

## 17th Deadlys Winner Profiles

### MUSIC



#### ***MOST PROMISING NEW TALENT IN MUSIC***

##### **Iwantja Band**

Iwantja Band are certainly on their way...They played a record 10 sets at Dreaming Festival earlier this year, received a Breakthrough Grant courtesy of the Federal Government, are playing as part of the Sand Tracks tour with Manuel Dhurrkay (Saltwater Band) and will travel to the US in 2011. Iwantja Band incorporates many styles of music, from reggae and rock, to country, blues and some instrumental.

The group was received with great acclaim throughout 2010 and 2011, culminating in a performance at the 25th anniversary of the hand back of Uluru to its traditional

owners. Band members Jeremy Whiskey, Nigel Baker, Jacob Baker, Geoffrey Baker, Steven Brumby, Stewart Gaykamangu and Angus Pearson came from different corners of the Southern Central Desert to join their manager Mark Smerdon to launch the band's new album, Palya, at the Wide Open Space festival in Alice Springs in April. Most of the songs on the album are in Pitjantjatjara/Yankunytjatjara, the languages spoken at Iwantja (also known as Indulkana).

#### ***SINGLE OF THE YEAR***

##### **Happy People - The Last Kinection**

No strangers to the music industry, The Last Kinection (TLK) released 'Happy People' in 2011, a feel-good summer jam taken from their new album Next Of Kin.

The group has established themselves as empowering and lyric-driven, with melodic production and a progressive hip hop feel. Tackling issues facing Australia has become their mantra, but great humour and captivating entertainment is what gives TLK's personality such charm. The Indigenous hip hop trio are made up of brother and sister Wenon and Nay, as well as DJ Jaytee. They believe their music and image is a way of expressing their pride and honour, respect and knowledge for their culture and elders.



In 2010, The Last Kinection signed with Elefant Traks before taking out two Deadlys for Outstanding Achievement in RnB/Hip Hop and TLK's Naomi Wenitong(Nay) for Female Artist of the Year. This year will see TLK in nine different communities within NSW as part of the 'Hip Hop Campaign', raising awareness about Hepatitis C alongside the NSW Department of Health. The Last Kinection have a close connection to the community, running music workshops about the music business, production, singing, MCing and DJ techniques, songwriting and performance.

# 2011 DEADLYS

## MUSIC

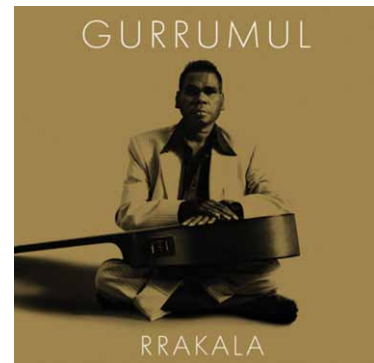
### ALBUM OF THE YEAR

#### Gurrumul Yunupingu – Rrakala

Geoffrey Gurrumul Yunupingu's new album Rrakala was released in April this year to much anticipation. Gurrumul achieved international acclaim with the release of his self-titled debut album three years ago, with Rolling Stone Magazine, proclaiming him as "Australia's most important voice." With such high praise, the follow up album by Gurrumul was always going to be eagerly awaited.

And what an album it is. Once again, his incredibly moving voice wraps itself around deeply felt lyrics. On Rrakala, Gurrumul has added some extra stylistic instrumental techniques, including his multi-instrumental talents including piano, drums and harmonies.

Gurrumul recently scooped the pool at the 2011 National Indigenous Music Awards (NIMAS), winning five awards including best album for Rrakala.



### BAND OF THE YEAR

#### The Last Kinection

The Last Kinection (TLK) are an Indigenous hip hop trio made up of Weno and Nay Wenitong and DJ Jaytee, who all had success in the music industry in their own right prior to TLK. Naomi (MC Nay) was one half of R&B Pop platinum selling group Shakaya. Joel Wenitong (Weno) and Jacob Turier (Jaytee) were part of the group Local Knowledge (Music Oz – Best Indigenous Artist in 2005; Best Group in the 2005 Deadly Awards). The Last Kinection's debut album, Nutches, was featured on Triple J and community radio across Australia.

