



MEDIA RELEASE

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Youth program wins award

A multimedia Indigenous youth engagement program run by Barkly Regional Council (BRC) has won a prestigious national award.

Barkly Desert Culture, which is managed by BRC's Sport and Recreation Coordinator Sean Spencer, won the Arts Animates category which shows excellence in community engagement and participation for the 2015 National Awards for Local Government.

The awards are an annual celebration of local governments' achievements in delivering targeted, quality services to Australians in urban and regional communities.

BRC President Barb Shaw said the council is incredibly proud of Sean and his supervisor, Regional Community Services Manager Sharen Lake, for this huge honour.

"The Barkly Desert Culture entry is a credit to Sean and others who contributed to delivering this project, which is making a significant difference in the Barkly region," she said. "I congratulate staff on their achievements."

BRC's Sean Spencer said Barkly Desert Culture was designed to bridge the gap between elders and the younger generation with discussions that were expressed through song, hip hop music, storytelling, film posters and animation.

"It also built sustainability of multimedia skills, like learning to film, lay down a track, record and edit, encourages commercial success with CDs, DVDs and live performances and offers employment for local artists," added Sean, who launched the first Barkly Desert Culture DVD of films, songs and stories in Ali Curung and Elliott in October 2014.

The Barkly Desert Culture project is now in the running to compete against all categories for the 2015 National Award for Local Government.

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