

# Expressions of Interest

## Original artwork for Aboriginal culturally safe space

### DESIGN BRIEF

#### **Original artwork for Aboriginal culturally safe space in the State Library of Western Australia.**

The State Library of WA is seeking submissions from established or emerging Western Australian Aboriginal artists, to create a contemporary artwork for a new culturally safe space in the State Library building. The new space is designed for Aboriginal people, families, and community groups to access State Library and State Records collections and Aboriginal History WA services, which include personal and family records and for family history research.

The selected artwork will be included in the State Library collections. It should be suitable for reproduction which can feature across design elements that identify the space on the third floor of the State Library, as wayfinding to guide visitors from the Perth Cultural Centre into the space and for promotional material relating to the services and activities relating to the space.

#### **1.0 Background**

The State Library is situated on Whadjuk Noongar Country and is part of the Perth Cultural Centre Precinct.

The State Library, State Records Office and Aboriginal History WA are establishing a dedicated culturally safe space for Aboriginal people to access collections, records, and family history services on the third floor of the State Library building. While the State Library building is located on Whadjuk Noongar land the organisation provides services and holds collections relating to the whole of Western Australia and many different language groups across the State.

The discovery of personal histories and ancestry can result in a range of outcomes for Aboriginal people, it can be a confronting and distressing experience as well as a joyful one and should be delivered in a setting that is culturally safe, private, and one that provides an environment for trauma-based response. Collections held by the State Library and State Records Office reflect the violence of colonisation, dispossession, mission histories, forced labour, imprisonment, Government control over Aboriginal lives and personal information relating to

survivors of the Stolen Generations. Viewing these collections may trigger grief. Finding information often requires searching through a range of records and digital access may not always be available. Our organisations are coming together to create an appropriate environment to help people to find information across our collections that relates to them and their families.

The space will welcome Aboriginal clients and support truth-telling, aspects of healing, and reconciliation, while celebrating Aboriginal culture, history, stories and knowledge from across Western Australia.

#### **2.0 The Project**

This project will include the design and fabrication of a new, site-specific artwork for the Aboriginal culturally safe space on the third floor (Battye Library) of the State Library building.

The designated space provides several design opportunities. The design may be a single work or series of works. The artwork could be 2D, sculptural, or include elements of both in the design.

Please refer to the appendix for plans, measurements and photographs of the designated space, which indicate several location options for the artwork.

The project will include the following elements:

- 2.1 A contemporary site-specific artwork which will welcome the public into the space.
- 2.2 A licence to reproduce the artwork, or any part thereof, for non-commercial use which includes the Library's publications and for purposes of marketing and promotion.
  - Wayfinding signage from the ground level to the third floor and
  - Promotional material relating to the programs, activities, and collection material in the space.
  - Printing on fabric acoustic panelling within the space

The digital file may be provided by the artist or permission given for the library to create a digital file of artwork.

2.3 A selection of draft material produced, such as sketches of the artwork and supporting material, will be collected as an element of the artwork project. This may include an interview with the artist and photographs of the artist and artwork. With consent of the artist these items and photographs of the artwork could be used for State Library publications, eg annual report.

The successful artist will be responsible for:

- Managing the project budget including coordinating and paying any specialist fabricators or sub-contractors.
- Managing the fabrication and installation process.
- Liaising with the Library's Project Group.

### 3.0 Design criteria

The following design criteria will be assessed and should be considered in your Submission Response:

- 3.1 The extent to which the artwork creates a visual identity for the space (30%).
- 3.2 The extent to which the artwork reflects a contemporary response to the themes of Aboriginal storytelling, connection to culture, country, family and/or healing (30%).

3.3 The extent to which the artwork can be effectively used in design, promotion and wayfinding or adapted for different uses by the State Library (20%).

3.4 The extent to which the artwork creatively responds to the setting within the State Library, or to Western Australian history and collections (20%).

### 4.0 Artist fees

\$80,000 is available, which is exclusive of GST and will be inclusive of the following:

- 4.1 Conceptual design.
- 4.2 Fabrication and installation, including all fittings, lighting elements, structural elements, and dependent upon the weight of the artwork, engineering reports.
- 4.3 Licensing for use in promotional materials, wayfinding and design elements in the space.

Shortlisted respondents will be offered \$500 (excl GST) to produce a Concept Brief. For the selected finalist, this payment will be in addition to the artist's fee.

Submissions should include a cost breakdown.

### 5.0 Project Timeline and Submission Process

Please begin to think about your proposed artwork concept.

<b>Submissions due by close of business Monday 26/09/2022</b>	Submit your Expression of Interest to <b>collections@slwa.wa.gov.au</b> EOI should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CV of no more than two pages with a brief artist biography.</li> <li>● At least three examples (no more than six) of previous work to demonstrate similar experience (website links to direct images are accepted).</li> </ul>
<b>Monday 10/10/2022</b>	Shortlisting notified. The Project Committee will shortlist a maximum of three submissions and request a Concept Brief of the proposed artwork in a digital format. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Shortlisted artists will be paid a \$500 fee for the Concept Brief.</li> <li>● Shortlisted artists will have four weeks to develop their Concept Briefs .</li> </ul>
<b>Monday 7/11/2022</b>	Shortlisted Concept Briefs submitted (submission instructions to be provided to respondents).
<b>Monday 21/11/2022</b>	Project Committee will select and advise the successful applicant.
<b>Monday 5/12/2022</b>	The successful artist will be required to enter into a formal written artwork commissioning contract with the Library. A copy of the template contract will be provided to all shortlisted applicants.
<b>By Monday 27/02/2023</b>	Final artwork to be delivered and installed.