Last year, TLK signed with Elefant Traks before taking out two Deadlys for Outstanding Achievement in RnB/ Hip Hop and TLK's Naomi Wenitong (Nay) for Female Artist of the Year. Their second album, The Next of Kin, was released this year and contains this year's Deadly Award winning Single of the Year - 'Happy People'. Drawing influence from their Kabi Kabi heritage, TLK represent what it is to be Aboriginal in today's Australia with great intelligence, integrity and humour.

## MUSIC

### MALE ARTIST OF THE YEAR

#### Gurrumul Yunupingu

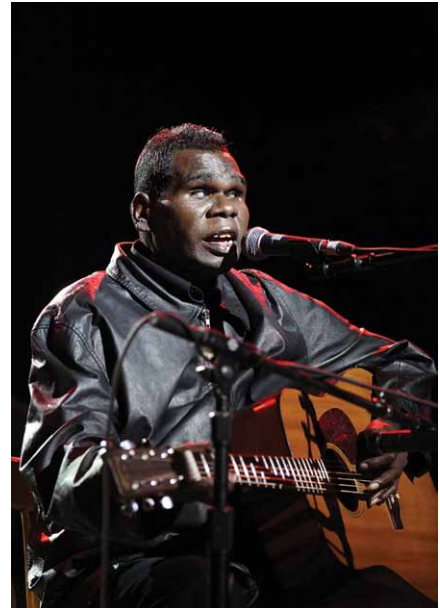
Gurrumul is a member of the Gumatj clan of north east Arnhem Land and he has adapted the songs and stories of the Gumatj clan into contemporary music.

At the age of 15 he was identified as an extremely talented multi-instrumentalist and joined the ARIA Award winning band Yothu Yindi, where he played an integral role until 1992.

Gurrumul is earning a reputation internationally as well as nationally. Rolling Stone Magazine recently referred to him as "Australia's most important voice". He is also earning the attention of the mainstream music scene in Australia and was nominated for several 2008 ARIA Awards, including the coveted Male Artist of the Year and Album of the Year.

His debut self-titled album Gurrumul, released in February 2008, received worldwide reviews. This year saw a new release from Gurrumul, Rakala. On Rakala, Gurrumul has included his multi-instrumental talents including piano, drums and harmonies.

Gurrumul recently scooped the pool at the 2011 National Indigenous Music Awards (NIMAS), winning five awards including best album for Rakala. Gurrumul is a member of the Gumatj clan of north east Arnhem Land and he has adapted the songs and stories of the Gumatj clan into contemporary song styles.



### FEMALE ARTIST OF THE YEAR

#### Jessica Mauboy

Now an R&B singer-songwriter and actress from Darwin, Jessica Mauboy first graced Australian television as a shy 16 year old on Australian Idol in 2006. She was runner-up that season, but was subsequently signed to Sony Music Australia. Her debut album, Been Waiting (2008), achieved double platinum sales, garnered seven ARIA award nominations

and produced her first number-one single 'Burn', as well as the album's other top-10 hits, 'Because' and 'Running Back'. In 2010 Jessica starred in her first feature film, Bran Nue Dae, alongside Ernie Dingo, Geoffrey Rush, Dan Sultan and Missy Higgins.

In November last year she released her second studio album, Get 'em Girls, which debuted at number six on the ARIA Album Chart and was certified gold by the Australian Recording Industry Association (ARIA). The album features the top-10 hit 'Saturday Night', with American rapper Ludacris. With this album, Jessica Mauboy has found her true sound, working with the best in the business, as well as winning over new admirers to her talent and soaring vocals.

## THE ARTS

### DANCER OF THE YEAR

#### Kathy Marika

Kathy has worked as a tutor in Aboriginal dance and culture, teaching traditional art and craft, weaving and carving. Her appearance in Bangarra Dance Theatre's work, 'Bush' (2003), marked her performance debut in contemporary dance theatre. Kathy continued to perform with Bangarra for 'Clan' (2004), 'Bush' (2004 USA tour) and 'Spirit' (2006 Australian tour and 2011 European tour).

