



Introduction and Invitation

Creative Message Exchange

Connecting people across the oceans

For love of the Living World

Curators Dr Laura Brearley

Susan Hall

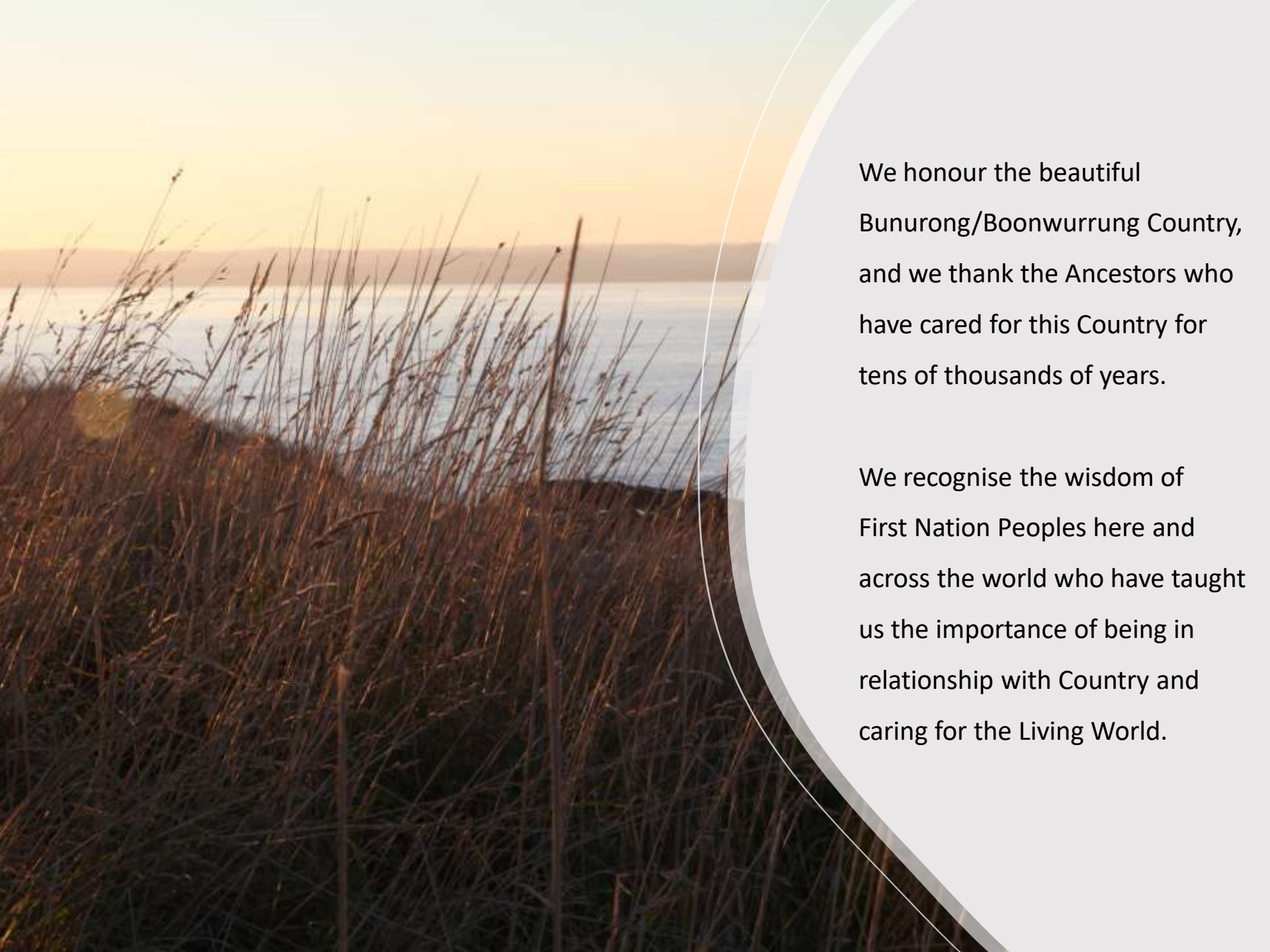


Supported by Bass Coast Shire Council



Collaborative artwork by Susan Hall and Navajo printmaker Melanie Yazzie





We honour the beautiful
Bunurong/Boonwurrung Country,
and we thank the Ancestors who
have cared for this Country for
tens of thousands of years.

We recognise the wisdom of
First Nation Peoples here and
across the world who have taught
us the importance of being in
relationship with Country and
caring for the Living World.



INVITATION

Creative Message Exchange

Welcome to the Creative Message Exchange taking place between artists, educators, children and First Nation Elders in Bass Coast and Turtle Island (Canada/USA).

The Exchange is part of an Eco Arts project *For Our Future*. <https://picsvictoria.org.au/for-our-future/> and builds on an Exchange that has been taking place since 2008.

Contained on this USB are Eco Arts Messages which focus on our shared love and concern for the Living World. The messages are in the form of artworks, poems, songs and films from the Bass Coast community on Boonwurrung/Bunurong Country in Victoria, Australia.

We would love to receive some messages from you and hear about your environmental interests and the special blue and green places in your part of the world.

