

OPERATIONAL STRUCTURE & OUR PEOPLE

Wilurarra Creative is a program of Warburton Community Inc, an incorporated, private Aboriginal Community. Like any department within an incorporated association, Wilurarra has its own budgets and internal management structure, but is ultimately included in wider Warburton Community Inc operations, finances and governance. As a program of Warburton Community, we receive financial administration support, HR and Payroll from Ngaanyatjarra Council Aboriginal Corporation.

Our Team: Wilurarra is inclusive. Our staff, visiting artists, mentors, volunteers, and participants reflect diversity, including those that are, living with a disability, identify as LGBTIQ+, and culturally and linguistically diverse

Wilurarra Advisory Committee: Wilurarra has co-created our own method of sourcing and integrating culturally relevant consultations and strategic directions from key Ngaanyatjarra advisors, lead artists and community development workers, who act as an 'arts board' to Wilurarra Creative. These people are supported, 'put forward' by, and recognised within the community as intrinsic to our program. This means, that people within the community recognise them as leaders at Wilurarra, and will approach them with ideas, concerns, projects and feedback.

Wilurarra Creative Directors: Wilurarra has two Directors, whose wages are covered through Warburton Community earned income. The Co-Directors work Malparara-way, one Ngaanyatjarra and one non-Ngaanyatjarra, one full time and one part time. These are:

Brett Jennings, Co-Director: (2011 - present) is a Ngaanyatjarra / Pintupi man, lead artist, mentor, arts worker, inter-cultural advisor and translator. He advises on program development, cultural safety, and is a musician, welder, metalwork sculptor and purnu (wooden 'artefact') maker. He provides high level induction to all Wilurarra walypala staff, cultural induction to male visiting artists and leads engagement of young adults in projects and programs.

Silvano Giordano, Co-Director: (2011-present) is responsible for the management, administration, and programs at Wilurarra Creative. He holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts and Certificate III in Graphic Arts (Print Machinist). As well as extensive experience in cross-cultural project delivery with Ngaanyatjarra communities, Silvano has ten years' experience in sound engineering and sixteen years of involvement in the graphic design, publishing, and printing industry

Deborah Grant, Studio Manager: (2020-present) has lived and worked in Warburton Community since 2012, Deborah is a long-term supporter and previous volunteer for Wilurarra Creative. Deborah's strong community relationships, knowledge and community development framework has been instrumental in the development of our Wilurarra Creative Leaders program and in the core operations of Wilurarra's two studio space

Wilurarra Creative Leaders: Funded through Regional Arts Sector Investment funding from Regional Arts WA 2021-present, employment of 16-30 year old Ngaanyatjarra young adults is the cornerstone of our cultural and creative leadership program.

Grenville Westlake, Wilurarra Creative Leader: Grenville is the leader of Red Sand Beat Band, a talented multi-instrumentalist and key driver of our music program. He is a generous teacher, who mentors other yangupala (young men) in music recording, practice, sound tech and delivery of community concerts. As part of the current revamp of the Wilurarra program and facilities, he is working on securing a temporary practice space and advocating to rebuild our community concert stage

Phillipa Butler, Wilurarra Creative Leader: Phillipa is a young Ngaanyatjarra women who has grown up with Wilurarra Creative. Phillipa's engagement with our artistic projects since she was a Kungkawarra (teenager), led to her employment as the first Wilurarra Creative Leader. Phillipa leads our young women's program as an artist, facilitator, teacher, cultural broker and peer mentor.

Natalie McKeivitt, Program Administrator: Natalie Wilurarra's Studio Manager in 2017 and was recently re-engaged on a contract basis to overview internal systems along with administration and IT support.

Visiting Artists & Mentors: Wilurarra has developed a number of important, long-term relationships with key professional arts workers who come to the Ngaanyatjarra Lands to co-facilitate our arts projects, mentor and train participants. Mentors are engaged on a project-to-project basis and their fees are met by individual project budgets and grants funding. In order to achieve optimum results, workshops run for a minimum of 3 weeks. We prioritise building a core group of high calibre artists that are culturally inducted, can commit to returning, will build local relationships, and can deliver tailored professional development programs specific to Wilurarra's remote context.