In 2009, Kathy travelled with and facilitated the Bangarra dancers' cultural exchange with the Yirrkala community in Northeast Arnhem Land and performed in Bangarra's 20th Anniversary celebrations 'Fire – A Retrospective'. In 2011, Bangarra invited Kathy to become an Artist-in-Residence in recognition of her close and valuable association with the company.



### MALE ACTOR OF THE YEAR

#### Aaron Pedersen - City Homicide

Aaron grew up in Alice Springs and, prior to acting, he was a journalist with ABC2 at Elsternwick studios in Melbourne. His first acting role came about in 1995 "as a bit of a joke" when he offered himself for a role in the mini-series Heartlands starring the Oscar-nominated Cate Blanchett and Ernie Dingo.

He rose to fame in 1995 where he was co-host of the successful Australian game show, Gladiators Australia. After that, the roles kept coming with a feature film Dead Heart, the telemovie The Territorians,

then the TV series Wildside, Saturday Night a feature film, and another TV drama, Water Rats. He starred in Wildside and Water Rats for two seasons. His other dramatic roles have included MDA (2002), The Secret Life of Us (2005), The Circuit (since 2007) and City Homicide (since 2007).

### FEMALE ACTOR OF THE YEAR

#### Deborah Mailman - Offspring

Deborah Mailman is one of Australia's most popular and successful actors. She has received national acclaim, winning both the AFI and Film Critics' Circle Awards. Since then she has worked extensively in film, television and theatre and is most recognised for her role as 'Kelly' in the television series The Secret Life of Us, and more recently as 'Cherie' in Offspring.

Deborah is a well-known face in Australian film, theatre and television, from leading role and guest appearances to presenter roles across a broad range of programs and genres. Deborah recently made her directorial debut with the short film Ralph. Deborah's outstanding performances have been acknowledged with two Silver Logies for Most Outstanding Actress, a Matilda Award, a Helpmann Award for Best Supporting Actress, a Helpmann Award nomination for Best Actress, a 2007 Deadly Award for Best Female Actor and in 2003 she was named NAIDOC Person of the Year.



# 2011 DEADLYS

## THE ARTS

### **VISUAL ARTIST OF THE YEAR**

#### **Michael Cook**

Michael Cook is an artist who produces unique photographic works and has a storytelling style. His images are both profound and beautiful. As a former fashion photographer, he knows how to provide aesthetic pleasure and turn that into socio-political commentary.

Since Michael's first solo exhibition, *Through My Eyes* (2010), his works have been acquired by the National Gallery of Australia and many private collectors.

His other exhibitions include *Undiscovered* (2010) and *Broken Dreams* (2010) and both of these works consist of 10 large photographs illustrating narratives examining historic and contemporary relations between Indigenous and non-

Indigenous Australians. Recently, he was selected as a finalist in the 2011 Western Australian Indigenous Art Awards. He was also a recent finalist in the 15th Redlands Westpac art prize, and has been invited to take place in the highly regarded 2012 National Indigenous Art Triennial at the National Gallery of Australia in 2012. He also won the Visual Artist of the Year Deadly Award in 2008.



### **FILM OF THE YEAR**

#### **Mad Bastards**

Dean Daley-Jones as TJ is a scary bloke in *Mad Bastards*. He is joined by fellow actors, Lucas Yeeda, Greg Tait and John Watson in this film about manhood in Aboriginal Australia that manages to be funny, tender, entertaining and meaningful.

*Mad Bastards* was produced by the Pigram Brothers, David Jowsey of BUNYA Productions and Brendan Fletcher. It was directed by

Brendan, a self-confessed white middle-class man from Sydney. Brendan came to movies through music video and to Aboriginal culture through his friendship with the Pigram brothers, who also provide this film's lovely soundtrack.

Making videos with them introduced him to Aboriginal life, something most white Australians never experience. The film grew out of extensive interviews Fletcher conducted in the Kimberley. The stories went into the script, and the people who told those stories, sometimes ended up in the movie. Shooting took place over a couple of years, with a series of script-readings and consultations aimed at keeping it

real. It worked - the film's sense of reality is its greatest asset. It brings all aspects of Aboriginal life into perspective with a raw, gritty script, heartfelt acting from personal experiences, all in a beautiful location in the Kimberley. Running time for the drama is 97 minutes.

