



PO Box 42119 CASUARINA NT 0801, Australia T: +61 8 8945 5055 F: +61 8945 5011 Email: admin@garmafestival.com.au ABN:28 221 722 606

ICN: 1161 www.garma.com.au

## **CULTURE AT THE CORE OF GARMA 2024**

## Sunday, 28 July, 2024

A weekend of cultural activities and creative forums will allow Garma guests to experience the rich tapestry of Yolngu life and engage in a range of issues important to Indigenous Australians, the Yothu Yindi Foundation said today.

Festival Director Joel Ulbricht said workshops run by senior Yolngu knowledge-holders would shed light on traditional customs and practices that have flourished in the region for millennia.

"At its heart, Garma has always been a celebration of Yolngu culture and a chance to showcase its dances, stories, ceremonies and songs," he said.

"We're lucky to have the wisdom and guidance of senior Yolngu men and women who generously share their time and experience with our guests.

"They can watch the artform of stripping back and dyeing pandanus in preparation for weaving workshops; learn about the use of bush medicines; join Yolngu matha classes; make jewellery using shells collected by our senior Ladies; and sit, see, hear and breathe in the healing sound of the yidaki.

"Enjoy a guided walk through the escarpment, and for our female guests, take the time to attend the Dilthan Yolngunha Women's Healing for something truly special.

"The Dhäwu'mi Wäŋa House of Stories will host a series of fascinating panel discussions, including sessions that focus on First Nations fashion, the vital role of rangers in caring for Sea Country, and songs of protest.

"We also have the incredible Warraw installation, a stunning pavilion made of ghost-netting that pays homage to the work of Indigenous rangers across the nation, and spotlights the issue of marine debris which continues to blight Australia's northern waters."

The 24th annual Garma Festival begins this Friday.

The theme for this year's event is *Gurtha-Wuma Worrk-gu – Fire, Strength and Renewal*.

## **Media Contact**

Jason Frenkel 0402 282 251