We will incorporate what you send us into an Eco Arts exhibition 'Ocean Messages' being held at Wonthaggi ArtSpace in Bass Coast in August/September 2023. Please send your messages, songs, artworks digitally to laura.brearley@tlc21.com.au by 28th July.

Looking forward to connecting with you across the oceans.

Laura Brearley and Susan Hall



Artwork by Susan Hall

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Songs of the Living World

A Collection of Environmental Songs on the themes of Respect, Protect, Connect

With Lyrics, Chord Charts, Musical Notations and Album





Dr Laura Brearley specialises in environmental and intercultural arts, education and creative research. She is a singer and song-writer.

Laura has played a leadership role in community-based Eco Arts projects in Bass Coast since 2012. She is the Coordinator of 'For Our Future'.





Susan is a Lead Artist
in the Eco Arts project
'For Our Future'.

Susan Hall is an artist based
in Inverloch. She paints in
acrylics and oils and also works
in printmaking, small sculpture
and charcoal.





‘For Our Future’ is a community-based project facilitating an environmental program of Eco Arts events and activities for the Bass Coast community and beyond.



For Our Future is designed to inspire environmental stewardship, deepening a sense of connection with each other and the Living World.

The program brings together the Arts, Science and Culture and is intercultural, intergenerational and interdisciplinary.



For Our Future

Creative Collaborations

Community Events

Intercultural

Short Films

Intergenerational

Deep Listening Circles

Eco Arts Workshops

Exhibitions

Concerts

Interdisciplinary



For more information on the Eco Arts project 'For Our Future'

<https://picsvictoria.org.au/for-our-future/>



A Creative Message Exchange connects people of all ages and cultures, across time and distance.

Through different ways of knowing, the messages reveal what matters to us most.

Here are some messages from previous Message Exchanges between children, Elders, artists, and educators that reveal our shared love of the Living World.

Sample Questions and Message Templates



How would you describe your special place?



What do you love about it?



How do you
feel when you
are there?



My special place in nature is ...

Three words which describe my special place are ...

I love it because ...

Name and Age (Optional) ...





Name and Age (Optional) ...

Deep Listening to the Living World

When I sit by a river ...

I see ...

I hear ...

I feel ...

I know ...

When I walk in the forest ...

I see ...

I hear ...

I feel ...

I know ...

When I stand by the ocean ...

I see ...

I hear ...

I feel ...

I know ...



Blue and Green Places We Love

Grade Two
Newhaven College
Millowl (Phillip Island)



Forest caves

My special place in nature is ...

I love it because ... It's calm and no noizy sounds or screaming its just no sound except for ocean washing on the rocks. And i love going surfing there

When I am there I feel ... Relaxed, calm, gentle and i love it there.
It makes me feel very special.

Name and Age (Optional)