## THE ARTS

### TV SHOW OF THE YEAR

#### Living black

Australia's premier Indigenous current-affairs program, Living Black, provides timely, intelligent and comprehensive coverage of the issues affecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians. However, Living Black is not just for Indigenous viewers. The program also informs a wider audience about contemporary Indigenous issues and why they matter to all Australians.

Living Black began in February 2003. Its brief was to provide a much-needed voice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders who wanted their say on current issues of concern. The show was launched with Karla Grant as host and an all-Indigenous production team, who thoughtfully assembled a mix of stories, focusing on social and political issues while also covering the arts and sport.

Now in its 14th season, Living Black returns to SBS TV with a team of video journalists who traverse Australia searching out, filming and reporting stories. The VJs travel light, carrying only a mini-DV camera and minimal sound and lighting equipment. They work solo and are deliberately unobtrusive to bring out the best in their interviewees, as well as capturing the real truth of the moment.

Karla Grant maintains her on-air presence as host, while also working behind the scenes as Executive Producer. The Living Black team is made up of passionate and enthusiastic individuals committed to two things: giving all Australians a place to learn about Indigenous issues and giving Indigenous Australians a chance to speak their mind. Living Black has been described as a unique program that fills a void in the media landscape while providing coverage of issues affecting indigenous Australians today. The show also provides a platform for the Indigenous community to express their positive, as well as topical, stories about life in Aboriginal communities.



### OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN LITERATURE

#### Anita Heiss - Paris Dreaming

Wiradjuri author Dr Anita Heiss has a PhD in Aboriginal Literature and is a dedicated advocate for Indigenous literacy in Australia.

Paris Dreaming is her fourth chick-lit book and follows her best-selling books Manhattan Dreaming, Not Meeting Mr Right and Avoiding Mr Right. She is credited with creating a new literary genre of 'Koori Chick Lit' with her four books. In Paris Dreaming, the main character, Libby, is on a man-fast - no more romance, no more cheating men, no more heartbreak. After all, she has great friends, loving cats and a high-powered job at the National Aboriginal Gallery in Canberra. But when fate takes Libby to work in Paris, romance suddenly becomes a lot more tempting.

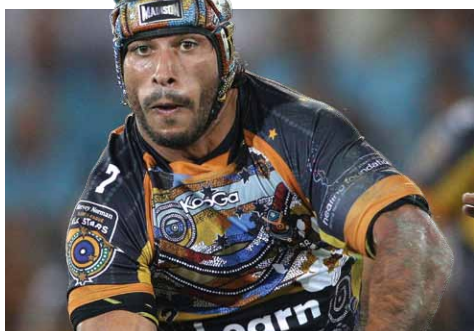
Anita is already the winner of three Deadly Awards for Outstanding Contribution to Literature. She was the first Aboriginal PhD graduate from the University of Western Sydney and was listed in the Bulletin/Microsoft Smart 100 in 2004. She is patron of the South Sydney Youth Services and a board member of the National Aboriginal Sporting Chance Academy.

## SPORT

### OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN AFL

#### Andrew Walker - Carlton

Young Carlton midfielder Andrew Walker is having a deadly 2011, eight years after being drafted by Carlton and given their No. 1 guernsey. Andrew finished as Carlton's leading goal-kicker, and he's been dubbed "the matchwinner" by fans and media for rising above the pack in the fourth quarter. Speed and accurate kicking on the run are his trademarks, producing an amazing 64 per cent goal accuracy percentage and an average 2.5 goals per game. Disciplined on field, he frustrates his opposition by giving away very few free kicks, playing a leading role in Carlton's premiership campaign. Andrew was also in contention for Mark of the Year in 2011.



### OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN NRL

#### Jonathon Thurston - Cowboys

One of rugby league's most influential players, Johnathan earned Man of the Match honours in both the inaugural All Stars match and Game One of the 2010 State of Origin series, prompting numerous former players to label him as the Maroons' greatest ever half-back. A playmaker that is renowned for his tenacity and competitiveness, Johnathan's form in 2011 has seen the Cowboys exceed all expectations to qualify for the finals series for the first time in four years.

