

Graduation Ceremony

THURSDAY 4th JUNE, 2026
Batchelor Campus



**Batchelor
Institute**



Notice to Readers/Viewers

This publication may contain the name of a recently deceased person which is indicated with a † symbol. It is at the reader's discretion to continue or discontinue viewing this publication.

ABORIGINAL FLAG

Designed by Harold Thomas

Black represents the Aboriginal people of Australia.
Red is the ochre colour of the earth and a spiritual relation to the land.

Yellow represents the sun, the giver of life and protector.



<https://aiatsis.gov.au/explore/aboriginal-flag>

TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER FLAG

Designed by Bernard Namok

The two green lines represent the mainlands of Australia and Papua New Guinea.

The blue between these two continents is the blue of the Torres Strait Island waters.

The black links represent the people of the Torres Strait.

White represents peace.



<https://aiatsis.gov.au/explore/torres-strait-islander-flag>

Order of proceedings

Graduation Ceremony Commencing 2.00pm

MASTERS OF CEREMONIES

Professor Curtis Roman

ARRIVAL OF ACADEMIC AND GRADUAND PROCESSION

WELCOME TO COUNTRY

Mr Donnie McGinness

ADDRESS BY CHAIR

Ms Bess Price, Acting Chair

WELCOME BY CEO

Ms Renee Long

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Ms Monica Barolits-McCabe

CONFERRAL OF AWARDS

Vocational Education and Training – Director VET Business Operations, Mr Samuel Henry

STUDENT RESPONSE

Ms Nerisha Lee Cabales

CLOSE OF CEREMONY AND DEPARTURE OF ACADEMIC PROCESSION

The graduation ceremony

Traditionally, universities and other tertiary institutions hold graduation ceremonies to formally confer awards on students who have successfully completed a program of study.

At Batchelor Institute, graduation ceremonies combine European traditions with the cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, graphically demonstrating the Both-ways philosophy of Batchelor Institute.

Among the most obvious elements derived from the European tradition of academic graduation is the distinctive academic dress worn by graduating students and others entitled to do so because of their position within the Institute or their academic qualifications.

The gowns, hoods and stoles worn by many of those at the ceremony have their origins in patterns which have changed little since the Middle Ages. Traditionally, the design, colour and decoration of each have come to indicate the status of its wearer by denoting the academic level achieved. The guide to academic dress that is located in the back of this booklet will provide you with more details.

Integral to the ceremony are elements that reflect the traditions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities from which students come. In particular, graduating students are encouraged to combine traditional decorations and regalia of their culture with their academic dress, emphasizing the Both-ways significance of the occasion.

Dance also forms a part of the overall ceremony, including its opening and closing moments when the academic procession arrives and departs. In addition, individual students are often 'danced up' to receive their awards by family and community members.

Even when students are not accompanied by dancers, they are often escorted to receive their awards by family members, reflecting recognition of the shared and collective importance of each student's achievements.

PLEASE NOTE:

A large number of students whose names appear in this program will, by choice, receive their awards either in absentia, at the Batchelor Campus graduation ceremony in Batchelor, or at community celebrations held later in the year.

Message from the CEO

Graduates, today is a powerful moment. It celebrates not only your individual achievements, but the collective strength of families, communities, Elders, educators, and supporters who have walked beside you. Your success is shared and reflects generations of resilience, knowledge, and determination.

Completing your studies is no small achievement. It represents commitment, perseverance, and belief in yourself—often while balancing family and community responsibilities. You have shown strength in ways that truly matter.

Education is more than gaining skills or qualifications. For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, it is also about empowering community, strengthening voices, and shaping futures on your own terms. Your achievements contribute not only to your own pathway, but to opportunities for those who come after you.

You are stepping into a world that needs your perspectives, cultural knowledge, and leadership. The ability to walk confidently in two worlds—grounded in culture while navigating evolving systems—is a strength you carry forward. When the path ahead is unclear, stay connected to your values, culture, and those who support you.

Be proud of what you have achieved and of who you are. Carry your culture with confidence and bring your whole self into every space you enter. Congratulations on your graduation—walk forward with pride, courage, and purpose.

