

AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR CONTEMPORARY ART

The Australian Centre for Contemporary Art (ACCA) plays an inspirational and critical role investing in our artistic and wider communities, leading the cultural conversation and setting the agenda for contemporary art. Our mission is to Do Art Differently – to challenge, connect and resonate – so that ACCA becomes the go-to place to engage with contemporary art now: a platform for artists, and a centre for the exchange of ideas, to reflect and inspire positive change in people and communities.

Established in 1983 and now situated in an iconic award-winning architectural building in the heart of the Melbourne Arts Precinct, ACCA develops exhibitions of the latest work by significant artists from around the world, commissions ambitious new works by local and international artists, and delivers a range of sophisticated and engaging education and public programs including talks, lectures, symposia, performances, screenings, music and events.

Renowned for the outstanding quality of its programs, and its capacity to bring ground-breaking international art to Australian audiences, ACCA is a champion of new art and bold ideas, and a dynamic platform for current and future generations of artists, thinkers, enthusiasts and supporters of the visual arts.

ACCA acknowledges the Wurundjeri of the Kulin Nations as sovereign custodians of the land on which we work and welcome visitors, and we extend our respect to ancestors and Elders past, present and emerging, and to all First Nations people.

ACCA Values

Challenging and Inspiring
Inclusive, Open and Welcoming
Integrity and Enterprise
Collegiate and Critically engaged

THE YALINGWA INITIATIVE

Yalingwa is a visual arts initiative of the Victorian Government that aims to support the development of outstanding contemporary First Peoples' art and curatorial practice, with a primary focus on South East Australian Aboriginal artists within a national context.

Yalingwa is a major initiative to develop and promote First Peoples leadership and practice. It is a key platform of the state government's *Creative State 2025* strategy, and its objective to ensure that First Peoples knowledge, practice, protocols and cultural authority are at the heart of the creative industries, forging stronger and enduring partnerships with First Peoples creative communities.

Developed as a partnership between Creative Victoria, the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art and TarraWarra Museum of Art, the Yalingwa initiative has been designed as a platform for First Peoples artists and curators to develop their work at a senior professional level within a leading public art gallery and museum context.

Each edition of the Yalingwa series encompasses three discrete but related program elements:

- A two-year curatorial position for a First Peoples curator
- A major exhibition focussing on commissions by contemporary First Peoples artists
- An Artist Fellowship

As we prepare for the third edition of this exciting project, we are seeking applications for the role of Curator at ACCA, a dedicated First Peoples position.

The Curator's role will play a major role in advancing the aims of the Yalingwa program to support and showcase contemporary artists from South Eastern Australia, within a national context. Reflecting the guiding principles and actions outlined in the Victorian Government's First Peoples Action Plan for the Creative Industries [\[https://creative.vic.gov.au/major-initiatives/firstpeoples\]](https://creative.vic.gov.au/major-initiatives/firstpeoples) the role provides a significant platform for artists and cultural practitioners who are Traditional Owners of Victoria.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Title:	Curator
Term of contract:	Two-year fixed term contract
Position Status:	Four days per week (EFT 0.8)
Responsible to:	Artistic Director & CEO and Senior Curator

This position is supported by:



This is a designated Aboriginal position as covered under Section 83 of the Special Measures Provision of Equal Employment Opportunity Act (Vic) 2010. Only Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are eligible to apply for this position.

POSITION PURPOSE

Working under the supervision of ACCA's Senior Curator and Artistic Director & CEO, and with the support and guidance of the external Yalingwa Directions Group, in collaboration with other curatorial staff and team members at ACCA, the Curator takes a leadership role in the development of the third iteration of the Yalingwa Indigenous visual arts initiative. The role also contributes to ACCA's wider artistic program, exhibitions and public programs involving Australian and international artists.

The Curator's role is a key artistic role at ACCA, offering a significant opportunity to work in a curatorial capacity within one of Australia's leading arts organisations, and to develop curatorial and public programs of international standing and relevance.

The Curator position will be centrally involved with ACCA's artistic programs, alongside a wider engagement with the Australian, Indigenous and international contemporary art colleagues and communities.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Curator will join ACCA's professional staff (four days per week / EFT 0.8) and be based at ACCA.

The Curator's position will commence in January 2022. During the two-year period the Curator will have the opportunity to work on a number of exhibitions within ACCA's program – to contribute to curatorial work on national and international exhibitions and public programs.

In consultation with the Senior Curator and Artistic Director, and as part of the Yalingwa initiative, the Curator will:

- Conceive of, develop, manage and deliver a major exhibition of new commissions by First Peoples artists at ACCA in 2023, along with an associated publication. The development of the project will require in-depth research, travel, working with artists and community members, as well as collaborating with internal colleagues, the Yalingwa Directions Group, as well as external institutions and stakeholders on all aspects of exhibition and program delivery. The Curator will research, write and edit exhibition texts, media releases and contribute to associated education and audience engagement programs and the promotion of the exhibition

- Coordinate the applications for the 2022 Yalingwa Fellowship, including the assessment process and communication with artists
- Seek to build meaningful connections with local Traditional Owner communities, organisations, artists and sector colleagues, and contribute to the deepening of ACCA's engagement with First Peoples communities and the advancement of First Nations artistic practice
- Develop and maintain strong relationships with artists and independent curators, contractors and other art industry colleagues (including museums, galleries, cultural and educational institutions, funding bodies, community groups and other stakeholders) to build professional networks and audiences for ACCA's activities and enhance ACCA's profile and outreach
- Develop, deliver and administer a range of innovative First Nations focused projects, including exhibitions, public programs, publications, as well as internal policies and guidelines, working closely with First Peoples Islander artists, communities, and organisations.