### FEMALE SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR

#### Rohanee Cox - Basketball

Women's National Basketball League (WNBL) sensation Rohanee Cox has had a rollercoaster career but now stands as one of the premier women's basketball players in Australia. Rohanee is a former AIS scholarship holder who played with the Opals in Brazil in 1998 and won silver with the Australian Gems in 1997.

After suffering a career-threatening knee injury in 2003, she returned to the court with the Townsville Fire where she was named Most Valuable Player at the end of the 2005/06 season. In 2006, Rohanee was included in the Australian Opals squad for the FIBA World Championships.

In her 24 games of the 2007/08 WNBL season, Rohanee scored a huge 515 points (the second-highest points scorer behind Natalie Porter) and ranked sixth in the league in total rebounds. These impressive stats launched Rohanee back into the Australian Opals.

Her excellent form throughout the Opals' Olympic campaign helped the Australians win silver at the Beijing Olympic Games. In March 2009, Rohanee was named Most Valuable Player for the 2008/09 WNBL season after finishing with a total of 4656 points at an average of 21.2 points per game.

Rohanee also top-scored in 14 of 22 games, shooting at 44 per cent from the field, and was one of the league's best rebounders, ranked sixth with 7.9 per game. After missing the first half of the 2009/10 while recovering from knee surgery, Rohanee returned as a dominant force in her 13 games for Townsville, averaging 16.8 points, 4.8 rebounds and 1.8 assists per game. In June 2011, Rohanee signed with Western Australian WNBL club the West Coast Waves.



## SPORT

### **MALE SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR**

#### **Patrick Mills - Basketball**

Patrick was born and raised in Canberra and is a star graduate of the AIS. He first played for the Australian Boomers at the 2007 FIBA Oceania Men's Championships.

In late 2007, Patrick joined St Mary's College in California and quickly established himself as one of the most talented college players in the United States, breaking several school scoring records in the process.

In April of 2009, Patrick was selected with the 25th pick in the second round (55th pick overall) by the Portland Trailblazers, becoming the second Indigenous player to be drafted into the NBA.

After fracturing a bone in his foot during practice for the NBA summer league Patrick had to fight his way back into the Trailblazers' line-up, finishing his debut season in the NBA.

In the 2010/11 season, Patrick enjoyed more minutes on the court, seeing his averages rise in all major stat categories, and he also became the first Indigenous Australian to play in the NBA play-offs. A Season highlight was an NBA career-high 23-points game against Golden State in the final game of the regular season. Patrick has recently returned to Australia, signing with the Melbourne Tigers.



### **MOST PROMISING NEW TALENT IN SPORT**

#### **Tanisha Stanton - Netball**

A talented all-round sportswoman, 15-year-old Tanisha Stanton, from Newcastle NSW, played hockey and excelled in athletics before becoming a high-achieving rep touch football and netball player.

In 2007, Tanisha earned her first netball rep call-up, playing for the under 12 Newcastle side. In the same year, she was selected to play for the Hunter Region's NSWCHS School team, and the Wallsend Representative Under 12s in touch football.

In 2008, Tanisha was selected to attend the Hunter Sports High School for both Netball and Touch Football – and was selected in the NSW Indigenous Netball Squad. That year also saw Tanisha begin to play in the Newcastle Open A Netball competition.

In 2009, Tanisha rose to become co-captain of the Newcastle Rep U14 netball team, and she was also selected in the NSW Indigenous Netball Squad. On the touch footy field, she made the Newcastle

U14 Rep side and captained the Hunter Hornets U14 Rep team, winning Player of the Final, and she also made the NSW Merit Team (Hornets).

2010 saw Tanisha join both the Hunter Academy of Sport Netball and touch football squads – and in May she toured with the Australian Indigenous School Girls netball team. She was awarded with the 2010 Department of Education Nanga Mai Award for Outstanding Achievement in Sport.

In 2011, Tanisha earned more representative netball honours, this time playing for the U17 Newcastle squad, and she again toured with the Indigenous Schools netball side, this time to New Zealand. On the touch field, she captained State champions Newcastle City Touch in the U16s, and became a grade player in the Wallsend division.





