

BLAK DINGO CLUB



Initiated by Bibbulmun Noongar and Kungarakan artist Ilona McGuire, the Blak Dingo Club is a Whadjuk-led community club for historically and politically conscious individuals to come together in truth-telling of our shared histories, harmony and celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander excellence.

“Blak Dingo Club was founded in early 2024, some months following the 2023 Australian national referendum results. I found that the divisiveness in our wider community was severely affecting the wellbeing of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander people (ATSI) and our valued allies.

After lots of yarns with family and friends, I realised we generally were left feeling confused, angry and hopeless. Our hearts were hardened more than ever. I wanted to create something that could radiate love and fellowship as resistance to this anguish, something to look forward to that wouldn't let us down. Our Mob (ATSI) spend so much of our precious time, space and energy at the centre of the political, racial and historical pressure cooker of Australia.

So Blak Dingo Club is a well-deserved break from that, it serves as a reclamation of space to re-energise, relax, laugh through fun events and activities, because we deserve it!”

Ilona McGuire



The Blak Dingo Club program of events by Ilona McGuire was commissioned for Melville Storylines 2024.

Blak Dingo Club Reading Nooks

**AH Bracks Library + Creative Space
Wilgi Kaartdijin Mia Willagee Library**

1 to 31 October | Library opening hours

Throughout October, library visitors can immerse themselves in Blak Dingo Club reading nooks, complete with books and dreamy teen bedroom paraphernalia. Explore a thoughtfully curated collection of stories in these special library installation projects.



Blak Dingo Club Movie Nights

Melville Main Hall

Wednesdays 2, 16 + 23 October | 6.45pm

Enjoy a mini film festival of film on the big screen at Melville Main Hall, where we celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander film history, actors, filmmakers, producers, and stories. Over three nights in October, join us for mid-week movies featuring a short film and a main feature film each evening, curated by Ilona McGuire. Bring your friends and movie snacks and settle in for a Blak Dingo Club takeover — bookings essential as capacity is limited.

Wednesday, 2 October | 6.45pm

Nulla Nulla, 2015, 5 min, NR, Directed by Dylan River

Mabo, 2012, 103 mins, PG, Directed by Rachel Perkins

Wednesday, 16 October | 6.45pm

Crocodile Dreaming, 2007, 27 mins, M, Directed by Darlene Johnson

Ten Canoes, 2006, 90 mins, M, Directed by Peter Djigirr & Rolf de Heer

Wednesday, 23 October | 6.45pm

Nana, 2007, 6 mins, PG, Directed by Warwick Thornton

Freeman, 2020, 58mins, G, Directed by Laurence Billet & Stephen Page



Blak Dingo Club Reading Group

AH Bracks Library + Creative Space

Saturday 12 October | 10.00am to 12noon

Join us in a special Blak Dingo Club reading circle to read and share in a discussion around our shared histories woven through Carol Pettersen's powerful story 'Too white to be black, too black to be white ...' from the award-winning anthology *Growing Up Aboriginal in Australia*, edited by Anita Heiss. Please note bookings are essential as spaces are limited.



Blak Dingo Club Quiz Night

Melville Main Hall

Friday, 18 October | 6.30pm

Gather your friends for an unforgettable quiz night where we'll test your knowledge on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander sporting legends, creatives, change-makers, pop-culture and history.

Book in a team and send us your team's name or sign up to be assigned to a table on the night. Bring your favourite table snacks along and don't forget to brush up on your Freeman, Freedom Rides and Songs for Freedom.

This quiz night is recommended for adults aged 16 and over. Bookings are essential as spaces are limited.



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