The Curator will also work in liaison with, and will be supported by, the Yalingwa Directions Group whose role will include:

- serving as advisors and ambassadors for the development of the Initiative
- providing high-level cultural and community advice regarding cultural procedures, protocols and guidelines to support the delivery of the ACCA's program
- supporting the appointed Curator, First Peoples initiatives and the development of the program through feedback and advocacy
- encouraging First Peoples community engagement with the initiative.

The Curator will represent ACCA and contribute to public, professional and Indigenous community forums (such as through the presentation of talks, lectures, publications and participation in committees, juries and professional and community contexts, where relevant).

The Curator will undertake any other duties commensurate with the level of the post, as may be reasonably required.

YALINGWA TIMELINE

2022:

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| January – June: | Commencement of Curator (Jan)
Curatorial research and exhibition development (Jan–June)
Invitation of artists for exhibition in 2023 (June) |
| July – December: | Call for Expressions of Interest re. Yalingwa Fellowship (July)
Interview shortlisted artists (August)
Announcement of 3 rd Yalingwa Fellow (September)
Curatorial research and exhibition development continues |

2023:

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| June – December: | 3 rd Yalingwa Exhibition, ACCA (July until September)
Reports and Acquittal (Oct – Nov)
Curator's two-year term concludes (Dec) |
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REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS

- Reports directly to the Senior Curator and Artistic Director & CEO, and also to ACCA's Executive Director
- Takes a leadership role promoting First Peoples art practices and informing ACCA colleagues and stakeholders regarding First Peoples cultural practices and protocols
- Collaborates with ACCA staff colleagues across all areas: Exhibitions, Installation, Education, Public Programs, Development, Marketing, Administration, Visitor Experience, Events, Design and Publicity

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY

- Is familiar with and complies with all Occupational Health and Safety standards and processes. Ensure safe work procedures and practices, and compliance with OH&S policies and procedures. Participate in meetings, training and other health and safety activities, as required
- Will comply with and follow all Occupational Health and Safety requirements as set out in all relevant policies, procedures, legislation and Acts
- May be provided with or use equipment that contains electronic monitoring devices

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

- This position is a fixed term, two-year contract from January 2022
- The position is four days per week (EFT 0.8)
- The position is based at ACCA with some travel required nationally from time to time. Flexible working hours will be required
- Salary: The salary package (EFT 0.8) is \$60,000 as follows:

Base compensation: (Pro-rata of \$75,000 p.a. full-time)	\$60,000
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Superannuation (10%)	\$6,000
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Total package:	\$66,000
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- This package includes 0.8 pro rata annual and personal / carer's leave in accordance with the National Employment Standards in the Fair Work Act 2009 (Cth), plus up to three days non statutory company holiday over Christmas
- Appointment will be conditional upon a four-month probationary period

SELECTION CRITERIA

Qualifications and Experience

The role is designated for a First Peoples Curator with demonstrated curatorial, exhibition and project management skills, and demonstrated experience initiating and project managing a range of contemporary art or cultural projects of professional and community standing nationally.

1. Demonstrated curatorial experience in a museum or gallery context; or equivalent experience as a cultural producer
2. Demonstrated high-level engagement with First Peoples artistic and cultural practices and communities in the South-East and nationally
3. Sound knowledge of artists, institutions, established networks and peers and contemporary art contexts nationally and internationally; including an understanding of public and private sector support for contemporary art organisations
4. Strong knowledge of current contemporary art and First Peoples cultural practices, along with an understanding of key debates, histories, theories, technical production and installation of contemporary art and First Peoples cultural practices
5. Excellent problem-solving skills, with a demonstrable ability to manage multiple projects simultaneously, including effectively working with a team of arts professionals, demonstrating excellent collaborative and interpersonal skills

6. Excellent planning, organisational and budget management skills; with a demonstrated ability to think strategically and devise practical solutions to complex issues, including experience in administering contractual arrangements for contemporary art projects with artists, lenders, insurers, installation crew and technical specialists
7. Outstanding communication skills – written, spoken and editorial including the ability to communicate effectively with a broad range of artists, audiences and other stakeholders and a proven track record of publication in the field of contemporary art
8. Tertiary qualifications in a relevant course of study is preferred, or equivalent community cultural knowledge, with at least 3 years' experience working in a relevant context
9. Excellent computer skills, including Word, Excel as well as experience in Photoshop, Sketch Up, and other related software is desirable.

APPLICATIONS

Applications should include a CV, two-pages addressing the selection criteria and three referees and be directed to: Bas van de Kraats, Operations Manager via bas.vandekraats@acca.melbourne

Enquiries should be directed to: Max Delany, Artistic Director and Chief Executive Officer via max.delany@acca.melbourne

Applications close 5pm Monday 17 January 2022

ACCA is an inclusive employer that values diverse perspectives and lived experiences. We are committed to providing a positive, flexible and supportive workplace and to embracing access and inclusion initiatives across the organisation. Please let us know if you have support or access requirements at any stage of this recruitment process.