## COMMUNITY

### **ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HEALTH WORKER OF THE YEAR**

#### **Muriel Jaragba, Aboriginal Mental Health worker, Groote Eylandt NT**

Muriel Jaragba has been at the forefront of Aboriginal mental health for well over a decade. An Anindilyakwa woman, she lives and works with her people on Groote Eylandt in Arnhem Land. Fluent in three Aboriginal languages, Muriel helps many clients and their families across several communities and is highly knowledgeable in both traditional Aboriginal healing and Western approaches to address mental health problems.

Muriel has contributed to the wider Aboriginal society through her significant research work with close collaborator Dr Kylie Lee on mental health and substance use. She has also been involved in developing suitable programs to help cannabis users, families, the wider community and other groups across the country.

Her achievements have been nationally and internationally recognised with her groundbreaking substance use and mental health research efforts nationally recognised with a finalist nomination in the 'research' category at the 2010 National Drug and Alcohol Awards.

Muriel's outstanding achievements, in a difficult area – mental health and drug and alcohol – have contributed greatly to enhancing the health and wellbeing of many people across various Aboriginal communities.

### **OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HEALTH**

#### **NPY Women's Council – "No Safe Amount – The Effects of Alcohol in Pregnancy" – Alice Springs NT**

The Ngaanyatjarra Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (NPY) Women's Council is an Aboriginal, community-controlled organisation dedicated to improving the health and wellbeing of approximately 6000 Anangu men, women, and children living in the Central Australian region.

Its land covers 350,000 square kilometres of the remote tri-state area of Western Australia, South Australia and the Northern Territory.

NPY Women's Council was formed in 1980 to provide a voice for women in the remote tri-state central desert region and the members' determination to improve the quality of life for families in the region continues to drive the organisation today.

"No safe amount – The Effects of Alcohol in Pregnancy" is an early intervention and prevention campaign designed to raise awareness of the deleterious and permanent effects on the unborn child of using alcohol during pregnancy, particularly awareness of Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD), through an educational/advertising campaign and DVD resource using a combination of media including animation and live action. The campaign was developed in partnership with young people in the remote Aboriginal Community of manpa, including script development, pre- and post-production and casting.

The stories contained within the DVD were role played by local community members who were actively engaged in the process. And the three 30-second broadcast-quality commercials are in both Pitjantjatjara (the local language) and English. The three components of the campaign are: Ititjara (pregnancy); The Growing Brain; and Responsible Fathers.

In 2010 the TV commercials were aired for three months on Imparja Television, which has the largest broadcasting footprint in Australia, ensuring the message was spread far and wide. The commercials have been recognised with a 'highly commended' at the National Drug and Alcohol Awards.



## COMMUNITY

### **OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER EDUCATION**

#### **The Deadly Ute Project – Goolum Goolum Aboriginal Co-operative through Wimmera Hub, Horsham VIC**

The Deadly Ute Project is aimed at Koori boys and girls aged 14 to 19. It uses practical tasks in to teach Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people a wide range of skills and provide them with opportunities they may not have been able to access.

The Deadly Ute Project has been developed by Goolum Goolum Aboriginal Cooperative and registered training organisations Wimmera HUB and the University of Ballarat. Young people who complete the program receive a Statement of Attainment in units, from Certificate II in Automotive and Certificate II in Creative Media, to Certificate II in Visual Arts and Certificate III in Business.

By modifying and decorating a ute, participants obtain a broad range of skills designed to open up further study options or employment pathways including skills in multimedia production, communication, publicity and business. The Deadly Ute is painted in traditional artwork as part of the Visual Arts, Craft and Design Units, where participants are assisted by an experienced Koori artist.

### **OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER EMPLOYMENT**

#### **Brian Dowd – Black on Track – NSW**

Brian Dowd and 'Black on Track' is all about creating opportunities for all Indigenous Australians to identify, accept and self-heal by taking responsibility for their life choices, and becoming empowered through self-worth.

'Black on Track' works closely in communities with such organisations as Mission Australia, FaHCSIA and Joblink Plus, to provide job-readiness programs for Indigenous job seekers. Over the past six years, Brian Dowd – owner and founder of Black on Track – has grown this program to a nationally and internationally recognised organisation. Black on Track, formerly based in Newcastle, has now launched its national tour with communities from NSW, QLD, WA, TAS, NT. Black on Track currently operates on a 91 per cent program-completion success rate.