FRANKS 8



COASTAL
CONNECTIONS

My special place in nature is ... *Right Point*

I love it because ... *I can surf there*

When I am there I feel ... *Safe, calm and happy.*



Name and Age (Optional) ... *Scarlett 8*

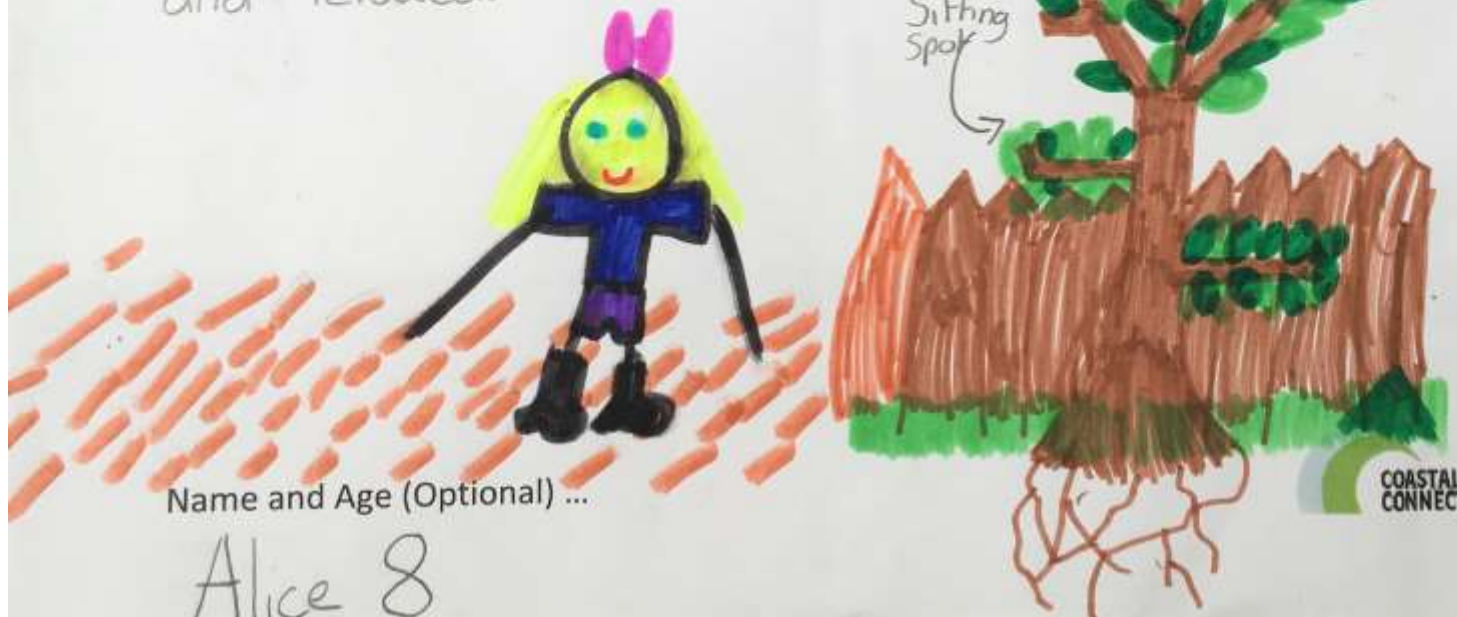


My special place in nature is ... My tree

I love it because ... When I am tired or upset it makes me feel like I am in a peaceful spot and it is really quiet.

When I am there I feel ...

Quiet, Calm
and relaxed.



Name and Age (Optional) ...

Alice 8

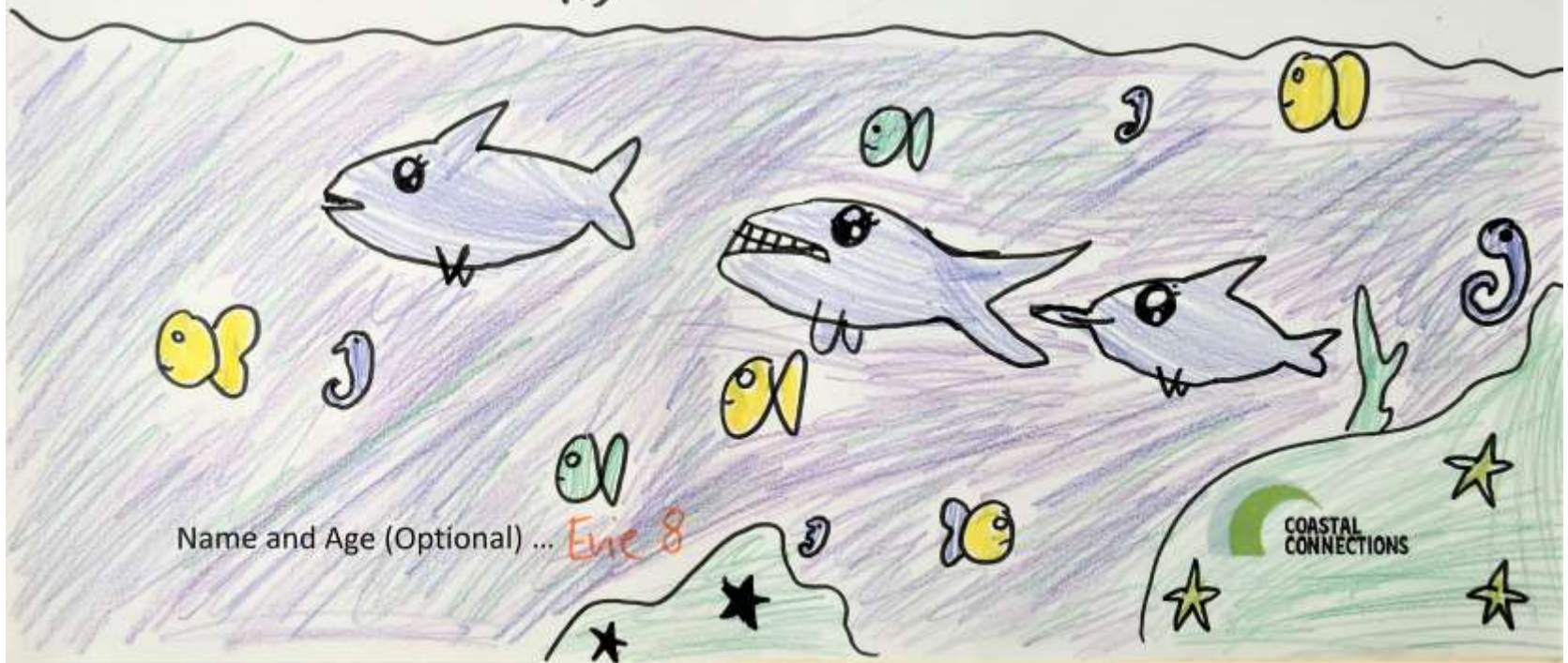
COASTAL
CONNECTIONS

My special place in nature is ... Cape Patterson bay beach



I love it because ... there is lots of animals

When I am there I feel ... happy and calm



Name and Age (Optional) ... Eric 8



My special place in nature is ...

Cowes Beach

I love it because ...

I like to swim
there

When I am there I feel ...

happy because
the waves
crash and
the critters
are crawling



Name and Age (Optional) ...

McKenzie



My special place in nature is ...