Ms Renee Long
Chief Executive Officer

Keynote Speaker

Ms Monica Barolits-McCabe

Monica Barolits-McCabe is a Kungarakan woman and the current Deputy CEO of the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO). She holds a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Canberra and brings extensive experience in accounting, policy, and management within Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health.

An accomplished and passionate leader, Monica has played a significant role in advancing Aboriginal health outcomes and developing programs and support pathways for aspiring students. Her career includes senior roles such as Corporate Services Manager at Danila Dilba Aboriginal Medical Service, Business Development Manager at the Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance Northern Territory (AMSANT), and Assistant Director with the Commonwealth Department of Health.

Monica also contributes to governance and leadership beyond her executive role. She serves on the Batchelor Institute Council and is the Chairperson of its Finance, Audit and Risk Management Committee.

Conferral of awards

The following awards are conferred by the Council of Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education upon students who have completed an accredited course of study.

Vocational Education and Training

DIPLOMA IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND CARE

Farah Khan

Rosebery

CERTIFICATE IV IN ABORIGINAL AND/OR TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PRIMARY HEALTH CARE PRACTICE

Tassy Alum

Atalia Davey

Dennis Dunn

Karlie Durston

Roy Farmer

Lisa Fitzpatrick

Melanie Johnston

Annetionette Rachael Kelly

Nick Eldine Likouresis

Trae Michael Milera

Jenny Newry

Donna Janeen Noaks

Georgina Philpott

Kamika Pollard

Glenda Sarah Robertson

Jazlyn Sambo

Natalie Stokes

Kaysha Wanganeen

Jason Watson

Lanay Michelle Watson

Lucy Webster

Brodie Thomas Harold Wilton

Katherine East

Bakewell

Nightcliff

Gray

Milikapiti

Coconut Grove

Bagot

Katherine

Para Vista

Direk

Katherine

Weddell

Zuccoli

Moulden

Ngukurr

Largs North

Rosebery

Paralowie

Wagaman

Katherine East

Caroline Springs

Katherine

CERTIFICATE IV IN BUSINESS

Nerisha Lee Cabales

Simranjeet Kaur

Adelaide River

Leanyer

CERTIFICATE IV IN SCHOOL BASED EDUCATION SUPPORT

Rhonda Kayleen Henry
Renfred Manmurulu

Bulla
Goulburn Island

CERTIFICATE III IN COMMUNITY SERVICES

Brae Saairoong Bunyen
Sarah Nelly Busbridge
Bianca Cameron
Tegan Maree Case
William May
Taylah Pati
Jessica Louise Pen-Dennis
Calecia Thorneycroft
Harper Williams

Farrar
Gray
Bakewell
Woodroffe
Zuccoli
Berrimah
Acacia Hills
Parap
Berrimah

CERTIFICATE III IN CONSERVATION AND ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT

Mandawuy Marawili

Yirrkala

CERTIFICATE III IN CIVIL CONSTRUCTION PLANT OPERATIONS

Patrick Shane Atie
Priscilla Faye Escobar
Lane Fitzgerald
John Greenwood
Ashleigh Johnstone
Candice Lemmon
Jared Nation
Neville Newfong
Jesse Orchard
Severa Ricardo-Fitzgerald

Batchelor
Coconut Grove
Rosebery
Larrakeyah
Rum Jungle
Batchelor
Eva Valley
Batchelor
Leanyer
Batchelor

CERTIFICATE III IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND CARE

Melissa Leanne Coates
Alexia Nayjilbidj
Daisy Alice Pearse
Skylar Warren-Blake

Warruwi
Mamadawerre
Maningrida
Manmoyi

CERTIFICATE III IN LEARNING AN AUSTRALIAN FIRST NATION'S LANGUAGE

Tammy Kerinaiaua
Jericka Mungatopi
Cassandra Munkara
Peter Orsto
Phylisia Palipuaminni
Andrea Ann Puautjimi

Wurrumiyanga
Wurrumiyanga
Wurrumiyanga
Wurrumiyanga
Wurrumiyanga
Wurrumiyanga

CERTIFICATE III IN SCHOOL BASED EDUCATION SUPPORT

Clint Miliken
Simon Pascoe

Maningrida
Maningrida

CERTIFICATE II IN COMMUNITY SERVICES

Brae Saairoong Bunyen
Sarah Nelly Busbridge
Tegan Maree Case
Taylah Pati
Calecia Thorneycroft
Harper Williams

