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ABC celebrates Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women across NAIDOC week

The ABC will celebrate NAIDOC Week 2018 and the crucial roles played by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women in their communities and across the country, with a special suite of programs on television, radio and online, from 8-15 July.

The NAIDOC Week 2018 theme “Because of Her, We Can!” marks the invaluable contributions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women as leaders, trailblazers, politicians, activists and social change advocates, and their continued fight for justice, equality and Indigenous culture, languages, music and art.

ABC Head of Indigenous Kelrick Martin said:

“For more than 30 years, the ABC has recognised the importance of giving a voice on the national stage to Australia’s Indigenous people.

“This NAIDOC Week, we continue to honour our Indigenous communities, particularly the women who form the uncompromising strength and support behind so many of the successes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.”

The ABC Indigenous department is the centre of excellence for production of Indigenous Australian content and the development of Indigenous talent in Australia.

In celebration of NAIDOC Week, the ABC has produced a range of high-quality and distinctive Australian content to inform, entertain and inspire audiences, including:

- ***HerStory***: A special roundtable discussion by Indigenous female actors, writers and producers about the contribution of women to their communities, history, survival and identity. Featuring Rachel Perkins, Nakkiah Lui, Sally Riley and Nayuka Gorrie. Hosted by Brooke Boney. **ABC TV and iview 12 July, 8.50pm.**
- ***Black As***: Go bush with the Black As boys in their second series, as they hunt for adventure and a good feed in Arnhem Land. **ABC iview from 11 July.**
- ***Dinghy Girls***: Quirky, fun-filled all-girls’ adventure about life and hunting on the frontier of the Torres Strait Islands. **ABC iview from 8 July.**
- ***Grace Beside Me***: Indigenous teenager Fuzzy Mac’s life is turned upside down on her 13th birthday, when she discovers she can communicate with spirits, in this children’s drama series co-commissioned by the ABC with NITV. **ABC ME app/iview and TV from Monday 8 July, 5pm.**

- ***The Kununurra Kid:*** There's something about outback Australia that fires the spirit of the adventurous Tom Forrest. Now he's taking his Kununurra sprit on the road. **ABC iview from 8 July.**

The ABC, in partnership with First Languages Australia, will also mark NAIDOC Week by launching the "This Place" project, which invites Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders to create short videos about place names and the stories behind them.

The 12-month online project aims to build awareness and understanding of traditional Indigenous place names, including the role of Dreaming stories and historical events in giving meaning to well-known locations.

In August, the ABC will further demonstrate its commitment to Indigenous content and creativity as the official media partner of the 2018 Garma Festival, the annual celebration of the culture of the Yolngu (Aboriginal people of north-east Arnhem Land).

From 3-6 August, the ABC will broadcast live from the festival, renewing its commitment to bringing together Indigenous Australians to talk frankly with each other and to focus attention on the issues most relevant to Indigenous communities.

The ABC's NAIDOC Week celebrations run from Sunday 8 July to Sunday 15 July, across television, radio and digital services. See below for further program highlights or visit: <http://abc.net.au/naidoc>

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ABC HIGHLIGHTS FOR NAIDOC WEEK 8-15 JULY 2018

ABC TV

The Warriors: Follow Indigenous athletes as they train for and play AFL. But life is not only about the game. ABC iview from 8 July.

Saul: Namatjira Project: From the Australian desert to Buckingham Palace, trace the lives of the Namatjira family as they fight to regain copyright to their grandfather Albert Namatjira's iconic artwork. ABC TV and iview from 8 July, 9.30pm.

Move it Mobstyle: An Indigenous youth dance-based health and fitness program. Broadcast daily from 7 July at 8.45pm or catch-up on iview.

Ngarrindjeri Speaking for Sea-Country: profiles of four Ngarrindjeri artists and their connections to country and culture. ABC iview from 8 July.

Blight: An Aboriginal tracker led by a police sergeant tracks down a criminal in the West Australian outback during the early colonial era. ABC iview from 8 July.

Ward One: An unashamedly racist young white fella in a hospital ward is confronted by sharing his room with an elderly Aboriginal nana. ABC iview from 8 July.

