Matt Conlan
Minister for Arts and Museums

Alice Springs to host Cultural Ministers meeting

8 October 2014

Alice Springs will this week host the annual meeting of Australia’s Arts and Cultural Ministers.

Minister for Arts and Museums Matt Conlan said he was delighted to welcome his counterparts from the Commonwealth, State and Territory Government’s to the Centre, home to some of the country’s most unique art and culture.

“The Northern Territory is renowned for its rich Indigenous culture and art and it is fantastic to have Australia’s Arts and Cultural Ministers in Alice Springs this week to experience our culture first-hand,” said Mr Conlan.

“Friday’s Meeting of Cultural Ministers (MCM) is a great opportunity to advance our arts and culture sector further and to showcase art and culture in Central Australia.

“The Centre is home to some of the most sacred and important pieces of art in Australia such as the world-famous Papunya Boards on display at the Araluen Art Centre, which represent the very beginnings of modern Aboriginal art.

“I look forward to meeting with my colleagues from around the country and sharing more of our great Territory stories with them this week.

“I’ll also be sure to discuss the Country Liberals move to establish the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, our premier arts institution, as a stronger independent statutory authority this year with greater opportunity for philanthropic donations and corporate sponsorship.”

MCM brings together relevant Ministers to progress priorities of national significance and common interest related to arts and culture in Australia.

The meeting, to be held at the Alice Springs Convention Centre on Friday 10 October, will be chaired by Minister Conlan and attended by the Senator the Hon George Brandis QC MP, Australian Government’s Minister for the Arts, the Hon John Day BSc BDSc MLA, Western Australia’s Minister for Planning, Culture and the Arts, the Hon Heidi Victoria MP, Victoria’s Minister for the Arts, the Hon Ian Walker MP, Queensland’s Minister for Science, Information Technology, Innovation and the Arts, the Hon Dr Vanessa Goodwin MLC, Tasmania’s Minister for the Arts and the Hon Troy Grant MP, New South Wales’ Minister for Arts.
Prior to Friday’s meeting, delegates will tomorrow visit The Residency and preview the Ngurratjuta arts exhibition and listen to artists speak about their work. They will also visit the Alice Springs Telegraph Station and sample traditional Indigenous bush tucker as part of the cultural visit.

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