Farrar
Gray
Woodroffe
Berrimah
Parap
Berrimah

CERTIFICATE II IN CONSERVATION AND ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT

Balamarrwuy Bukulatjpi
Djayminy Ganambarr
Yangamawuy Abel Ganambarr
Danny Yimunta Gumana
Wanitjuma Gumbula
Djewiny Maymuru
Ganingdhun Mununggurr
Gawaratj Mununggurr
Isaac Mununggurr
Nyenipa Mununggurr
Gapingi Wanambi
Yalmariny Danielle Whyman
Dopami Wilton
Mintharr Yunupingu
Warrini Samuel Yunupingu

Yirrkala
Yirrkala
Yirrkala
Nhulunbuy
Yirrkala
Nhulunbuy
Yirrkala
Dhimurru
Nhulunbuy
Yirrkala
Yirrkala
Yirrkala
Yirrkala
Nhulunbuy
Yirrkala

CERTIFICATE II IN CONSTRUCTION

Ross Campbell
Malakai James Cohen
Liam Mitch Fraser
Sami Kitenge
Emil Karl Kurt Nasarenko
Jonathan Stewart
Adam Whitlam
Jay Robert Williams

Gray
Katherine
Durack
Durack
Katherine
Maningrida
Gray
Rosebery

CERTIFICATE II IN CONSTRUCTION PATHWAYS

Bradlee Thomas Garlepp
Trimaine Hankin
Michael Sebastian Jimarin
Antonio Lalara

Anula
Holtze
Bagot
Angurugu

Kurtis Lalara
Jaydrian Mamarika
Mervin Ngalmi
Keaundra Ryan
Joseph Stecki
Jonathan Wanambi
Shaun Wurramara

Umbakumba
Angurugu
Umbakumba
Driver
Malak
Umbakumba
Angurugu

CERTIFICATE II IN WORKPLACE SKILLS

Caroline Djinnganbuy
Samantha Dhamarrandji
Lloyd Malalung Garawirtja
Daphne Gumiyalawuy Gondarra
Natasha Munyarrun
Loretta Williams

Galiwinku
Galiwinku
Galiwinku
Galiwinku
Galiwinku
Ngukurr

CERTIFICATE I IN AUTOMOTIVE VOCATIONAL PREPARATION

Benjamin Armstrong
Remus Bidwee
Sylvan Bonson
Denzel Cooper
Aaron Joseph Fejo
Abel Forbes
Ningle Francis Galarla
Noel Galarla
Murrwale Godden
Mark Anthony Gumbaduck
Xavier Richard Hughes
Bradley King
Dominic Longmair
Xavier Longmair
Hayden McCloud
Owen Troy Manyita
Dominic Mollinjin
Bandi Pascoe
Paul Pupuli
Corey Raymond
Xavier Roddenby
Zaequan Kenneth Roddenby
Victor Junior Rostron
Qeira Rhiarne Hariroa Tawhi
Isaac John Williams

Kalano
Kalano
Maningrida
Maningrida
Kalano
Maningrida
Maningrida
Maningrida
Katherine
Wadeye
Katherine
Kalano
Wadeye
Wadeye
Wadeye
Bulman Weemol
Wadeye
Maningrida
Wadeye
Kalano
Kalano
Katherine
Bulman Weemol
Bulman Weemol
Maningrida

CERTIFICATE I IN SKILLS FOR VOCATIONAL PATHWAYS

Dwayne Alangale
Patricia Huddleston

Pine Creek
Pine Creek

CERTIFICATE I IN VISUAL ARTS

Colleen Joy Hale

Karama

CERTIFICATE I IN WORKPLACE SKILLS

Lance Ashley
Samuel Bidingal
Raylene Bonson
Laura Butjala
Glenda Djourandjura
Iman Evans
Denisha Ford
Burrnyididi Ganambarr
Gwendoline Garawirtja
Maria Garawirtja
Nadine Gaykamangu
Michelle Gulumanda
Tiana Gurruwiwi
Josephine James
Clint Milliken
Simon Pascoe
Nadine Rulminyджawuy
Oscar Simon
Dianne Walikurr
Billy Wunungmurra
Helen Yarrangarawuy

Pine Creek
Gapuwiyak
Maningrida
Gapuwiyak
Milingimbi
Borrooloola
Pine Creek
Gapuwiyak
Milingimbi
Milingimbi
Milingimbi
Milingimbi
Lajamanu
Maningrida
Maningrida
Maningrida
Milingimbi
Lajamanu
Milingimbi
Gapuwiyak
Milingimbi

Student Response

Ms Nerisha Cabales

My name is Nerisha Cabales. I have recently completed my Certificate IV in Business at Batchelor Institute.

