



Preserving Remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Audiovisual Collections

The IRCA/NFSA/AIATSIS Indigenous Remote Archival Fellowship

A partnership of the Indigenous Remote Communications Association (IRCA), the National Film and Sound Archive of Australia (NFSA) and the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS), the fellowship is open to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations in remote Australia who are developing strategies and structures to archive and preserve cultural heritage materials, particularly in audiovisual formats.

The program broadly aims to:

- develop remote workers and their skills in relevant archival and preservation processes;
- assist in organisational development;
- build archival and preservation expertise in remote areas; and
- strengthen organisational links between IRCA, NFSA, AIATSIS and the successful organisation.

The Preserving Remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Audiovisual Collections fellowship is therefore an exciting opportunity for a remote organisation to build capacity and work towards preservation of their collection through participation in a partnership program with concrete and ongoing outcomes. Anticipated outcomes of the fellowship will include:

- understanding of a set of appropriate digital and archiving tasks and processes which can be put into practice in community archives, primarily around assessment, basic digitisation and basic metadata (determined by a needs-based assessment);
- stronger relationships between organisations;
- broader and stronger archiving skills in remote areas;
- skills and career development for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community archives workers; and
- assistance for communities to access locally relevant content stored by major institutions.

The fellowship will be awarded to an organisation which will nominate individual participants. Participants will spend 3 days in Canberra at the NFSA and AIATSIS and will take part in a workshop organised in Alice Springs and/or the community.

The fellowship provides the successful organisation with:

- travel expenses (return trip) to Canberra, and three nights accommodation and meals for delegates;
- costs to attend a training workshop in Alice Springs (if applicable) or in community; and
- costs for delegates to attend the IRCA Festival the following year (2017)

To be eligible to apply for the Preserving Remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Audiovisual Collections Fellowship, organisations must:

- hold a remote audiovisual Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander collection that is recognised by IRCA, NFSA and AIATSIS;
- be able to nominate workers to travel to and stay in Canberra for 3 days;
- be able to participate in workshops provided in Alice Springs or in community; and
- be willing to further promote the program in ongoing marketing campaigns.

Application process

Your application must answer the questions outlined in the application form. Answers should be no longer than 250 words per question. Your application can also be a short video submitted in MP4 format. Supporting documents for claims made in the application may be provided.

Submitting your application

Email your application form to asstmgr@irca.net.au. If you are planning to upload a video, please email Jennifer Nixon at asstmgr@irca.net.au with your details. Every application will receive email notification.

Application assessment and process

Assessments of all applications will be undertaken by staff from the NFSA and AIATSIS in conjunction with IRCA. Selection decisions are final and no correspondence will be entered into.

The successful organisation will have clearly demonstrated their experience, interest in and commitment to working with remote audiovisual cultural collections, and shown how they will use experiences and knowledge obtained in the program for the benefit of their community.

Program timeline

2016: Applications open **29th August 2016**

2016: Applications close **16th September 2016**

2016: The successful applicant will be announced at 18th National Remote Indigenous Media Festival in Yirrkala, NT. The successful applicant will also be notified by phone, with unsuccessful applicants notified by email.

The need for a flexible approach in offering a fellowship to Indigenous remote communities is understood. The timing of the program will be negotiated with the successful applicant organisation; however the program will need to be undertaken by 30 June 2017.