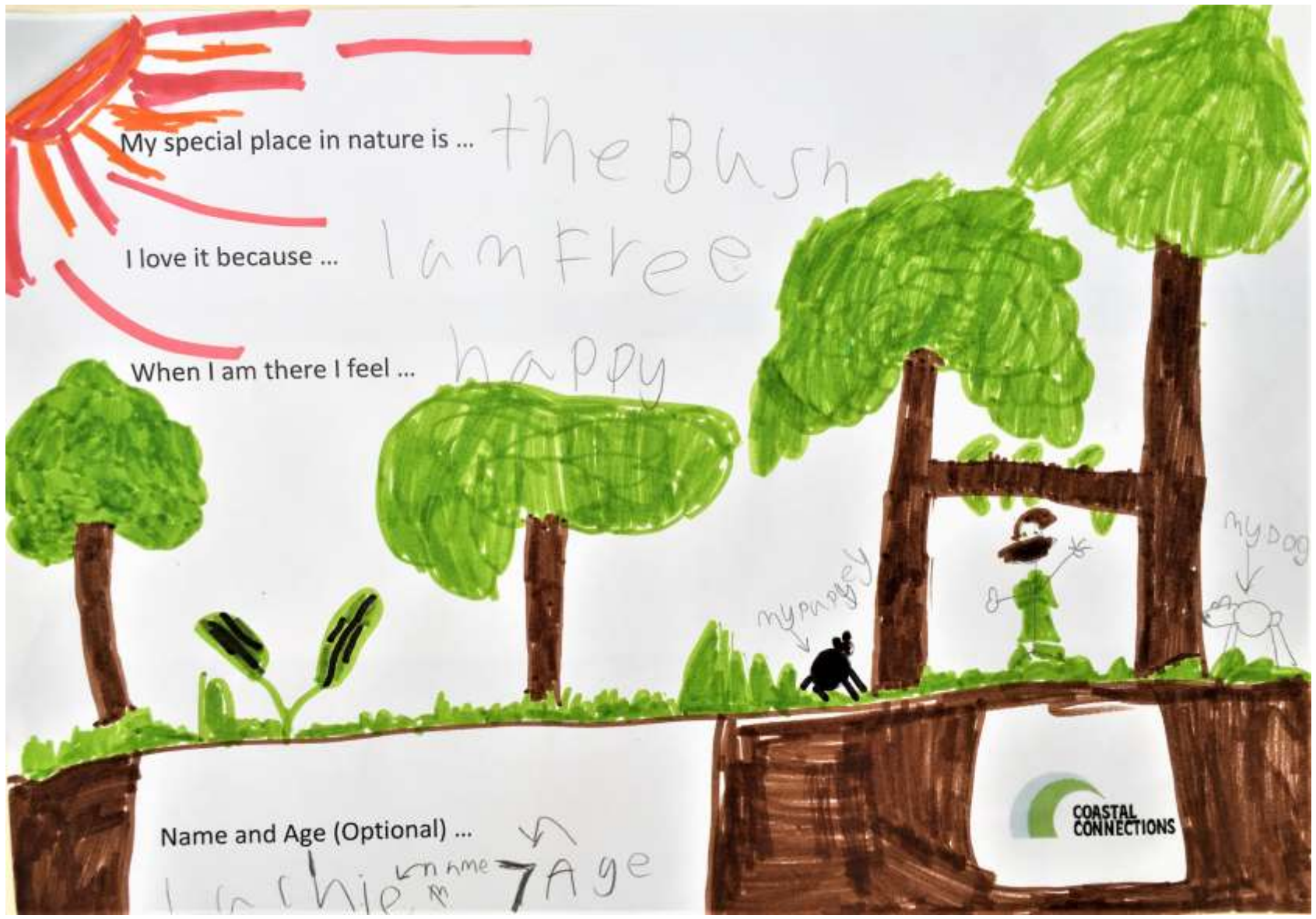
the Bush

I love it because ...

I am free

When I am there I feel ...

happy



Name and Age (Optional) ...

Lachie ^{name} 7 ^{Age}



Insights from Bass Coast
community members
about the blue and green
places we love ...

Edited by Laura Brearley





The places we love, love us back
With generosity and grace
They offer us space to reflect, remember and imagine
We go to them when we need rest and renewal
When we are broken, depleted or confused
When we need to be restored



The places we love feel our presence
They hear our questions and our longing
And they send us signs
A gust of wind
A blazing sunset
A new idea



The places we love welcome us when we return
When we are empty, they inspire us
When we are lost, they hold us
Birds and animals share the places we love
When we take the time, they invite us into their world
Revealing their songs and their secrets



The places we love are dynamic
They evolve and unfold with the seasons and cycles
The ebb and flow of the tide
They teach us to listen deeply
Opening our hearts, enlarging our perspective
Reminding us who we are



The Creative Message Exchange brings people together from both sides of the Pacific to undertake collaborative research and to engage in events underpinned by Deep Listening.





The Pinnacles, Cape Woolamai, Millowl (Phillip Island)

Over a million short-tailed shearwaters have their rookeries on Millowl.