I grew up approximately 10 kilometres north of Adelaide River in the Northern Territory. My mother is a Palyku woman from Nullagine, and my father is a Kija (Gija) Loonga man with family ties to Halls Creek and Broome, although he was raised in Darwin.

I completed my high school education at Kormilda College before relocating to Perth. I later spent a few years living in the Pilbara near my mothers country before returning to the Northern Territory to raise my own children. My career journey began in education, where I began my studies here at Batchelor Institute completing the Diploma in Education Support in 2017 then joining the R.A.T.E Remote, Area, Teacher Education Program. In 2022 my family commitments meant I needed to relocate to Victoria to be closer to my children. During this time I transferred to Federation University to complete my Degree in Teaching.

Life threw me a curve ball, and I returned to the Northern Territory in 2024. I then made the decision to pursue a new career pathway. On my return I was fortunate to gain employment at Batchelor Institute within Residential Services undertaking the role as the Student Recreation Officer. This allowed me to continue working in a meaningful way, supporting students and contributing to the campus community through providing recreational activities, on and off campus, balancing studies and life commitments.

To strengthen my skills and broaden my knowledge in administration and professional practice, I decided to undertake the Certificate IV in Business— bringing my journey full circle.

I enjoyed studying with Batchelor Institute because it provided a supportive and flexible learning environment that allowed me to work at my own pace. The lecturers were approachable and encouraging, and the learning was practical and relevant to real life and meaningful workplace situations.

I would choose Batchelor Institute because it offers a supportive both ways learning environment that empowers you with the strength and confidence to create and follow your own career pathway, Batchelor has a strong, culturally supportive environment. The support goes beyond the classroom and offers pathways into real and meaningful careers.

Completing this qualification has given me new opportunities, and I am proud of what I have achieved. I look forward to continuing to grow professionally and using my skills to support others within my workplace and community now as part of the support team in Students Services as the Student Support/ ITAS officer. Congratulations to all my fellow graduates of 2026.

Proud past learners



family through the sharing of stories and updates.

Gathering: Networking with fellow graduates and staff to open new doors and help guide those who are just beginning their walk.

Inspiring: Showing our current learners that they can hold fast to their identities while reaching the highest levels of their chosen profession.

At Batchelor Institute, graduation is not just a finish line; it is the moment you join a continuum of knowledge that has flowed for over 50 years.

Like the deep roots of the Ironwood that anchor it to this red earth, our Proud Past Learners stand firm in their identity while branching out into successful careers across Australia and internationally.

You are the living proof of “Both-Ways” learning. Your journey shows that when we walk in two worlds, we carry the fire of our identity into every room and workplace. Whether you are providing healing and wellbeing in health, teaching in schools, undertaking research or creating in the arts, your footprints create a clear track for the next generation to follow.

The Proud Past Learners Alumni Program is the woven thread that holds our community together. It is a space for:

Yarning: Staying connected to the Batchelor

Your story is a vital part of our tapestry.

By joining the Proud Past Learners, you strengthen the connection between those who came before and light the way for the leaders yet to rise.

Once a Batchelor learner, always a Batchelor leader.

Staying connected

Scan the QR code opposite or visit the website link below to enrol in our Proud Past Learners alumni program where you can stay connected through:

Mentorships—Guide the next generation;

Elder advisory—Bring your knowledge home;

Alumni gatherings—Come back to Country;

Scholarships—Give what was given to you

Link to enrolment form: <https://forms.office.com/r/9z8c4ErT2T?origin=lpLink>

PAST PROUD LEARNERS' ART COMPETITION

Congratulations to Michelle Booth, the winner of our Past Proud Learners' Art Competition for a work that moved our judges deeply and which speaks with a powerful, distinct voice. Michelle's painting has been adapted for the Past Proud Learners logo design (opposite).

