‘Meeting Ground’ (The Aboriginal Health Summit) to enhance the wellbeing of Aboriginal people everywhere. The Emu egg is symbolic of growth; this is reflected by the work done in the past leading to new ideas, where things haven’t worked, we’ve pushed on to find other ways to move forward. The idea of a flower as the main symbol of this art work initially was derived from the NSW state emblem, the Waratah. I liked the idea of different layers/levels which is similar to all the people working from ground level to government moving towards a better tomorrow for Aboriginal people and to finally close the gap.”
I am proud to be co-hosting the 5th National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Summit with NSW Health’s longstanding partner, the Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council of NSW. These events are a commitment of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Standing Committee, and aim to progress conversations about how all stakeholders, including government, the community-controlled health sector, researchers and other non-government organisations, can work together to improve Aboriginal health.

With the theme ‘Aboriginal Health – It’s Time to Reset’ we acknowledge that we need new ways of working to achieve meaningful change in the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people must be leading conversations about health and wellbeing, and this requires government agencies to make space for this to happen.

Together with the Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council of NSW, we have developed a program that privileges Aboriginal voices to progress strategic conversations about participation, engagement, co-design and wellness.

On behalf of NSW Health I would like to thank everyone attending for their contributions to improving the health and wellbeing of Australia’s first peoples, and for committing to working in partnership to deliver meaningful health outcomes.

On behalf of the AH&MRD Board of Directors and myself, we believe that all persons within this room, together we can make positive change that will deliver sustainable health outcomes for our people.
Facilitator Professor Kerry Arabena

**Opening**

9.00 – 9.10 **Welcome to Country**
Uncle Raymond Davison, Metropolitan Aboriginal Land Council

9:10 – 9:20 **Cultural performance**
The Muggera Dancers

9.20 – 9:30 **Opening of the Summit**
Ms Elizabeth Koff, Secretary of NSW Health
Mr Scott Monaghan, Chair, Aboriginal Health & Medical Research Council of NSW

**Morning session**

9:30 – 9:40 **Opening address**
The Hon. Bradley Hazzard, NSW Minister for Health and Minister for Medical Research

9:40 – 9:50 **Opening address**
The Hon. Ken Wyatt, Federal Minister for Indigenous Health and Aged Care

9:50 – 10:20 **Keynote address**
Mr Stan Grant, Indigenous Affairs Editor for the ABC and special advisor to the Prime Minister on Indigenous constitutional recognition

10:20 – 10:40 **Morning tea**

**Before lunch session**

10:40 – 12:00 **Presentations and panel discussion: Why do we need to reset?**
Dr Gregory Phillips, Executive Officer, ABSTARR Consulting
Professor Maggie Walter, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Aboriginal Research and Leadership University of Tasmania
Mr Jason Ardler, Head of NSW Aboriginal Affairs
Ms Patricia Turner AM, CEO, National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation
Mr Scott Monaghan, Chair, Aboriginal Health & Medical Research Council of NSW

12:00 – 13:00 **Ministers depart. Lunch**

**After lunch session**

13:00 – 13:30 **Keynote address**
Ms Janine Mohamed, CEO, Congress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses and Midwives

13:30 – 15:00 **Panel discussion: How do we reset? Aboriginal community led ways to wellness and health**
Ms Janine Mohamed, CEO, Congress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses and Midwives
Professor Juanita Sherwood, Acting Pro-Vice Chancellor, Indigenous Strategy and Resources, University of Sydney
Dr Kelvin Kong, Ear Nose and Throat Surgeon, Hunter New England Local Health District
Mr Darryl Wright, CEO, Tharawal Aboriginal Corporation
Ms Amanda Larkin, CEO, South West Sydney Local Health District
Mr Nathan Jones, Director, Aboriginal Health, South West Sydney Local Health District

15:00 – 15:30 **Afternoon tea**

**Afternoon session**

15:30 – 15:50 **Closing the Gap Refresh**
Professor Ian Anderson AO, Deputy Secretary for Indigenous Affairs, Prime Minister and Cabinet

15:50 – 17:00 **Where to from here?**
Professor Kerry Arabena and Dr Jeff McMullen AM Facilitated discussion

**Evening session**

17:00 – 19:00 **Entertainment and canapés**
Microwave Jenny performance
Brad Hazzard is a senior Minister in the NSW Government and in 2017 was appointed as Minister for Health and Minister for Medical Research. He oversees record investment in Health infrastructure and services which has resulted in a hospital building boom across the state and the funding of thousands of new frontline positions. NSW also has a robust and innovative medical research knowledge economy which the NSW Government seeks to encourage and expand.