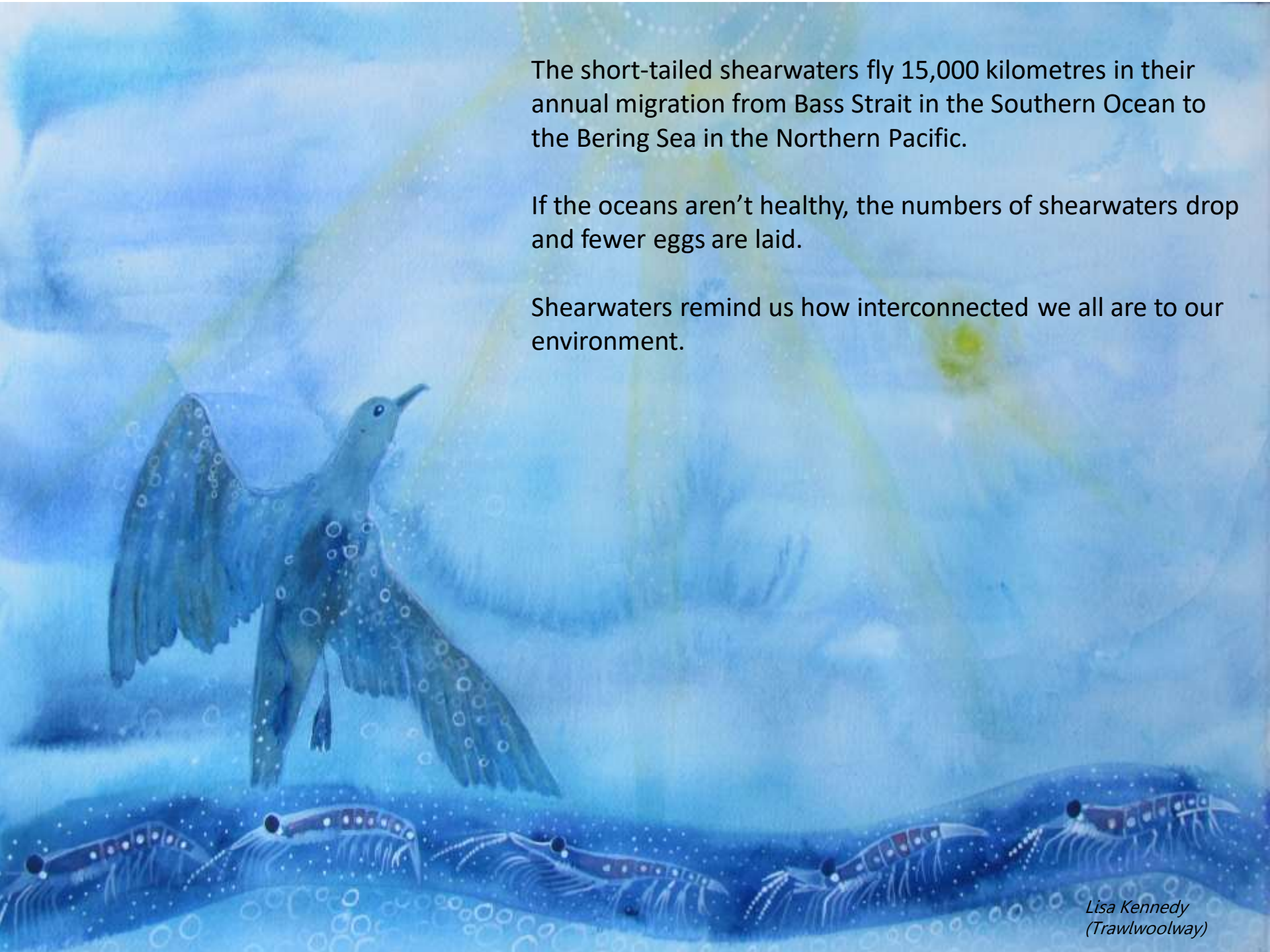


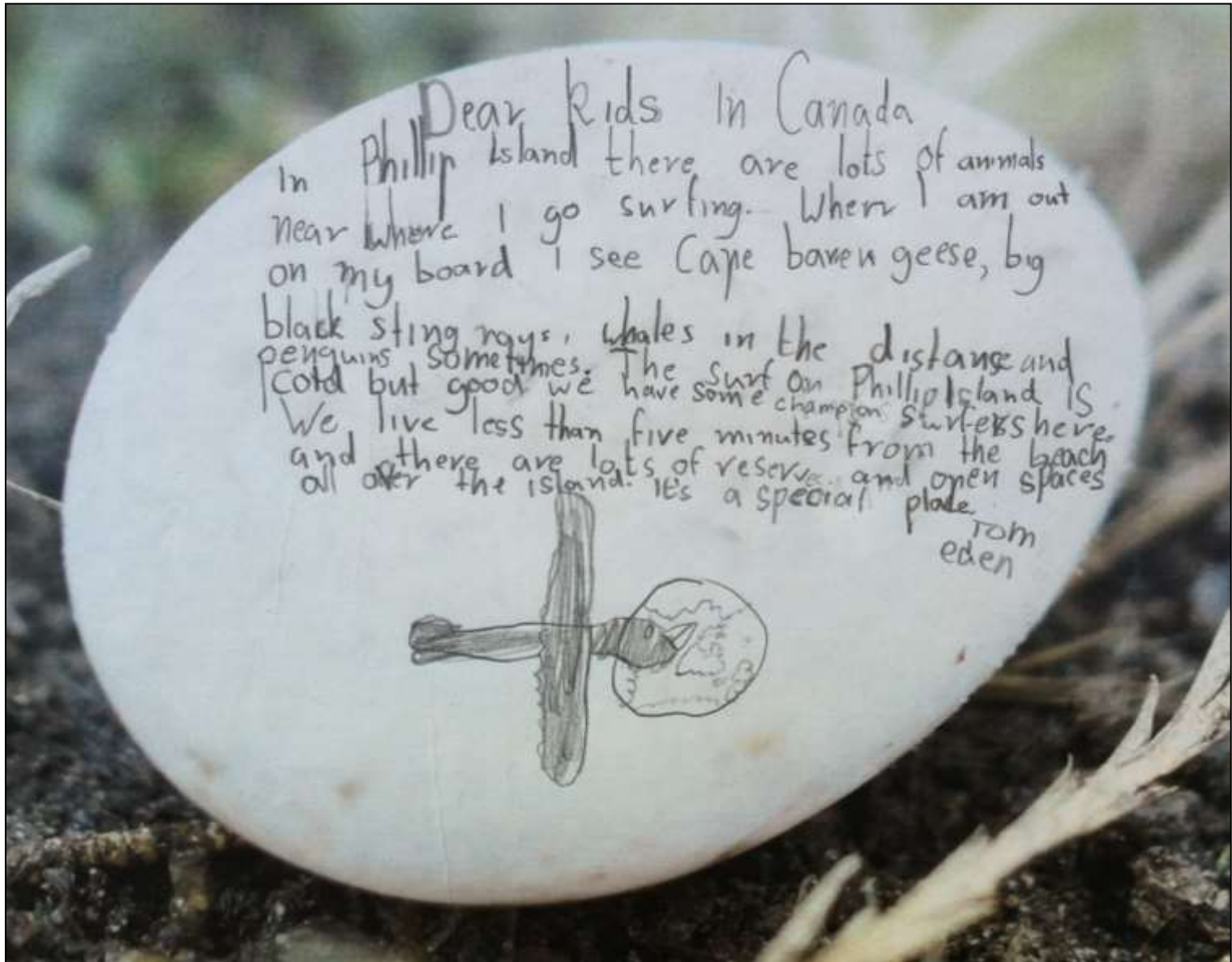


The short-tailed shearwaters fly 15,000 kilometres in their annual migration from Bass Strait in the Southern Ocean to the Bering Sea in the Northern Pacific.

If the oceans aren't healthy, the numbers of shearwaters drop and fewer eggs are laid.

Shearwaters remind us how interconnected we all are to our environment.





Australia to Canada

I go to the beach in
the summer. I swim in the
waves it's so fun. I really like
seeing fish in the water. I like the
beach because of all the sea animals and
sand shells. I like to go surfing and
playing in the rock pools.





Canada to Australia



Canada to Australia



Canada to Australia



Canada to Australia

Birds Birds Birds



Designs ...

Mick Harding (Taungwurrung)

Lisa Kennedy (Trawlwoolway)

Patrice Muthaymiles Mahoney (Anewan)

Ronald Edwards (Gunnai Kurnai)

Uncle Dennis Seymour (Adnyamathanha)







Cape Mudge Reserve

Quadra Island, British Columbia, Canada



Children from the We-Wai-Kai Nation,
Cape Mudge on Quadra Island responded
to Shearwater Messages from Australia.











