



## Burrinja Vision

### "Building Community through Arts"

That: *The Dandenong Ranges Community Cultural Centre (Burrinja) be a vibrant community cultural centre offering a total Dandenong Ranges arts, cultural and environmental experience providing for a diverse range of local needs.*

#### AIMS

- To promote, develop and present Arts and Culture in the Region
- To support and develop the cultural identity of the Dandenong Ranges
- To promote community ownership & identify community needs
- To deliver services in a manner that both recognises and is sensitive to indigenous peoples, cultures and issues
- Implement consultative and cooperative work practices
- Encourage sustainable community, environmental and business practices

Burrinja's function and purpose are built on a multi-element vision summarised by its 4 key areas of activity: Arts, Performance, Education & Community. The centre encompasses arts activities and events, indigenous gallery, collection and cultural education, contemporary arts gallery, performing arts, arts incubator studios, live music, community cultural development including youth arts and seniors programs, workshops, café and tourism.

#### BURRINJA GALLERY VISION STATEMENT

Our aim is to provide programs that stimulate cross-cultural awareness and promote respect for Indigenous and contemporary art and culture. Burrinja will provide exhibitions and education programs that offer broad opportunities for learning and research. Burrinja will: facilitate partnerships with the Koorie community and cultural/ educational organisations, promote touring opportunities, and provide community access to the Neil McLeod Gift Collection.

#### IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE SHIRE

The Shire and Burrinja will work together to encourage opportunities for cultural development and expression, encourage a sense of local identity and community, participation in cultural activities through a range of strategies from project development to training and advocacy. The Shire and Burrinja agree to work to recognise the diverse and unique character of the Shire, and to deliver services in a manner that is sensitive to both indigenous and environmental issues.

(p.1 Partnership Agreement, August 2001)

#### PHILOSOPHY

All that we do is driven and guided by our vision: 'Building Community through Arts'.

This vision is taken in the most inclusive meanings of 'all community/ies' and 'all culture/s'. Encouraging the widest access for audiences of all socio-economic, geographic and ability backgrounds will be foremost in our planning of the wide diversity of events and activities across our four key areas of community engagement: Arts, Performance, Education and Community.

Burrinja will identify those areas of the community who do not traditionally engage with arts activities and actively seek strategies and programs to engage them. It will establish dialogue and partnerships across a wide range of cross-sector organisations; from indigenous to arts, from health to education. Burrinja's programs will be predicated wherever possible on active community participation as opposed to the role of passive audience.