Brad started his professional life as a graduate science teacher at North Sydney Boys’ High School. He later studied law at the University of Sydney and was admitted as a solicitor in 1977. He also holds a Master of Laws from the University of Sydney. He entered Parliament in 1991 as the State Member for Wakehurst, on Sydney’s northern beaches.

Brad has previously served as Minister for Family and Community Services and Minister for Social Housing, Attorney General and Minister for Justice and as Minister for Planning and Infrastructure as a Leader of the Legislative Assembly.

Ken Wyatt was elected in 2010 as the Federal Member for Hasluck, making history as the first Indigenous Member of the House of Representatives. In September 2013 Ken became the first Member for Hasluck re-elected for a second term. In 2015 Ken again made history as the first Indigenous member of the Federal Executive after being sworn in as the Assistant Minister for Health, responsible for Aged Care service delivery and implementation, as well as for Dementia.

In January 2017, Ken made history again as the first Indigenous Minister to serve in a Federal Government, after being appointed as the Minister for Aged Care and Minister for Indigenous Health.

Not only has Ken had an extensive career in health and education, he has also made an enormous contribution to the wider community in training and mentoring young people. This was recognised in 1996 when Ken was awarded the Order of Australia in the Queen’s Birthday Honours list. Later, in 2000, Ken was awarded a Centenary of Federation Medal for his efforts and contribution to improving the quality of life for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and mainstream Australian society in education and health.

Stan Grant is the Indigenous Affairs Editor for the Australian Broadcasting Corporation and special advisor to the Prime Minister on Indigenous constitutional recognition. His appointment to the role of special advisor to the Prime Minister in 2016 came soon after he made a speech on racism that went viral and then reduced the Prime Minister to tears during an exclusive interview with The Point when speaking about Indigenous issues.

A multi-award winning current affairs host, author and adventurer, Stan’s keynotes are insightful, engaging, always professional and at times, controversial.

Professor Kerry Arabena is Chair for Indigenous Health and Director of the Indigenous Health Equity Unit at The University of Melbourne. A descendent of the Meriam people from the Torres Strait, she has a Doctorate in Human Ecology and a degree in Social Work.

Professor Arabena is the Executive Director and Lead Investigator on the First 1000 Days Australia, an interventions based pre birth multigenerational cohort study designed with and for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families.

The model aims to provide a coordinated, comprehensive strategy to strengthen Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families so they can address their children’s needs from pre-conception to two years of age, thereby laying the best foundation for their future health and wellbeing.

Gregory has a PhD in psychology, a research Master’s Degree in Medical Science published as a book in 2003, and a Bachelor Degree in Aboriginal Studies and Government.

Gregory is CEO of ABSTARR Consulting; an Associate Professor of Aboriginal Health, and serves on several boards and committees, including chairing the Cathy Freeman Foundation.
Ms Patricia Turner AM

The daughter of an Arrernte man and a Gurdanji woman, Pat was raised in Alice Springs. As CEO of NACCHO, she is at the forefront of community efforts to Close the Gap in health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Pat has over 40 years’ experience in senior leadership positions in government, business and academia, including being the only Aboriginal person, only woman and longest serving CEO of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Commission (ATSIC). Amongst her many appointments, she also spent 18 months as Monash Chair of Australian Studies, Georgetown University, Washington DC, and was inaugural CEO of NITV. Pat holds a Masters Degree in Public Administration from the University of Canberra where she was awarded the University prize for Development Studies.

