



Yamatji Marlpa ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

Yamatji stories preserved for future generations

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Photo: Charmaine Green on country in Mullewa with FTI Film Crew.

Geraldton-based artist and writer Charmaine Green has recently been working with WA's Film & Television Institute (FTI) and Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC) to record her stories about growing up in WA's Midwest as part of a new initiative to preserve Indigenous culture.

Indigenous Community Stories, run by FTI in partnership with Rio Tinto, ScreenWest, Leighton and Ngarda Civil and Mining, aims to digitally archive one hundred West Australian Indigenous stories on film for future generations to view over the next one hundred years and beyond.

Ms Green became involved in the project with the support of YMAC. She said she wanted to show Indigenous youth that living and growing up in small rural towns does not make dreams impossible to achieve.

“My story follows the cultural footprints of my family as they lived according to the whims of West Australian government legislation during the 1940s and 1950s, first on the outskirts of Mullewa and then within the town itself”, she said.

“I wanted to show through this project that while many of our Elders suffered harsh living conditions and severe disruption to their lives, they still found a way to uphold their culture. Younger generations need to remember this history and realise that although they may think life as an Aboriginal person is sometimes tough, anything is possible to achieve”.

Indigenous Community Stories manager Taryne Laffar says she finds the responsibility of overseeing the project thoroughly rewarding.

“As an advocate of Indigenous voices on all platforms, the opportunity to work in my chosen field of film production with FTI, collecting these important stories, is not only a pleasure but an utter privilege”, said Laffar.

For more information on the Indigenous Community Stories project, visit <https://www.fti.asn.au/make/icstories>

About Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation

Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC) is the native title representative body for native title claims in the Pilbara, Murchison and Gascoyne areas of Western Australia. The organisation has a representative area of almost one million square kilometres and represents over 20 native title claims, all with their own language, culture and traditions.

YMAC is a non-government, not-for-profit organisation, run by an Aboriginal Board and provides a range of services to its members including claim and future-act representation, heritage protection services, community and economic development and natural resource management.

For interviews and high resolution photos please contact:

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