### **BROADCASTER OF THE YEAR**

#### **Karla Hart – Noongar Radio, 100.9FM – Perth, WA**

Karla Hart is a Noongar yorga from the South West of WA and has lived in Perth for 13 years. Her nomination is indicative of Karla's reputation for "hard work, dedication and commitment to the Noongar community". Karla has also recently recorded some of her own music, and she MCs up a storm performing at various events throughout the Noongar Nation.

Through community broadcasting, Karla is leading the way for young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and representing the Noongar nation proudly. Karla has been busy and involved in the arts industry in WA for four years, and she has also been involved with theatre, film, dance, writing and directing. She also does a lot of work for Yirra Yaakin, teaching metro and intrastate school-age children about traditional and contemporary dance and acting and writing techniques. Karla is proud to manage and perform with Kwarbah Djookian, a traditional women's dance group.

## COMMUNITY

### **THE ELLA AWARD FOR LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT IN ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER SPORT**

#### **Evonne Goolagong Cawley**

Born in Griffith and raised in Barellan, NSW, Evonne Goolagong Cawley, AO, MBE, Wiradjuri woman, is an icon of Australian sport. She is renowned both here and internationally for her skill on the tennis court, taking Australian women's tennis to new heights in the 70's and early 80s.

Her sporting achievements are what pave the way for her legendary status. She has won 14 Grand Slam titles: seven in singles (four Australian Open, two Wimbledon and one French Open), six in women's doubles, and one in mixed doubles. She has won a total of 92 professional tournaments and at her second Wimbledon triumph in 1980; she became the first mother to hold that title since Dorothy Lambert Chambers in 1914.

Her journey as a proud Aboriginal Australian not only captured world attention, but raised awareness of our First Peoples in Australia at a time when it mattered most. Her first Wimbledon title in 1971 came only four years after the 1967 Referendum that enabled Aboriginals to be counted in the Census.

But Evonne firmly believed politics and sport should not be mixed. She let her natural sporting ability and achievements do the talking, and she played for the love of tennis not the money, nor the fame.

She has been a mentor to Indigenous young people for the long haul. She has received a number of national and international accolades including being named Australian Sportsman of the Year and Australian of the Year, being inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame and the Indigenous Hall of Fame and receiving the IOC Women and Sport Trophy for her services. She is currently Co-Patron of Reconciliation Australia with Sir William Deane. Her talent, her achievements and her leadership are beacons that guide all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander athletes.



### **THE JIMMY LITTLE AWARD FOR LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT IN ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT MUSIC**

#### **Col Hardy**

Col Hardy grew up with music all around him. As a Kamilaroi man from a large family of 11 children growing up in Brewarrina NSW, he would listen to the radio at night inspired by the distinctive and powerful voice of one of his favourite singers, Roy Orbison.

Once dubbed the 'gentle giant of country-soul', Col was the first Aboriginal person to win a Golden Guitar at Tamworth. With his rich, deep voice and strong interpretative qualities, he paved the way for future generations of Indigenous singers. A music

industry veteran of 40 years, he has released a total of five records including his landmark debut, *Black Gold*, in 1973.

Col was part of the Opals, a country outfit and sometime house band for Jimmy Little's travelling All-Coloured Review in the early 60's. By the early 70's he was winning over all-white audiences at Tamworth. Over the years, he has toured Australia extensively and performed with some of the biggest names in country music.

His willpower and strong determination to succeed in the music industry has led to his success and the respect of his peers, both young and old. He was inducted into the Country Music Hands of Fame in the 70's and, in 1990 during NAIDOC Week; he was voted NSW Aboriginal Artist of the Year.

When not sharing the gift of his voice with other people, Col works at Taronga Park Zoo where he tells stories and sings. Col received his Order of Australia medal in 2007 for service to the country and music industry as a singer and recording artist, and to the community through the delivery of outreach zoological education programs in regional areas. He is an inspiration to young Indigenous musicians and a role model for all Australians.