Mr Jason Ardler

Jason Ardler is the Head of Aboriginal Affairs, leading whole-of-government and intergovernmental Aboriginal affairs strategy and policy reform across such diverse areas as economic participation, community governance, culture and heritage, community safety, environmental health and service delivery. Jason has responsibility for leading the implementation of OCHRE, the NSW Government’s community focused plan for Aboriginal affairs.

Jason’s cultural connections are to the Yuin nation on the NSW South Coast.

Jason is a member of numerous executive level councils, committees and working groups focused on improving outcomes for Aboriginal people, including the national sponsorship group for the COAG Closing the Gap Refresh. Jason is also a Director of two NGOs that work to support social inclusion of Aboriginal people through education and economic opportunity.

Mr Scott Monaghan

A passionate leader with first class communications skills and a track record of successful management, Scott has had 21 years of senior management experience in Aboriginal Community Controlled organisations.

He has been the CEO of Bulgaan Ngaru Medical Aboriginal Corporation since 2005, providing primary health care to the people of the Clarence Valley on the North Coast of NSW. Scott is the Secretary of the Many Rivers Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance which includes the Aboriginal medical services from Taree to Tweed Heads in its membership (established in 2005). Since 2016, Scott has been the Director of the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation.

Ms Janine Mohamed

Janine Mohamed, a Kaurna/Narrunga woman from South Australia, has deep expertise and experience in how to work towards the improvement of healthcare and health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

As a nurse and CEO of CATSINaM, Janine is an advocate for the powerful roles that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander nurses and midwives have in the health system and their communities, as agents of change. A graduate of the University of South Australia, where she now holds an adjunct position, Janine has sound clinical experience, as well as in research, policy and project leadership.

Janine has also worked in senior positions for both AHCSA and NACCHO, contributed to the establishment of the Close the Gap campaign, and was a member of an Indigenous peoples’ delegation that participated in the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in 2011 and 2012.

Professor Juanita Sherwood

Professor Juanita Sherwood is currently Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor Indigenous Strategy and Services at the University of Sydney. Juanita came to this role having been the Academic Director at the National Centre for Cultural Competence at the University of Sydney, with a mandate to engage, innovate and lead in cultural competence.

A proud Wiradjuri woman, Professor Sherwood is a registered nurse, teacher, lecturer, researcher and manager with a depth of working experiences of some thirty years in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and education. Professor Sherwood has pushed boundaries from a grass roots, community based position that seeks to engage with and build capability within communities, deliver culturally safe models and research methodologies in partnership with communities and recognise in policy and practice the straight line relationship between world views and social justice. She has a PhD from the University of New South Wales, and has previously worked in lecturing, research, management and consultative roles in health, education and Indigenous studies, with her most recent role being Professor of Australian Indigenous Education at the University of Technology (UTS).

Dr Kelvin Kong

Kelvin qualified as the first Aboriginal Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS), specialising in Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery.

Kelvin hails from the Worimi people of Port Stephens, north of Newcastle, NSW, Australia. He completed his Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery at the University of NSW in 1999. He embarked on his internship at St Vincent’s Hospital in Darlinghurst and pursued a surgical career, completing resident medical officer and registrar positions at various attachments. Along the way, he has been privileged in serving the urban, rural and remote community, and humbled to partake in committee roles with RACS, AIDA, NCIE and local hospital initiatives. He is now practising in Newcastle (Awabakal Country) as a qualified Surgeon specialising in Paediatric & Adult Otolaryngology, Head & Neck Surgery (Ear, Nose & Throat Surgery).

He is part of a strong, medical family – his mother a nurse, his father a GP, his sister Marlene is a Public Health Physician Trainee / General Practitioner and her twin Marilyn, is Australia’s first Aboriginal Obstetrician and Gynaecologist. Complementing his surgical training, he is kept grounded by his family, who are the strength and inspiration to him.
Darryl Wright

Darryl Wright is a Dungay man from the Macleay Region, Kempsey in Northern NSW. For the past 12 years Darryl has been the Chief Executive Officer at Tharawal Aboriginal Corporation where he has used his extensive management skills to build the Tharawal Aboriginal Corporation into a thriving and effective community asset. Darryl has extensive experience in Aboriginal health service delivery as well as community development.

