

YOTHU YINDI

FOUNDATION



Garma

1 - 4 August, 2014

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MEDIA RELEASE

NEW GARMA KNOWLEDGE CENTRE NEARS COMPLETION

Tuesday 03 June, 2014

Construction of the new Garma Knowledge Centre is progressing well, and will be completed in time for the official opening of Garma 2014, the Yothu Yindi Foundation (YYF) announced today.

With less than two months to go before this year's event kicks off, YYF Chairman Galarrwuy Yunupingu AM said the Knowledge Centre would be an important hub for the Yolngu people, showcasing the stories and narratives of their history and helping them to realise their vision for the future.

It will feature an eye-catching auditorium for up to 150 people, and a teaching room and office space for the delivery of higher education courses and modules.

"The new Knowledge Centre has been built in the shape of an anchor, which has a very strong symbolic importance for Yolngu," Mr Yunupingu said.

"The anchor represents unity and strength. It anchors Yolngu to our land and makes real our ties to the ceremonial meeting ground at Gulkula.

"At Gulkula our guests are anchored to us and share in our cultural strength."

Garma 2014 will be held on August 1-4 at Gulkula, the traditional Yolngu ceremonial site in north-east Arnhem Land that has become home to the Garma experience.

The Foundation's CEO, Denise Bowden, said Garma had cemented its reputation in recent years as the leading Indigenous event on the calendar.

"The Key Forum is now recognised as the major national platform for the discussion and debate of major issues and challenges confronting Indigenous Australians today," she said.

“The theme for this year's Key Forum is *Responsibility, Reform and Recognition*.

“At the same time, the Youth Forum is growing in stature each year, giving the next generation of Indigenous leaders the chance to voice their aspirations and build the future that they want.

“And as the sun sets, and the day's talking comes to a close, we move to the Bunggul grounds to witness the spectacular celebration of cultural traditions and ceremonial practices through *manikay* (song), *bunggul* (dance), music and *miny'tji* (art).”

Once again, major sponsor Qantas are offering discounted charter flights for Garma guests. Seating is strictly limited, so patrons are encouraged to book now and avoid disappointment.

The incoming charter flight leaves Darwin at 19.55 on 31 July, arriving in Gove at 21.10.
The outgoing charter flight leaves Gove at 07.35 on 5 August, arriving in Darwin at 08.45

Charter flights can be booked through Brad Thomas at Entertainment Travel Productions:
bradt@travelpartners.com.au / (02) 9280 3767 / 0403 941 184

For more information on Garma 2014, or to book your tickets, please visit
<http://www.garmafestival.com.au/>

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