

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ngarra Jarra Noun - Healing Ceremony:

A Powerful Stand Against Racism and a Celebration of Community Healing

Melbourne, Victoria – FEBRUARY, 2024 -- Indigenous Sports Network (ISN) proudly presents the **Ngarra Jarra Noun - Healing Ceremony** at Victoria Park on Sunday, 21st April 2024, from 2pm to 6pm. This dynamic collaboration together with the AFL and Collingwood Football Club underscores a resolute stand against racism while promoting community healing through ceremony and culture.

The Ngarra Jarra Noun - Healing Ceremony, promises an impactful experience and highlights ISN's dedication to cultural celebration. This special event pays tribute to the Fitzroy Stars and Rumbalara Football Netball Clubs, exemplifying resilience against racism and fostering healing within the community.

This free community event aims to commemorate Nicky Winmar's courageous stand against racism, echoing his powerful message. The Collingwood Football Club and the AFL have displayed commitment to this event and working alongside the Magpies at Victoria Park adds significant weight to the occasion, establishing it as an annual tradition.

Featuring performances by renowned Indigenous musicians, including Mau Power, The Deans of Soul, Maylene Yinarr, Uncle Johnny Lovett and 9-year-old Harmony Lovett-Murray. Last year's event saw over 30 past and present Indigenous AFL players in attendance.

Leon Davis, Cultural Development Manager at Collingwood Football Club remarked on the Club's support for the gathering: *"We appreciate the opportunity once again to further support First Nations Community in healing and also to come together to connect and celebrate the oldest living culture in the world."*

10 Victorian Traditional Dance Groups, including Djirri Djirri, Bandok Tati, Koori Youth Will Shake Spears, Murrundaya Yepengna, Koondoom Yarkeen Karweeyn, Kiya Yellang, Wulumbarra, Waddawurrung Balug, Kooyang Parreyt, Djaara and Culture Evolves, will perform a healing ceremony in support of the Fitzroy Stars and Rumbalara Football Netball Clubs. Attendees can also partake in cultural activities, games, and traditional dance workshops, tailored for children.

Maylene Yinarr, a respected Song Woman, shares her perspective on the significance of healing and ceremony: *"Ceremony is a timeless ritual that we have inherited as First Nations people. May we honour this sacred practice, allowing the vibrations to awaken our spirits and lead us towards healing."*

The Healing Market, a focal point of the event, is described as a sacred haven where community meets to foster healing accessibility for all:

"We believe that healing should be inclusive and accessible to everyone, regardless of background or circumstance. Through our collaborations, workshops, and shared moments, we strengthen our bonds with ourselves, each other, and the land, creating a new narrative of resilience, connection, and collective healing."

Sponsors for the event include ISN, Collingwood Football Club, AFL, National Indigenous Australians Agency, VicHealth, Songlines Aboriginal Music Corporation, Accor, Pullman Hotels and Resorts, First People's Assembly of Victoria, VACCA, Dardi Munwurro, City of Yarra, Fitzroy Stars, and Rumbalara Football Netball Clubs.

Join us for a day of cultural celebration, resilience, and healing at the Ngarra Jarra Noun - Healing Ceremony, free for the entire community.

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