

Media Release

3 May 2019

Local writer and artist, Tamara Howie, takes out residency opportunity at Darwin Airport

Today Darwin International Airport announces the much-anticipated news of who will be undertaking a creative residency at the airport terminal. Set to take place in a new studio space in the Departure Lounge – and part of Darwin Airport’s Green Room program – the residency will begin on Monday 13th May and continue until mid June.

“We’re absolutely thrilled to provide this opportunity to local creative, Tamara Howie. We know Tamara’s unique skillset of writing, art and photography will enable her to create something truly engaging and surprising,” said Green Room project manager, Claire Punch.

As a visual artist, writer and arts professional, Tamara Howie says the residency will provide her with the space and time to hone her craft and hopefully develop a visual narrative that reflects Darwin, the Northern Territory and those who pass through it.

“I am a journalist by day and have an interest in writing creative non-fiction, and representing true, unknown and personal stories in new ways. As a visual artist my studies were in printmaking and soft sculpture, but I’d like to be able to return to my roots of drawing and my new interest in photography to aid with visual story telling.”

Throughout the residency, Tamara will create a group of portraits and collect stories that will eventually be exhibited in the terminal, but the results and breadth of this installation will be something that evolves throughout the coming month: watch this space.

Competition was tough, to say the least. Darwin Airport received a large number of applications for the residency, which offered one NT-based arts professional a chance to be paid while developing their work. A number of integral supporters, including major sponsors, Jacana Energy and Hunt & Hunt Lawyers, helped make this opportunity possible.

Although the airport would like to sincerely thank everyone who applied and acknowledge their skills, creativity and ambition in taking part, there was a shortlisted group – also being announced today – who should be commended for the strength and diversity of their applications.

Shortlisted Applicants

Matilda Allegra, fashion designer
Steven Moore, artist and illustrator
David Garnham, musician and songwriter
Kylie Stevenson, writer and storyteller
NT Dance Company, local dance group led by Gary Lang
Rhett Hammerton, artist and photographer
Serina Pech, musician and songwriter

The Green Room studio will open with the introduction of this residency and is an extension of The Green Room lounge and performance area that already exists in the Departure Lounge of the terminal. Open to everyone to enjoy, the space is community-focussed, providing a way for local Top End arts professionals and organisations to share their events, performances, and rich digital content with the world. The residency will also launch this year's program, set to turn heads at Darwin International Airport throughout the dry season, and beyond.

The Green Room is designed to transform the terminal, reflect our unique Top End lifestyle, and make passengers feel welcome. The Darwin community is welcomed, if not encouraged, to take this opportunity to learn more about arts and culture in the Top End, and say 'G'day' to Tamara Howie as she undertakes her work – maybe even pose for a portrait, share a story and become part of the eventual project that will be presented in the terminal.

For media and Green Room enquiries, please contact:

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Darwin International Airport would like to acknowledge the following organisations for their support of the Green Room Artist in Residence program.

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