

## – Media Release – MALANDARRI FESTIVAL

### **2019 celebrates language and dance on Yanyuwa country at this year's Malandarri Festival, Friday 14 – 15 June, Borroloola Showgrounds.**

Known for its strong multi-cultural representation, the Malandarri Festival celebrates both traditional and contemporary arts and cultural practices. The four clan groups living in Borroloola, the Yanyuwa, Garrwa, Gurdanji and Mara people invite visitors from around Australia to enjoy the festivities and immerse themselves in their amazing Indigenous cultures.

“The Malandarri Festival is unique, there is nothing else like it in the Territory. You feel part of it as an audience member, there is a real sense of intimacy” said Marlene Timothy, Malandarri Festival Director, Artback NT.

This year's line-up includes performances from Borroloola clan groups, Ngardiji Dancers, Wandangula and Blind Mermaid Dancers and Mara Dancers. The White Cockatoo Performing Group, Polynesian dance group, Nuholani, Sandridge Band, Malandarri Band and the Barkly Drifters who fuse country blues and rock will also be making special appearances.

“People will see salt water and fresh water peoples performing. The dancing is very different in style to that of Darwin and the desert area. We are looking forward to sharing our culture and inviting others to share theirs” said Timothy.

This year Airnorth is celebrating 40 years and is supporting performers travel to the Malandarri Festival. “The support Artback NT is receiving from Airnorth is invaluable. The remoteness of Borroloola makes travel for performers difficult. This partnership has ensured we are able to bring new and diverse acts to extend the cultural diversity the Festival is known for” said Eve Pawlik, Indigenous Traditional Dance Coordinator.

Festival goers will be able to see a pop-up exhibition with works by local artists produced in a workshop under the guidance of photographer Benjamin Warlangunda Bayliss. There will be family fun activities such as a jumping castle, face painting, dance workshop and soccer and a reading space to share quiet time for parents and carers with babies and toddlers. A marketplace will operate and includes a stall showcasing the traditional bush food and medicine of the region.

### **About the Festival**

The Malandarri Festival is a family friendly, drug and alcohol free event. Entry each day is by gold coin donation and children under 16 are free. Bring a picnic





**Artback NT**

ABN 72 598 610 340

Artback NT acknowledges the  
Traditional Owners of Country  
on which we work and travel.

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blanket and enjoy the food available to purchase from the food stalls on site.  
Gates open at 5.30pm on Friday 14 June and 2pm on Saturday 15 June.

To view available images: <http://bit.ly/2XYDIAY>

To download images:

[https://www.dropbox.com/sh/or5xw0yx5s52o4w/AACxxqr8Z\\_ky99ExSV74EhOla?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/or5xw0yx5s52o4w/AACxxqr8Z_ky99ExSV74EhOla?dl=0)

*Marlene Timothy, Malandarri Festival Director, Artback NT is available for  
interview upon request.*

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Yanyuwa dancers performing, Malandarri Festival, 2018. Photographer: Benjamin WarIngundu Bayliss

# Malandarri Festival 2019

Friday 14 –  
Saturday 15 June,  
Borroloola  
Showgrounds