

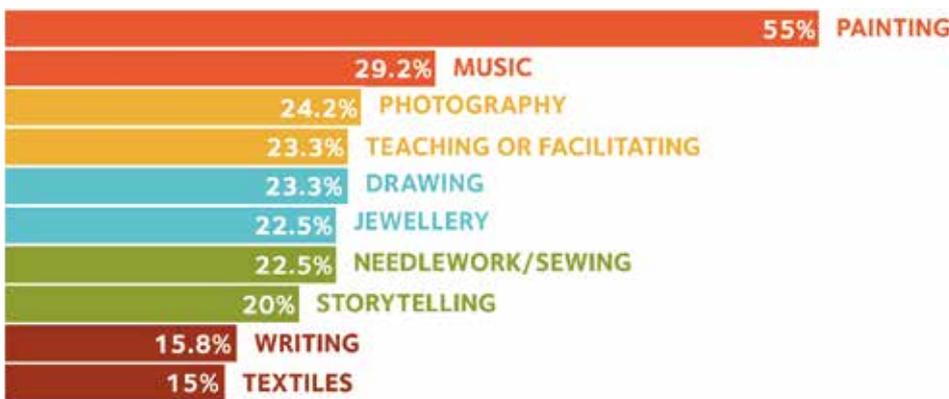


# SNAPSHOT

## Arts in the Barkly Region

The *Creative Barkly* research maps a broad range of art forms and creative practices, including commercial, amateur, and subsidised, representing the Barkly Region’s multicultural population (both First Nations’ and non-Indigenous). The team conducted face-to-face surveys with **120 artists in communities across the Barkly Region**, as well as sector interviews with **36 key stakeholders and organisations**.

### Top 10 Art Forms



Out of 120 artists surveyed, these are the top 10 art forms people are engaged in, with **85.8% of people practising multiple art forms**. Artists in the Barkly are involved in many more arts activities than those listed, including ceramics, carving, blogging, event management, and video production.

### The Arts Sector Ecology

Our research found that the arts and creative sector in the Barkly involves arts organisations and artists, as well as non-arts organisations such as health and human services, and education and employment services, for whom arts and creativity is not core business, but valued for what it can contribute. **We found the cross-sector collaboration and partnerships undertaken by these organisations are a key strength of the region.**



## ABS Census 2016

### Occupation (Barkly LGA)

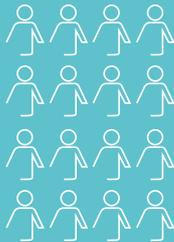
Arts Professionals nfd	3
Painter (Visual Arts)	5



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## Creative Barkly 2017 - 2018

150+



Barkly Art Centres/ Organisations (BRA, Nyinkka Nyunyu, Arlpwe, Ampilatwatja)	
Number of artists registered	550
Number of artists employed (permanent f/t)	12
Number of artists employed (permanent p/t)	18
Number of artists employed (fixed term f/t)	4
Survey Respondents	
Number of artists/ creatives	120
Artists/creatives who generate income (non-CDP)	79
Artists/ creatives with art as main source of income (non-CDP)	27

With 75.7% of respondents making an income from their practice, and over half of those citing this as their primary source of income, **the sector is playing an important role in the livelihoods of Barkly artists.** The Community Development Program (CDP) is an important element of the sector ecology, featuring in the working lives of 21.8% of survey respondents. **There are nearly 20 times more artists working in the Barkly than the number captured in the census.** The study found that voluntary labour is an important factor in sustaining the sector, with **58.6% of artists and creatives in the Barkly giving their time through volunteering** (a much higher figure than the national average of 19.0%). Based on our survey figures, we estimate the economic contribution of volunteering to the region at \$360k annually.

## Arts Business and Enterprise

- **Painting by Indigenous artists is the most commercialised art form in the Barkly.**
- The Barkly is also home to a thriving Indigenous music scene, and a broad array of other artworks and merchandise being produced.
- There are **far fewer visible instances of non-Indigenous-made artworks being distributed or sold.**
- There are only four for-profit creative businesses, and no physical commercial galleries in the Barkly.
- **Art centres or organisations are the main drivers of arts business and enterprise** through promotion, marketing, sales and distribution, and through producing and presenting performances; however, **the majority of their income is derived from government funding.**
- The Barkly is also home to some smaller arts and creative enterprises, as well as individuals undertaking their own marketing and sales independently of art centres or organisations.
- Artists and organisations are keen to develop tourism opportunities for business, enterprise, and cultural transmission. **Integrating art and tourism requires capacity building and investment in "soft infrastructure" such as training and professional development.**



For further information, visit: [creativebarkly.org](http://creativebarkly.org)