

For immediate release

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MAGNT announces Indigenous training program in partnership with Bridging the Gap Foundation

The Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT) has announced that it will be undertaking two school-based traineeships for Aboriginal students each year in 2021 and 2022, in partnership with Bridging the Gap Foundation.

These traineeships will provide an opportunity for two young Aboriginal people to gain in-depth knowledge, hands-on experience, and an understanding of the museum's operations and programs, in a nurturing and supportive environment.

"MAGNT welcomes the opportunity to collaborate with the foundation on this exciting project. It strongly aligns with MAGNT's strategic vision to collaborate, engage and involve Aboriginal people," said MAGNT Director Marcus Schutenko.

"As the Northern Territory's premier cultural institution, MAGNT is delighted to champion this trainee program in the Northern Territory for the very first time. The trainees will gain new skills and will work alongside our award-winning researchers and curators in Aboriginal culture, natural science, history and art."

Northern Territory Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage Chansey Paech said the NT Government was proud to support the opportunity for the students to undertake school-based traineeships with MAGNT that would see them gain valuable knowledge, skills and experience.

"There will be wide-ranging, positive outcomes for the students which I'm sure will serve them well into their future careers," he said.

"We are very pleased to be able to work with MAGNT on this important initiative and would like to thank them and the Northern Territory Government for their invaluable support," said Dean Rioli, Deputy Chair, Bridging the Gap Foundation.

"Creating career opportunities and pathways for young Indigenous people is something I am very passionate about. This program will assist them in developing confidence, open doors, and enhance their understanding of the important role MAGNT plays in the community."

The Bridging the Gap pilot program launch will be announced on Monday 16 November in Adelaide.

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Available for Interview

MAGNT Director, Marcus Schutenko
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About MAGNT

The Museum and Art Gallery is the Northern Territory's premier cultural institution. Set in a scenic location overlooking Fannie Bay in Darwin, MAGNT is home to internationally renowned artistic, cultural and scientific collections and research programs. Each year, MAGNT presents a dynamic program of internally-developed exhibitions, carefully curated from the collection, and the best travelling exhibitions from around Australia. It is also the home of the annual Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards - the most significant celebration of its kind in Australia.

About Bridging the Gap Foundation

Bridging the Gap Foundation has been established by Charles Darwin University and Menzies School of Health Research to address one of Australia's most important issues, the ten-year in life expectancy between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians. The foundation aims to improve health and education opportunities and outcomes for Indigenous Australians.