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## **Announcement of Architects to Design Garma Institute**

**Monday, 26 August, 2024**

The Yothu Yindi Foundation (YYF) is pleased to announce the architects of choice to design northeast Arnhem Land's world-class Garma Institute.

YYF CEO Denise Bowden confirmed Troppo will work in collaboration with Greenaway Architects and Mantirri Design, a landscape architecture studio, on the state-of-the-art education facility, to be located in Gunyangara.

Mrs Bowden said Greenaway and Mantirri are both Indigenous practices, while Troppo's Top End experience spans 45 years.

"YYF has welcomed the dynamic mix of local and Indigenous advice we've received to date, and together our focus is to create a culturally-responsive, living, breathing VET and tertiary education institute," she said.

"The Garma Institute will be a bank of Yolngu knowledge and wisdom, and the design of the building will embody the six Yolngu seasons found in the Arnhem Land ecosystem.

"YYF has pursued this education vision for more than two decades, and we've now future-proofed the Garma Institute by securing a Tripartite Agreement between the Foundation, and the Commonwealth and Territory governments.

"This game-changing project is an important generational piece for our communities, and brings assurance to the region that our people will have the opportunity and choice to decide a pathway for their future, without having to leave family and culture behind.

"We began the conceptual design process at this year's Garma Festival, and we look to commence construction by 2026."

Troppo, Greenaway Architects, and Mantirri Design said: “For tens of thousands of years Yolŋu have learnt in place, growing and transferring knowledges to shape and enrich sustainable cultural practice. The Garma Institute will offer a contemporary setting in Country, marrying traditional with modern technological ways to continue that learning and knowledge transfer – at the highest educational level, but Yolngu way.

“We – troppo + Greenaway + Mantirri – are honoured to be able to collaborate with Yolŋu in delivering a setting that is ‘just right’ for this new yet ancient way of learning. We expect that the outcome may reshape how we as a modern nation think about learning on our old continent.”

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