Michelle is a proud Butchulla/Wakka Wakka woman from K'gari and Cherbourg. She is both a student and staff member of Batchelor Institute. She is currently completing the Certificate IV in Business with Batchelor Institute, while also employed within the Student & Residential Services team as a Residential Officer.

Artwork-logo story

The bottom of the painting represents the beginning of the journey. The footprints symbolise all students' past, present and future walking their own paths. It can also represent that Batchelor sees all walks of life coming to study.

The river shows the pathway to success guiding students along their journey.

On the left side of the image is a meeting place circle representing learning on Country and the symbol below reflects male identity and presence.

On the right side is another meeting place circle representing learning at Batchelor Institute with the symbol above reflecting female identity.

The top section represents success and happiness for all students' past, present and future.

The mounds symbolise emerging graduates reaching toward success not only for their families and communities but most importantly for themselves.

Finally, the light of the sun represents hope, brightness and a strong future ahead.



About the Master of Ceremonies

Professor Curtis Roman

Dr Curtis Roman is a Larrakia man born and raised on Larrakia country. He has worked in academia, the public sector, Indigenous organisations, and community organisations in positions such as Head of School, Senior Director and Director. He has supervised Ph.D students, published papers in academic journals in Australia and abroad, and has delivered many public seminars and conference presentations. He has taught at undergraduate and postgraduate levels in Indigenous Studies, education, anthropology, human resource management and has taught medical doctors how to operate in cross-cultural contexts. Dr Roman is currently Dean of Higher Education and Research at Batchelor Institute.

About the artist

Zoe Patullo

Zoe Patullo is a Kungarakan/Gurindji woman (through her maternal grandmother) currently living in Batchelor. Over the past year and a half, she has been studying at Batchelor Institute, doing her Certificate I and II in Visual Arts.

Artwork by the visual arts students were featured at the NT Training Awards in a special project by the Batchelor Institute, who provided screenprinted place mats. Zoe submitted three pieces including the one featured in this booklet.

Now retired, Zoe had spent many years living and working on Groote Eylandt where she established her first business enterprise, Zozart. Through this venture, she supported local artists by buying and selling their artworks. Zoe played a key role in advocating for fair value. She has always held a deep love for art, and an even greater love for the artists she supported and who she describes as some of the best. Zoe later sold the established Zozart business to the Anindilyakwa Land Council.

She went on to open additional retail ventures on Groote Eylandt, including Fitzos Boutique and Footprints On Groote, further demonstrating her entrepreneurial spirit and commitment to her community.

Today, Zoe continues to nurture her own creative practice through her studies in visual arts and her most recent business venture Koolootook Trading promoting the Kungarakan Language through merchandise.



Guide to academic dress

The predominant black red and gold colours of academic dress mirror the colours of the Aboriginal flag, and the logo in these colours that adorns stoles and gowns is a design that represents four people sitting around a campfire telling stories to each other.

VET GRADUAND DRESS

A plain gold gown and a stole covered in ochre satin with one white logo.

HIGHER EDUCATION UNDERGRADUATE DRESS

A plain gold gown and a black hood lined in red satin.

POSTGRADUATE DRESS

Doctoral graduands can be distinguished by their red gown, gold satin yoke and red tudor bonnet. Since 2025 an Alternative Doctoral gown exists in the colours of the Torres Strait Islander flag. Masters graduands have a gold hood lined with maroon, and a black trencher with black, red and yellow tassels.

MILITARY MEDALS

Medals, both military or civilian, may be worn by both students and staff, however, must be worn on the garment/uniform under the Academic Regalia.

Medals are not to be affixed to the Academic Regalia.

