Statehood Minister Malarndirri McCarthy today announced the successful recipients of the 2011 Centenary Grants Program.

Ms McCarthy said 32 community groups have shared in over $190 000 of grants to hold centenary events throughout the year.

“The Centenary Grants Program will assist community groups to involve Territorians in local events to reflect on the history of the Northern Territory and foster debate and discussion about our vision for the future,” Ms McCarthy said.

“There’s a lot to look forward to, including a rendition of the new Territory Anthem by the Darwin Chorale and Darwin Symphony Orchestra on Territory Day, a history book written by students at Bees Creek Primary School, and a community picnic day in Alice Springs.

“2011 marks 100 years since South Australia surrendered the Northern Territory to the Commonwealth under the Northern Territory Surrender Act 1908 (South Australia) and the Northern Territory Acceptance Act 1910 (Commonwealth).

“In this Centenary year, the Northern Territory Parliament is calling on all Australians to reflect on the Northern Territory’s democratic history and our aspirations for the future.

“The theme for the centenary is “100 years of the Territory, over 50 000 years of stories”, which recognises that this 100–year milestone is part of a much larger history that stretches back thousands of years.

For more information, visit www.dcm.nt.gov.au/centenary

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