



GOMEROI CULTURE ACADEMY



The **Gomeri Culture Academy (GCA)** is a multifaceted culturally focused learning experience for Tamworth young people. Offering consistent mentorship and enabling young people to learn more about who they are culturally, which strengthens and builds on their identity.

The GCA harnesses the strength and knowledge that exists within our community to support our young people. We have formalised part of the learning process that has been happening on Gomeri country for thousands of years as taught to us by our family and community.

In 2018, 20 young people from Tamworth will come together for a yearlong cultural learning experience that will involve:

1. Developing a stronger sense of personal and cultural identity.
2. Learning traditional skills, practices and processes.
3. Developing a strong network of like-minded young people from across the community.

The GCA is not an alternative to school, our intention is to work with schools assisting them in supporting their students to flourish and be passionate about their future.

Weekly Group Gathering

During the gatherings participants will gain a deeper understanding of personal and cultural values. Learning how to recognise their own values and putting them into practice.

The gatherings provide opportunity for participants to learn traditional cultural practices and have meaningful conversations with local experts in the areas of: Weaving | Woodcarving | Gomeri Language | Song & Dance | and On Country Learning.

Weekly Mentoring Sessions

GCA offers excellence in 1-on-1 mentoring sessions with an experienced Gomeri cultural mentor. Personalised Cultural Learning Plans will be developed with each young person, that identifies their interests and passions as well as setting targets for them to reach throughout the year.

If you are a young person who:

- ← is passionate to learn more about themselves and their culture,
- ← are seeking to develop personal leadership skills,
- ← want to be apart of developing a peer support network with like-minded young people,

then we want to hear from you, the 2018 applications are open!



GOMEROI CULTURE ACADEMY

Applications are now open.

Over the page you will need to complete the following:

- ← Applicant, Family and School Information and consent form.
- ← Application Questionnaire.
- ← Gomeroidance Company Agreement Form.

Once all applications have been received 20 young people will be accepted into the Gomeroidance Company. The GCA will commence on the 1st March 2018. If you are not selected into the GCA to start in 2018 you will be placed on a waiting list and will be contacted if a place becomes available. There will also be a range of other workshops happening locally that you can be a part of.

What YOU need to do next!

Make sure to have support from your Parent/ Guardian, Aboriginal Education Officer and Principal and ensure they have each completed their part of your application form.

Submitting your application

- ← **Email** your completed application form to gomeroidancecompany@gmail.com or, lorrelle@yinarrmaramali.com
- ← **OR in person** at the Joblink Plus Reception Desk, 490 Peel Street Tamworth in a clearly marked envelope (can be supplied at Joblink Plus) to the attention of Marc Sutherland, Gomeroidance Company

What WE need to do...

We will notify you by email once we have received your application. You will be contacted directly before the 29th January 2018 on the status of your application.

For your Information!

- ← All gatherings and mentoring sessions will be held in Tamworth.
- ← All gatherings and mentoring session will be held weekly.
- ← All gatherings and mentoring session are fully supervised by trained and experienced male and female GCA staff.
- ← All meals will be covered by GCA during our gatherings.
- ← There will be opportunities throughout the year for families and schools to be involved with GCA.

Contact Us

Marc Sutherland 0432 652 832
gomeroidancecompany@gmail.com

Lorrelle Munro 0423 879 958
lorrelle@yinarrmaramali.com

GREAT WORK!

Thank you for applying for the Gomeroidance Company CultureAcademy 2018!

Partners

The Gomeroidance Company is proudly supported by Joblink Plus. This project is funded by the Australian Government in partnership with Joblink Plus.





GOMEROI CULTURE ACADEMY

APPLICATION FORM

Applications close 15 December 2017

For the Applicant

What is your full name?

If at school what year are you in?

Do you identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander? Which language group?

What is your name on Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat or Twitter? (if different from your full name)

How old are you?

Gender

What is your address?

Are you on any regular medication or have any medical conditions we should know about?

What is your mobile phone number?

Are you allergic to anything?

What school/organisation are you connected with?