## 6.0 Project Committee

The Project Committee will shortlist and select the successful artist and will work alongside the artist to ensure communication, support, cultural safety and project milestones are provided and met. The Project Committee will be comprised of non-Indigenous and Indigenous members and include a Noongar Cultural Advisor.

### Appendix:

#### 1. Exclusions

The following materials will not be approved for use due to the preservation requirements of the Library's collections.

- Plant material such as seeds, grasses and flowers.
- Animal material such as feathers.

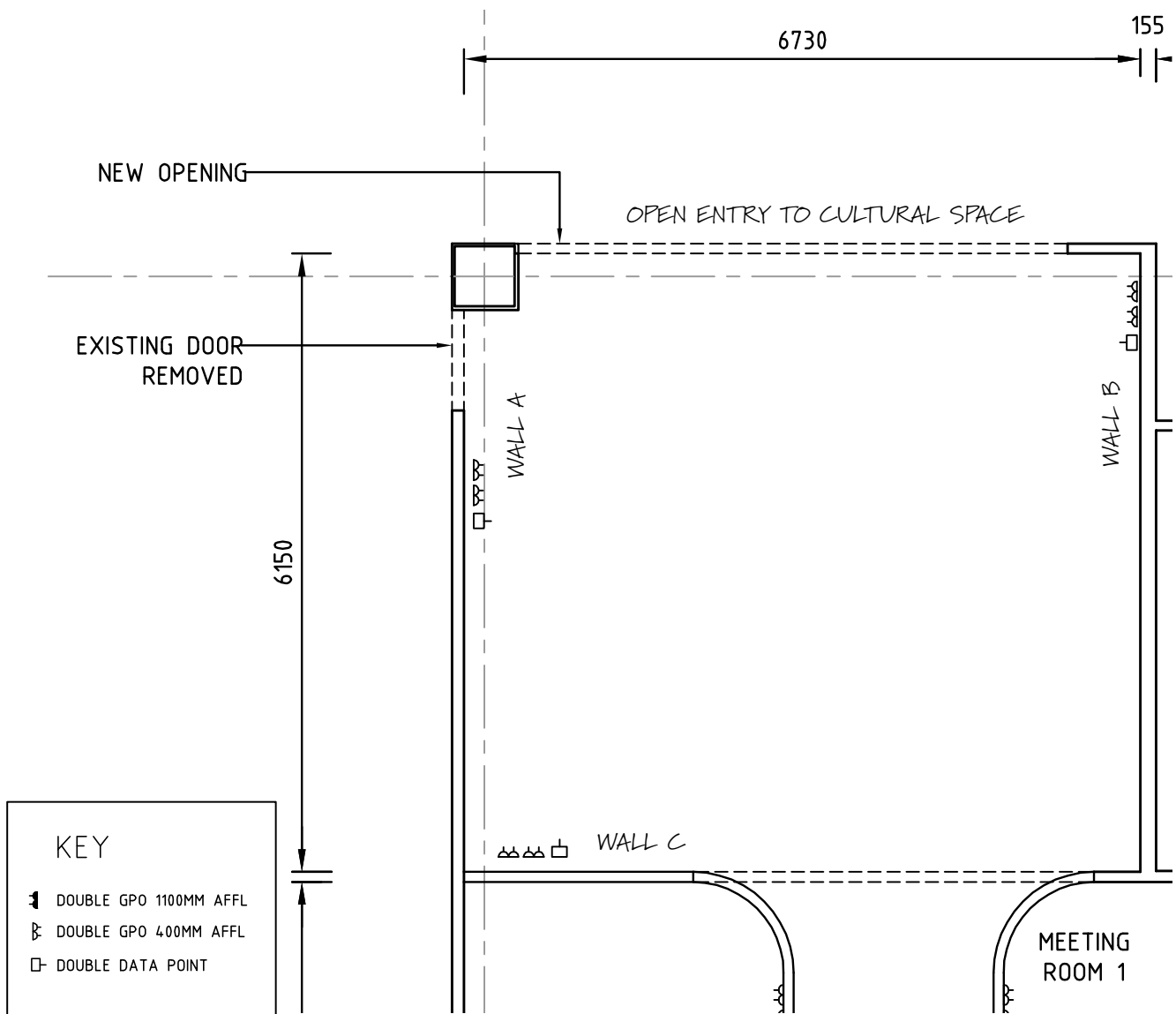
#### 3. Plan of the space

## 7.0 Enquiries

For more information, please contact Rosene Saks, Collection Liaison Librarian, State Library of Western Australia [rosene.saks@slwa.wa.gov.au](mailto:rosene.saks@slwa.wa.gov.au)

#### 2. Measurements

- Internal height of the space: 3 metres to the internal ceiling
- Wall A: 4,600mm x 3,000mm
- Wall B: 6,150mm x 3,000mm
- Wall C: 1,700mm x 3,000mm



#### 4. Photographs of the location



#### Disclaimer

This information is provided by the State Library of Western Australia exclusively for the purpose of assisting artists to tender for the proposed artwork commission and should not be relied upon for any other purpose.

The reliability and accuracy of information in this document is indicative only for the purposes of the tender process and the State Library of Western Australia, its officers, employees, agents, consultants, and advisers expressly disclaim all liability, including liability in negligence, to any third party for any act or omission done in reliance on such information.

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