

## Wiradjuri & First Nations Creatives program weaving workshops

The Wiradjuri & First Nations Creatives Program will commence this weekend at the Wagga Wagga Art Gallery under the guidance of host Wiradjuri Elder Aunty Cheryl Penrith and Gamilaraay creative Debbie Wood.

First offered in 2021, this program aims to support Wiradjuri and First Nations creative practitioners through art programs and opportunities in a safe cultural environment.

The program will run over two weekends in October and November where participants can attend one or all four sessions.

Participants will be led and inspired by Debbie Wood who incorporates her Gamilaraay heritage and cultural background into her work, giving it a contemporary interpretation.

She is strongly influenced by what she sees in her natural environment, and predominantly uses hand dyed raffia, emu feathers, local natural grasses and pine needles.

Many will be familiar with Debbie Wood's weaving in the form of woven earrings, necklaces and fascinators worn by some of Wagga Wagga's most fashionable people.

Participants will be encouraged to develop their weaving skills while exploring both their ideas and art making skills.

Program Coordinator Maryanne Gray said "Debbie Wood is an award-winning artist with a passion for weaving.

"Her work incorporates her deep cultural and environmental knowledge."

Wiradjuri & First Nations Creatives Weaving Workshops will run over two weekends, Saturday 7 - Sunday 8 October and Saturday 4 - Sunday 5 November.

All are welcome to attend. Bookings are essential via [waggaartgallery.com.au/programs-and-events](http://waggaartgallery.com.au/programs-and-events)

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### Wiradjuri & First Nations Creatives: Weaving Workshops

7 & 8 October and 4 & 5 November, 10am – 2pm

\$10 per session. Light lunch provided.

All welcome. Bookings essential via [www.waggaartgallery.com.au](http://www.waggaartgallery.com.au)

**Media images:**

Debbie Wood. Yellow flower 2022. Image courtesy of the artist (available on request).



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### About Wagga Wagga City Council

Wagga Wagga City Council serves more than 68,000 residents across an area of 4825 square kilometres with an overall budget of more than \$236M.

The organisation manages more than \$2.48 billion in assets, including a 2300km road network, Wagga Wagga Airport, Livestock Marketing Centre and the Oasis Aquatic Centre.

Council also provides important community facilities such as Wagga Wagga Art Gallery, Wagga Wagga City Library, Museum of the Riverina and Civic Theatre, as well as maintaining countless parks, playgrounds and sporting facilities to ensure Wagga maintains its reputation as 'the City of Good Sports'.

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