Application form continued over next page



GOMEROI CULTURE ACADEMY

APPLICATION FORM

Applications close 15 December 2017

For the Parent/Guardian

Name

Contact Number(s)

Email address

By signing below you declare you have read and understand the Gomeroid Culture Academy Outline and Shared Agreement on page 9.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

DD / MM / YYYY

For the Aboriginal Education Officer

Name

Contact Number(s)

Email address

By signing below you declare you have read and understand the Gomeroid Culture Academy Outline and Shared Agreement on page 9.

Signature

Date

DD / MM / YYYY

For the School Principal

Name

Contact Numbers

Email address

By signing below you declare you have read and understand the Gomeroid Culture Academy Outline and Shared Agreement on page 9.

Signature

Date

DD / MM / YYYY



APPLICATION QUESTIONNAIRE

We have 10 Questions for you!

They are a bit of fun, and we would like you to be as honest as possible when answering them. It will help us to better understand you and the ways we can support you in your journey. We have given you lots of space to express yourself but if you can't fill the space, don't worry! It's not a test (pew).

1. What animal best describes you, and why?
(example: *An Emu because I like running and I like open spaces*)

2. If you had a super power, what would it be, and why?
(example: *freeze people, fly etc*)?



3. Have you been involved in any other programs in the past? If so what were they?

4. Are you involved in any programs now? If so what are they?

5. Describe yourself in 25 words or less.



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Almost Finished, only 5 questions to go!

6. Circle 5 values that you most admire in yourself or that you admire in others.

Respect	Teamwork	Honesty
Freedom	Responsibility	Bravery
Discovery	Patience	Creativity
Love	Ambition	Justice
Humility	Adventure	Learning

7. Rank 1 to 11 the areas you would like to learn most about.

1 = most interested & 11 = not so interested

Areas	Rank
Family Tree and Family History	
Gomeroi (Gamilaraay) Language	
Traditional Songs and Dances	
Traditional Weaving/Fibre Work	
Wood Carving	
Didgeridoo	
Native Plant Identification & Uses	
Storytelling	
Importance of Significant Sites	
Painting and Artworks	
Native Animals and their Story	



8. What does culture mean to you?

9. What would you like to get out of being a part of the Gomeroi Culture Academy?

10. Tell us a story about someone who inspires you.



GOMEROI CULTURE ACADEMY SHARED AGREEMENT

The Gomerai Culture Academy relies strongly on the relationships between the applicant, their family and their school. Below is a list of set expectations that must be upheld for applicants to remain eligible for the GCA. By signing this agreement means you have read and commit to the following.

Applicant commits to:

- ← Remaining dedicated to the program.
- ← Participate in all GCA workshops, mentoring sessions and events.
- ← Maintain reasonable behavior at school and within community.
- ← Maintain reasonable attendance at school.
- ← Treat all GCA staff with respect.

Family commits to:

- ← Supporting the applicant to participate in all activities within the GCA.
- ← Engage in open communication with the GCA staff.
- ← Share any relevant changes in the life of the applicant which may impact in their participation with the GCA.

Schools commit to:

- ← Supporting the applicant's participation in the GCA at all;
 1. 3-hour weekly Group Gatherings, all year
 2. 1-hour Mentoring Session
- ← Assist in offering transport to the applicant to weekly Group Gatherings (if not possible travel arrangements can be made by GCA).
- ← Sharing behavioral and attendance information with the GCA to best support the applicant.
- ← Share the applicants existing Personal Learning Plan with GCA to support the needs and growth of applicants.

- ← Communicate any ideas, thoughts and concerns with the GCA staff regarding the involvement of the applicant or the GCA itself.
- ← Complete regular evaluation documents when required.

Gomerai Culture Academy commits to:

- ← Providing safe and fully supervised spaces for applicants to learn and share together.
- ← Coordination and facilitation of the GCA.
- ← Mentor and support all applicants to grow and develop.
- ← Having regular communication with each applicant, their school and family.
- ← Provide all relevant documentation regarding the progress and position of the GCA and applicant.
- ← Provide the applicant with a range of experiences aimed at assisting them in their personal development.

Signatures of Agreement

Applicant Signature	Date
<u>DD / MM / YYYY</u>	
Parent/Guardian Signature	Date
<u>DD / MM / YYYY</u>	
Aboriginal Education Officer Signature	Date
<u>DD / MM / YYYY</u>	
Principal Signature	Date
<u>DD / MM / YYYY</u>	