Last Drink's at Frida's: An insomniac black soldier returning home from war is seduced by the sounds of a jazz singer. ABC iview from 8 July.

ABC ME

Advice to My 12-Year-Old Self: Indigenous Australians share their thoughts on the theme “Because of Her, We Can!” and celebrate the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women who have impacted their lives. ABC ME app/iview from 8 July.

Little J and Big Cuz: Little J and Big Cuz are two Indigenous Australian kids finding out about culture, community and culture, in this Logie Award-winning series. Broadcast daily from 8 July at 4pm.

News to Me: Indigenous actor Kamil Ellis hosts the weekly wrap up of good news and reviews, plus an interview with *Grace Beside Me* star Kylic Masella. ABC ME app/iview from 8 July or broadcast on 9 July at 9.30am.

Shame: Jaral struggles with being a 12-year-old girl while trying to learn Noongar language to honour her family and culture. ABC ME app/iview from 9 July.

ABC KIDS

Grandpa Honeyant's Storytime: Children's short stories series narrated by an Indigenous character named Grandpa Honeyant. ABC KIDS app/iview from 8 July.

Play School: Special Indigenous Australian content includes performances of traditional songs and stories. ABC KIDS app/iview from 8 July.

ABC KIDS listen app: Featured content includes the *Because of Her, We Can!* poem voiced by Christine Anu and *Because of Her* song by Auntie Joyce Bonner – a driving force behind keeping the Butchulla language alive in schools in the Fraser coast region. Plus Indigenous language IDs in Ambeyan, Keerray Woorroong, Meriam Mir, Ngiyambaa, Walmadjari and Warrgamay languages.

ABC RADIO AND ONLINE

AWAYE! Because of her: RN presents a series of short videos and audio features focusing on the leadership of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women throughout history, featuring Senator Malarndirri McCarthy, Bangarra's Stephen Page, comedian Craig Quartermaine and rap artist Ziggy Ramo.

The Hub on RN (10-11am daily), including: *The Hub on Stage* features the Australian Dance Theatre's *Beginning of Nature* (9 July); *The Hub on Books* feature John Kinsella and Charmaine Papertalk Green discussing their book *False Claims and Colonial Thieves* (10 July); *The Hub on Art* features guest presenter Daniel Browning (11 July).

The Bookshelf on RN: Segment “Bookshelf That Made Me” with Indigenous writer Kim Scott, 13 July at 12pm.

We can, we do: A series of short videos and audio across the ABC celebrating women from regional and remote Australia who are making a difference in their local communities.

Radio idents in language: The ABC will release 55 new radio idents in local Indigenous languages, to be broadcast on local radio stations in the areas where those languages are from. The idents are recorded as part of an ongoing commitment between the ABC and First Languages Australia.

ABC Radio: ABC local Radio will present specialist content including live broadcasts from NAIDOC Week events around the country.

Speaking Out NAIDOC special: ABC Local Radio’s *Speaking Out* program presents a panel about Indigenous nurses, recorded on International Women’s Day.

triple j Unearthed: Three Indigenous musicians collaborate on a new song, plus former Unearthed High star and NIMA winner Tia Gostelow takes on *Like a Version*.

Classic FM: Featured artists include Gurrumul, William Barton and Deborah Cheetham, plus selections of great Indigenous classical works and performances.

Heywire: The annual regional youth project features a series of short videos on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.

ABC NEWS

Rough Justice – a new future for our youth?: The ABC will premiere a special television, social media and online project that examines failings by governments in the Northern Territory and at the federal level to improve the child protection and youth justice systems for Indigenous people, despite the recommendations of the Royal Commission into the Protection and Detection of Children in the Northern Territory. Child protection and youth justice staff, Indigenous organisations, police, politicians and Indigenous youth who have been in care and detention, discuss what needs to be done. ABC NEWS on 13 July at 9.15pm.

ABC NEWS on TV, radio and online will feature special reports and coverage of NAIDOC Week activities, including community events on the ABC NEWS channel and 7pm ABC NEWS bulletins, as Australia celebrates the history, culture and achievements of Indigenous Australians.