Expression of Interest
TUSA RAP Commissioned Artwork

## The Story We Would Like the Artwork to Tell

The Tasmanian University Student Association (TUSA) is developing a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) as part of its commitment to deepening reconciliation and strengthening relationships with Tasmanian Aboriginal people across lutruwita/Tasmania.

As part of this journey, we are inviting proposals from Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander artists and designers based in lutruwita/Tasmania to create an artwork that reflects TUSA’s values, intent, and future direction. Preference will be given to Palawa (Tasmanian Aboriginal) artists based anywhere in Australia during the selection process.

We see this as a collaborative and community-building opportunity — one where the artist’s creative vision, cultural expression, and storytelling are central. We are committed to supporting each artist’s process and practice, and we welcome different ways of knowing, sharing, and creating.

For more information about TUSA’s RAP journey, please visit [Reconciliation Action Plan - TUSA](https://tusa.org.au/13420-2/).

**Important Dates**

* Applications close: Monday 18 August 2025
* Final design from selected artist due: Friday 31 October 2025

## Themes to Explore

We would like the final artwork to reflect:

* Cultural strength, community, and story
* A journey from silence to visibility
* The diversity and richness of Tasmanian Aboriginal communities
* Connection, knowledge, and shared responsibility
* Hope, reflection, and a sense of forward movement

The artwork should invite quiet reflection and spark meaningful conversations — something that resonates with both students and staff, regardless of their background.

## Preferred Artwork Types

We invite proposals for portable artworks suitable for long-term indoor display in a TUSA student- and staff-facing environment. We are particularly interested in:

* Paintings (on canvas or board, suitable for hanging)
* Textile or material-based sculpture (e.g. woven, stitched, or soft forms)
* Wall-mounted 3D works (that can be fixed and unfixed with ease)
* Mixed media installations that may include sound, light, or symbolic materials
* Digital and performance-based formats (e.g. video, dance, music, or spoken word recordings) that can be displayed or integrated in a physical setting

## Practical Considerations

Given the potential for TUSA office relocation in future years, we ask that artwork:

* Be portable or able to be moved without damage
* Require minimal ongoing maintenance
* Be created using durable materials suitable for long-term indoor display

We are open to innovative formats, including multimedia or digital works, so long as they align with the spirit of the brief and the practical needs outlined above.

Shortlisted artists may be contacted for a brief conversation about their proposal prior to a final decision.

The total available budget is $5,000, inclusive of all costs.

## Submission Details

Please submit your completed response form and any supporting materials:

By email to: Mark Warrington – TUSA Equity President

📧 equity.president@tusa.utas.edu.au

OR

In person at the TUSA Office: 1 Churchill Avenue, Sandy Bay

## Need Support or Have Questions?

We’re here to help! If you’d like to talk through your ideas or ask questions about the process, feel free to get in touch with:

Mark Warrington – TUSA Equity President

📧 equity.president@tusa.utas.edu.au

Shauna-Lee Ward – TUSA General Manager

📧 shaunalee.ward@utas.edu.au

To learn more about TUSA, our mission, and values, visit:

🌐 [www.tusa.org.au](http://www.tusa.org.au)

## Artist Response Form

Please complete this form and submit with any additional material (e.g. images, sketches, recordings).

**Artist Details**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name  |  |
| Pronouns (Optional)  |  |
| Email Address  |  |
| Phone Number  |  |
| Cultural Affiliation (optional)  |  |
| Are you a current student at UTAS?  | Yes [ ]  No [ ]  |
| Do you identify as an emerging artist?  | Yes [ ]  No [ ]  |

**About Your Artwork Proposal**

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| --- |
| Please describe your concept for the artwork. Include:- The story or themes you wish to explore- The materials or media you plan to use- How your work connects with the values and vision of the TUSA RAP |
| *(Max 400 words or submit as an attached document)* |

**Examples of Previous Work**

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| Please provide up to 3 examples of your past work. These can be:- Images (JPG or PDF)- Links to videos, audio, or websites- Descriptions with photos attached |
| List your examples below and attach files or include links:1.2.3. |