



MEDIA RELEASE
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ECG'S KOORI ART PROGRAM TOPS THE STATE AGAIN

Brayakoloong – an innovative Koorie Art program in West Gippsland has earned ECG (Education Centre Gippsland) the state's top ACE provider of the year for outstanding Koorie Achievement.

The awards announced by Minister for Skills and Workforce Participation, Jacinta Allen recognise outstanding achievement in the Adult Community Education (ACE) sector across Victoria.

ECG Manager Jeff Tellefson said it was a significant honour to win an ACE award as nominations were received from education providers right across the state.

“It is the second major award win for the Koorie Art program. Last year, ECG took out top ACE Provider of the Year at the Wurreker Awards by the Victorian Aboriginal Education Association Incorporated (VAEAI).

“Brayakoloong has been a highly successful program for the local indigenous community not only in nurturing the artistic talents and business skills of the young men involved, but for the positive contribution it has made to the wider community with their work extended into schools and community projects.

“The Brayakoloong group has had numerous exhibitions at state-wide festivals, events, and are commissioned to produce art works.”

ECG Chief Executive Officer Bernadette O'Connor commended the West Gippsland Indigenous community for its commitment and support to the Brayakoloong program.

“ECG staff member Maryanne Meyer is also commended for her role in developing the program, building partnerships with community and Baw Baw Shire Council, and supporting the group every step of the way.

“ECG wants to build on what has been achieved through this program to increase opportunities for local Koorie people to connect, and access training that delivers real outcomes to improve their skills and life opportunities.

“This year, ECG was pleased to begin a second program, based on Brayakoloong, to indigenous women which is starting to take off.”

In addition to winning the ACE Outstanding Koorie Achievement award, ECG's Manager of Southern Gippsland, David Lane was announced as one of the State's top three 'Outstanding Adult Community Education (ACE) Practitioners'.

Bernadette O'Connor, said it was hugely exciting to be recognised in this Awards program.

"The wealth of programs and activities represented by ACE providers from across this state is testament to the ACE sector and its impact and interaction with the communities they serve."

For more information on ECG visit www.ecg.vic.edu.au or phone Warragul on 5622 6000.

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Minister Jacinta Allen with ECG's Jeff Tellefson



Minister Jacinta Allen with ECG's David Lane