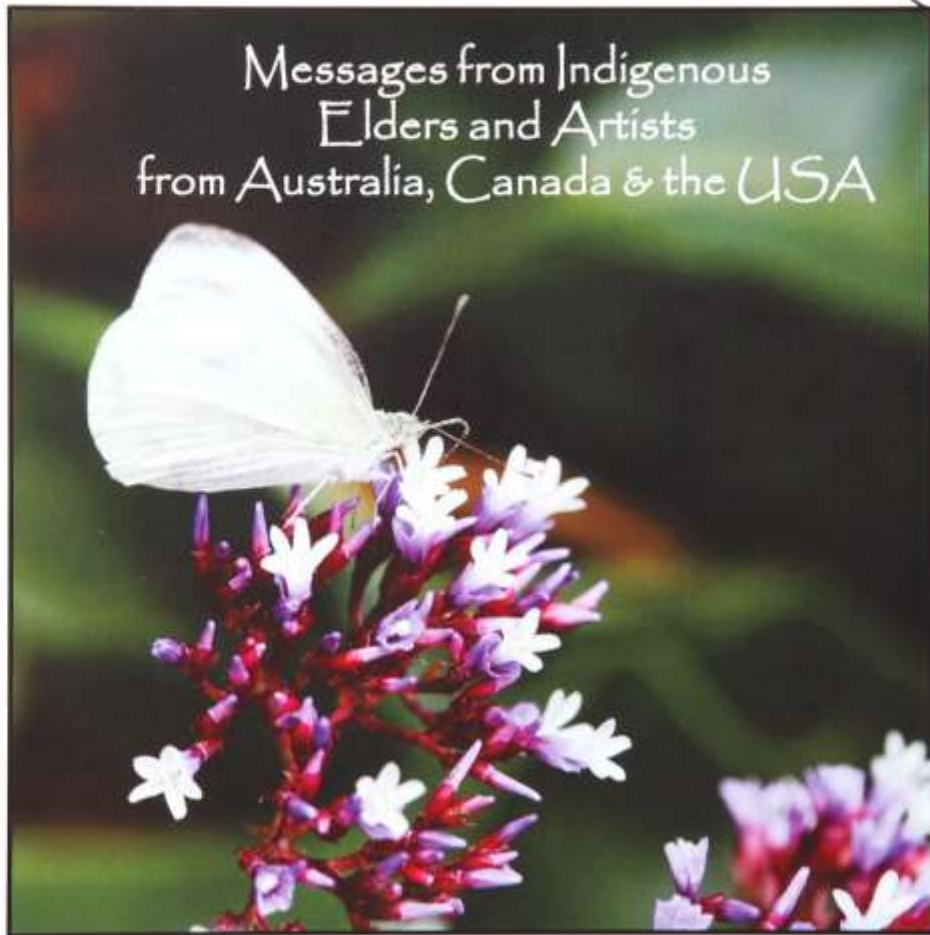


Nakoda Lodge
Stoney Reserve
Alberta, Canada





Messages from Indigenous
Elders and Artists
from Australia, Canada & the USA



Nature's inter net... highway...

Melanie.Yazzie@colorado.edu

Navajo Artist Melanie Yazzie (Colorado, USA)

Photograph Terry Melvin (Australia)

This project reminds me of the beauty and importance of our human experience.

We must remember that how we experience this world and what we do has impact and an exchange of energy.

Let us remember to touch the world and exchange with one another positive energy and love.

Bethhuhtala, Colorado USA





Patrice Muthaymiles Mahoney
 Anewan Aboriginal Artist
 New South Wales Australia

Patrice Muthaymiles Mahoney (Victoria, Australia) with C. Maxx Stevens (Boulder, Colorado)

Message



The past is still coming through the language
When you speak
When you sing
When you listen to the birds

You can hear the heartbeat of the Earth
Once you hear it
It's there all the time
And you belong

Aunty Fay Stewart-Muir BoonWurrung Elder and Linguist



DAKOTA NANTON

RELEASE
NANTON @ COLORADO.FDU

Aunty Fay Stewart-Muir (Victoria, Australia) with Dakota Nanton (Boulder, Colorado)

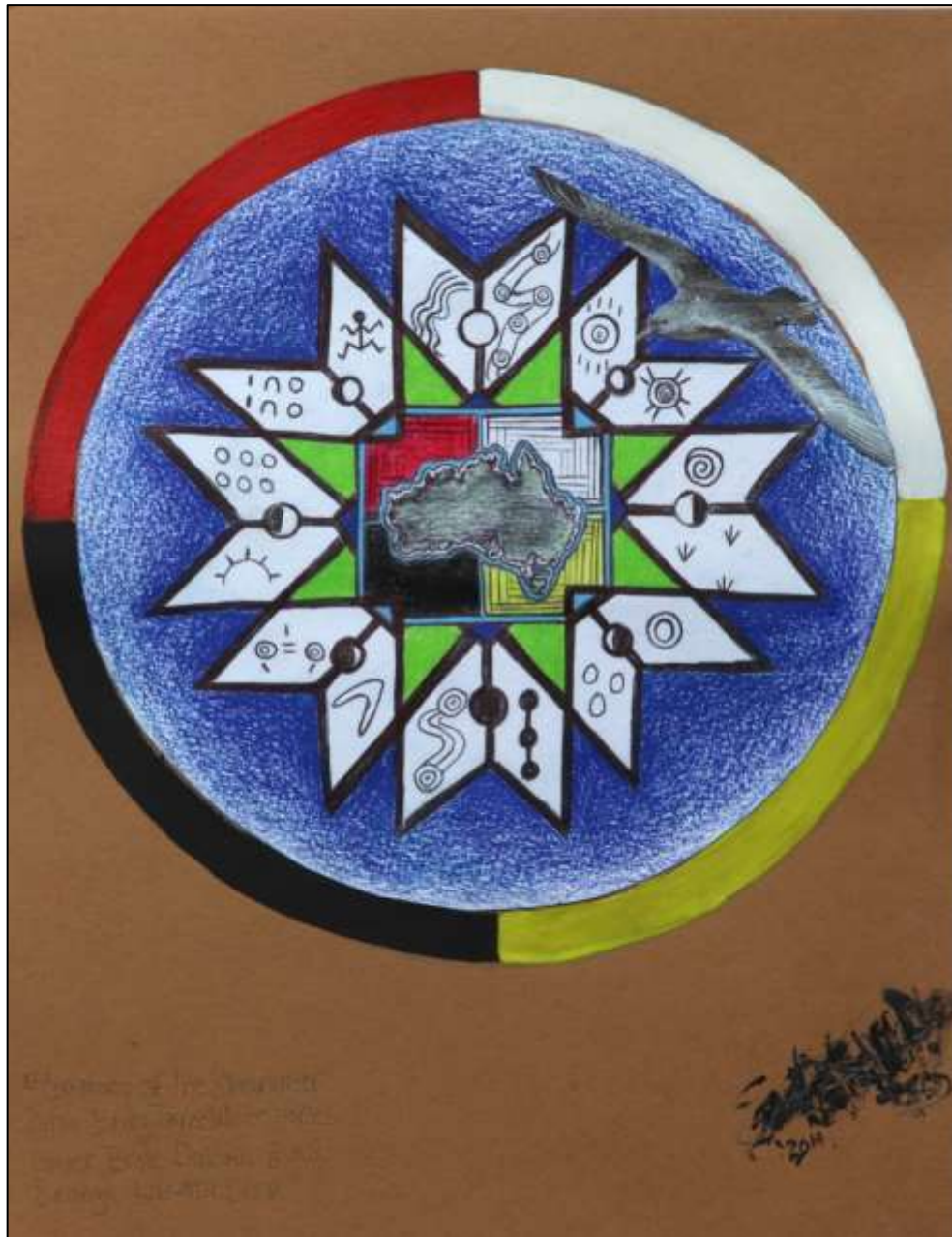


*Patrice Muthaymiles Mahoney
Anewan Aboriginal Artist, New South Wales Victoria,
Australia.*



