

OPPORTUNITY FOR **CREATIVES &** STORY TELLERS

A creative workshop with
 **BALARINJI**

ABORIGINAL EXPLORATORY WORKSHOPS PROPOSED UPGRADE OF THE GREAT WESTERN HIGHWAY BETWEEN KATOOMBA AND LITHGOW EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

WHO: Aboriginal **ELDERS, LEADERS** and **CREATIVE THINKERS** with a connection to the Blue Mountains, and surrounding area between Katoomba and Lithgow.

WHY: **ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY** we invite your contribution. We're inviting locally connected Aboriginal community members and diverse creative minds to attend a **WORKSHOP** to discuss **A SIGNIFICANT UPGRADE OF THE GREAT WESTERN HIGHWAY** to provide input on Aboriginal cultural heritage and the living culture of the area.

WHEN: We will be holding a workshop from 10am to 2pm on Thursday 31st March 2022 at Katoomba Christian Convention.

WHERE: Katoomba Christian Convention. (Balarinji will ensure that all COVID safe protocols are observed and adhered to for the health and safety of workshop attendees).

PAID: Successful applicants will be paid for their time.

APPLY: **SPACES ARE LIMITED.** Please send some brief information about **YOUR WORK, YOURSELF** and **YOUR CONNECTION** to Darug, Gundungurra or Wiradjuri Country or the Blue Mountains area to info@balarinji.com.au

**PLEASE SEND YOUR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
BY MONDAY 28TH OF MARCH**

For further information please contact the Balarinji studio on (02) 9908 2416 via [THIS LINK](#)



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT DOES THE PROPOSED REDEVELOPMENT CONSIST OF?

The Great Western Highway Upgrade Program will complete the final 34 kilometre link in a modern dual carriageway roadway across the Blue Mountains.

Together, the Australian and NSW Governments are investing more than \$4.5 billion towards upgrading the Great Western Highway between Katoomba and Lithgow.

The Great Western Highway Upgrade will reduce congestion, deliver safer, more efficient and reliable journeys for those travelling in, around and through the Blue Mountains, and better connect communities in the Central West.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THESE WORKSHOPS?

These workshops will inform us about the Aboriginal culture and heritage of the Blue Mountains, and surrounding area between Katoomba and Lithgow. This opportunity aims to integrate an Aboriginal narrative within the Great Western Highway Upgrade Program. Through this engagement we aim to:

- Highlight opportunities for the project to understand the Aboriginal context (cultural, physical and spiritual)
- Highlight opportunities to consider how Aboriginal culture and heritage can be considered
- Discuss what the local community think should be considered by the project team as it continues to develop the project.

WHO IS BALARINJI AND WHAT IS ITS INVOLVEMENT IN THE PROJECT?

Balarinji is a leading Aboriginal-owned strategy and design agency that has been based in Sydney for 20 years. With experience facilitating opportunities for local Aboriginal people to benefit from, and contribute to, major public projects. As a member of the project advisory team, we are facilitating the workshops. Our aim for the session is to listen to the community about how it wants to see the project develop a deeper understanding of the Aboriginal cultural significance of the Blue Mountains, and surrounding area between Katoomba and Lithgow.

HOW DO I APPLY?

Please send some brief information about **YOUR WORK, YOURSELF** and **YOUR CONNECTION** to Darug, Gundungurra or Wiradjuri Country or the Blue Mountains area to [THIS LINK](#)

HOW WILL WORKSHOP ATTENDEES BE SELECTED?

We will use a range of criteria to select attendees including seniority in the community (local Elders), family links to the proposed precinct, involvement in the community and creative expertise. This is to ensure we have a diverse and inclusive representation.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

THE BALARINJI STUDIO:

PHONE (02) 9908 2416

EMAIL info@balarinji.com.au