



making a difference together

**National Gallery of Australia & Wesfarmers Arts
National Indigenous Fellowship: 2009-14**

By 2014 ...

- **Four exceptional Indigenous people** will have **graduated as Fellows** of the *Wesfarmers Indigenous Fellowship* at the National Gallery of Australia.
- **Up to 32 Indigenous people** will have participated in the **Wesfarmers Indigenous Fellowship** as **Associate Fellows** at the National Gallery of Australia.
- **Wesfarmers Indigenous Fellowship** will have been established as **the premier Fellowship** of its kind in Australia and running successfully for four years.
- An **Australia-wide consultation** process will have been completed and a **Report launched to the national media** addressing the employment opportunities of the Indigenous people in the art/cultural sector.

Why the Wesfarmers Indigenous Fellowship is needed...

- The Australian Indigenous art/cultural industry is recognised as one of the country's **most dynamic and successful contributions to the international stage** – culturally & economically. Conservative estimates indicate its **economic impact** is in the vicinity of **\$129 million* per annum, collective opinion is that it is far greater, closer to \$400 million** (*Australia Council report - *But what do you do for a living?: a new economic study of Australian artists* 1994).
- **Indigenous art and culture is also one of the primary collecting areas** of national museums and art galleries.



making a difference together

- For such a large contribution to the Australian economy, there are comparatively:
 - **few Indigenous people employed in the art/cultural sector**; and
 - **few opportunities within the sector for Indigenous people to gain professional skills** in areas other than curatorial or as practitioners.

The National Gallery of Australia & Wesfarmers National Indigenous Fellowship

- Will be a **national** program focussing upon nurturing the **Indigenous leaders of the future** for the Visual Arts.
- Is the **only fully funded national Fellowship** of its kind in the visual arts sector and structured to ensure in-depth experience within Australia and overseas, in the public and private sectors.
- Will **enable Fellows to work for two years alongside National Gallery professional staff** and gain skills across the variety of specialist areas found within the organisation – from curatorship, marketing, exhibition management, art handling, registration to publishing, imaging services and fundraising.
- Will **mentor and encourage** the four **Wesfarmers Indigenous Fellows to gain qualifications in the profession** they are interested in pursuing **and find employment in the visual arts sector** after their Fellowship comes to an end.
- Will **enable current Fellows to share their own knowledge and expertise with the upcoming group of candidates** for the Wesfarmers Indigenous Fellowship and act as mentors and network for them.