CERTIFICATE I - ADVANCED DIPLOMA



BACHELOR



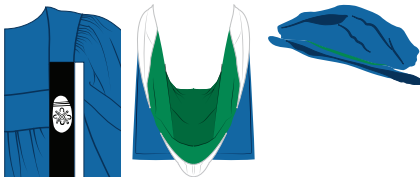
MASTERS BY RESEARCH



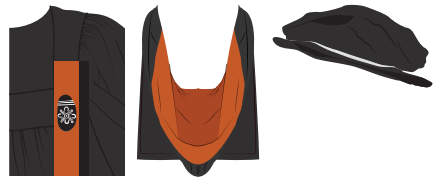
DOCTORATE - CLASSIC

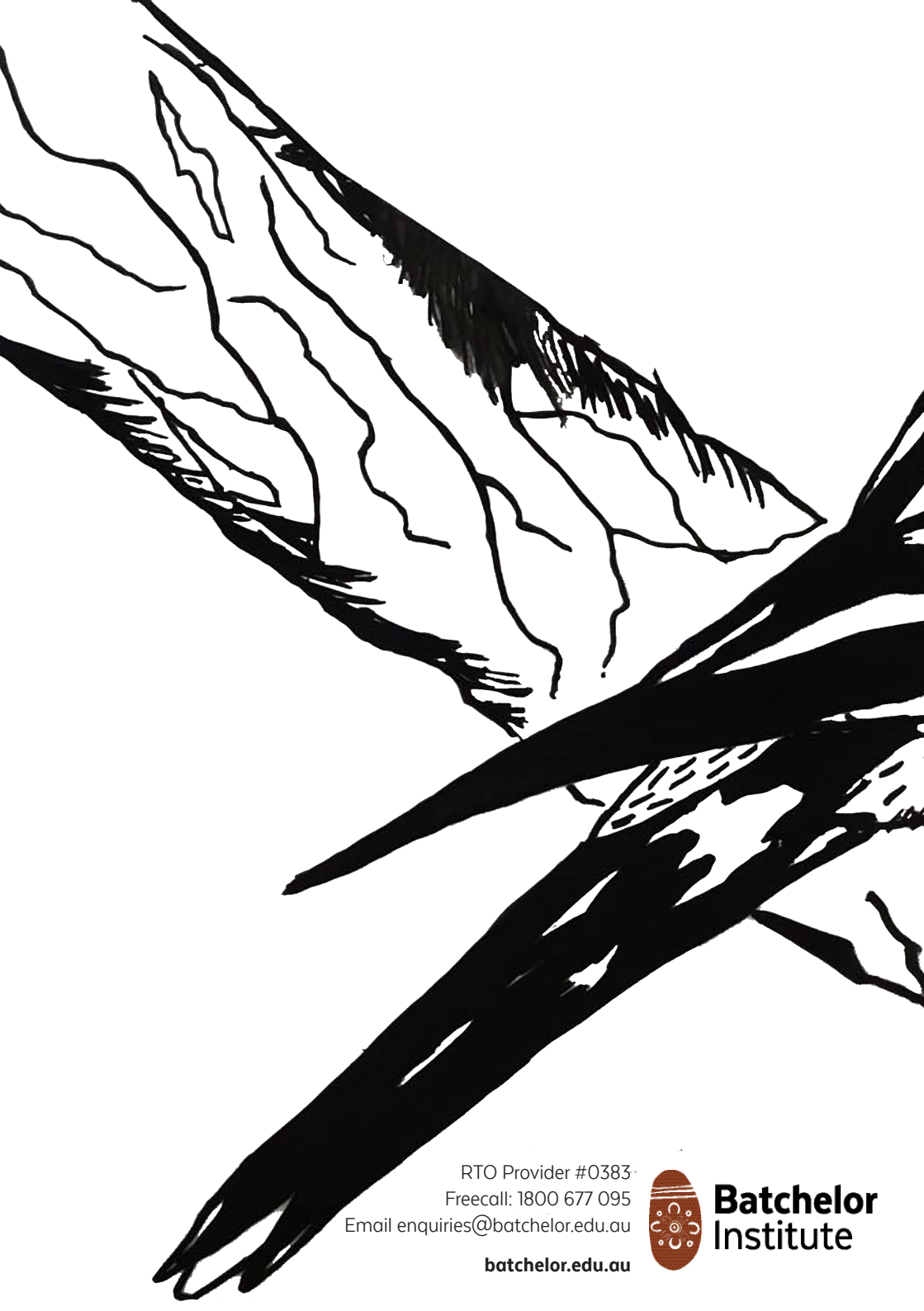


DOCTORATE - ALTERNATIVE



HONORARY DOCTORATE





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