Amanda Larkin

Amanda Larkin leads more than 12,000 staff at the South Western Sydney Local Health District as the Chief Executive. As part of her role, Amanda provides strategic leadership and sound governance to achieve safe, equitable and quality healthcare for the booming and diverse population of south western Sydney. Amanda is responsible for all south western Sydney public health services, across an area stretching from Bankstown to Bowral, including small community health centres, five district hospitals and a major referral hospital.

She was appointed as Chief Executive in 2011 after working as the General Manager of Camden and Campbelltown Hospitals and the Queen Victoria Memorial Home.

Holding a Bachelor of Social Work, Associate Diploma in Environmental Service, Amanda has over 25 years of experience in health service management.

Nathan Jones

Nathan Jones is a proud Aboriginal man born and raised in South West Sydney.

Nathan has been the Director of Aboriginal Health at South Western Sydney Local Health District for the last 6 years and for the last 18 years worked in a variety of roles with both State and Commonwealth agencies in Aboriginal health.

Professor Ian Anderson AO

Professor Ian Anderson was previously the Foundation Chair of Indigenous Health at the University of Melbourne and has held a number of academic, policy and practice roles in Indigenous health over a thirty-year period including Aboriginal health worker; general practitioner; Chief Executive Officer for the Victorian Aboriginal Health Service and Medical Adviser for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health for the Commonwealth Department of Aboriginal Health.

Professor Anderson was awarded the Order of Australia medal in 2017 for distinguished service to the Indigenous community, particularly in the areas of health equality, aged care and education.

His family are Palawa Trowerna from the Pyrmairrenner clan.)

Microwave Jenny

Microwave Jenny

Dr Jeff McMullen AM

Dr Jeff McMullen AM

Jeff McMullen AM, has given voice to the struggle by First Nations people in Australia and around the world. Through numerous essays and articles in the mass media and academic journals Jeff has focussed on the Australian Government’s neglect of the human rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and the necessity of ending institutionalised racism and discrimination.

As well as serving as a director of AIME and the Engineering Aid Australia Indigenous Summer School program, Jeff volunteered for fourteen years as Honorary CEO of Ian Thorpe’s Fountain for Youth, establishing early learning and the Literacy Backpack program in 22 remote communities.

Jeff has been prominent in the Close the Gap campaign, chairing forums for AIDA and NACCHO, as well as the Northern Territory’s first conference focussed on Indigenous suicide prevention.

In 2006 Jeff was awarded an Order of Australia (AM), for service to journalism and efforts to raise awareness of economic, social and human rights issues in Australia and overseas, as well as service to charity.

Microwave Jenny

After meeting, singer/songwriters Brendan Boney & Tessia Nuku realised they both shared similar ideas for bringing smiles through music, so the pair spent a year writing songs for each other’s solo projects before deciding to try things as a duo. A decision which saw them win an APRA Professional Development Award, working on film and television soundtracks such as the film ‘Bran Nue Dae’ and TV shows like ‘Underbelly: Chopper’, ‘Winners & Losers’, ‘Offspring’. They have also appeared at festivals such as The Woodford Folk Festival, Peats Ridge Festival, The Dreaming Festival, Festival of the Sun, and Bluesfest in Byron Bay whilst touring has also seen them play the “Red House Theatre” in Taiwan and “The Aussie BBQ” in the UK.

With their regular appearances on the festival scene, the duo have started to develop a solid following. When they asked that following via microwavejenny.com, Facebook and Twitter “Who want’s Microwave Jenny to play at their house?!” the response was overwhelming and saw Microwave Jenny play 32 houses across 6 different states.

The couple then moved to London to record their 4th EP ‘Microwave Jenny And The Six Song EP’ which was completely funded by their very committed fan base who incredibly helped them raise $13,000 in just 5 days. Recently signed by Matt Donlevy to publisher Cooking Vinyl Music, Microwave Jenny are hard at work writing for their next release due out later this year.