*Rosan Volchan O'Connor
2014*

Patrice Muthaymiles Mahoney (Victoria, Australia) with Rosan Volchan O'Connor (Boulder, Colorado)

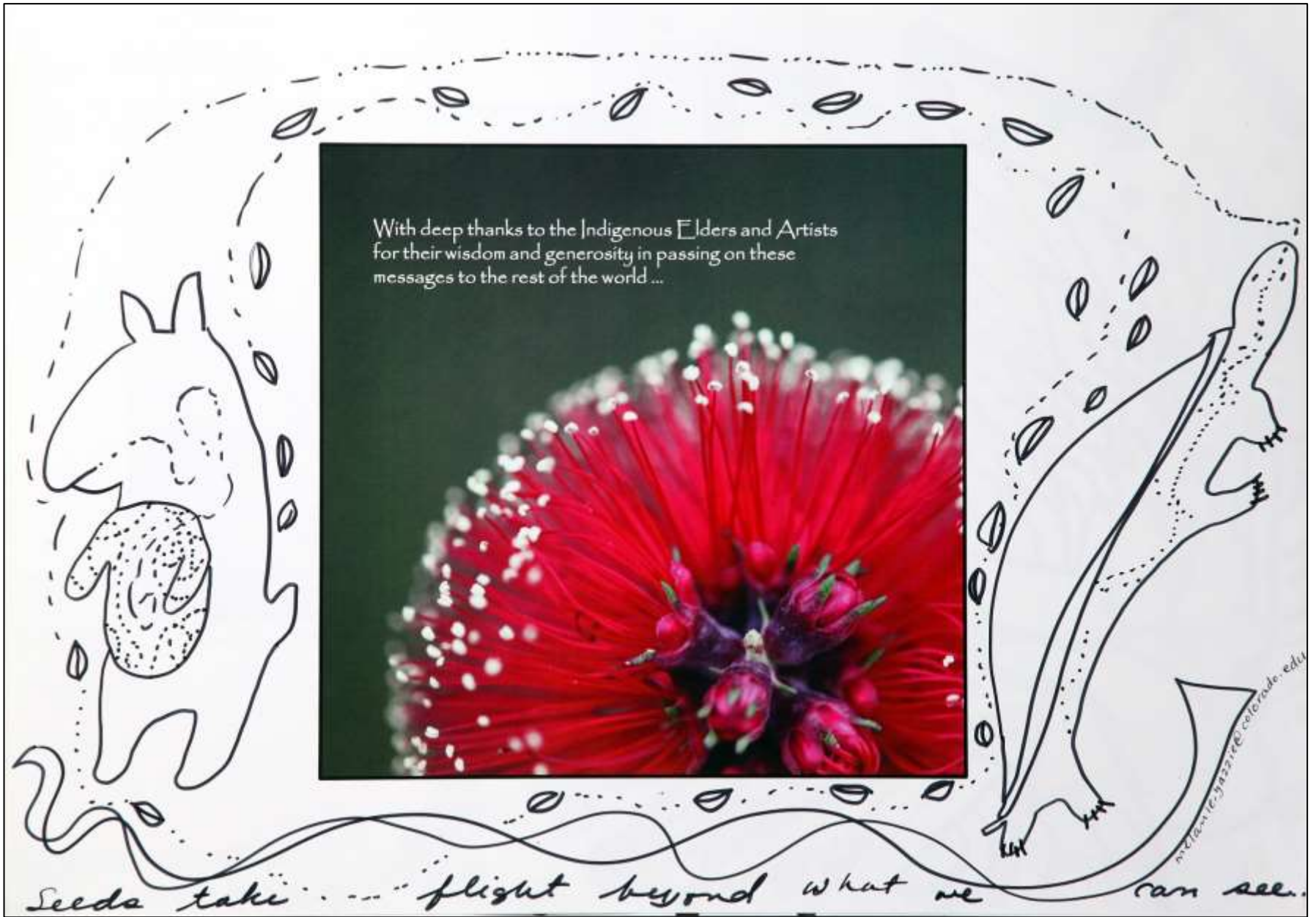


'Ceremony of the Shearwater'

Sarah Brings Three White Horses

Lower Brule Dakota Sioux

Sicango Lakota Sioux



With deep thanks to the Indigenous Elders and Artists
for their wisdom and generosity in passing on these
messages to the rest of the world ...

Seeds take flight beyond what we can see.

Terry Melvin (Victoria, Australia) with Melanie Yazzie (Boulder, Colorado)



For more information
Dr Laura Brearley
laura.brearley@tlc21.com.au