

CARING FOR COUNTRY DAY

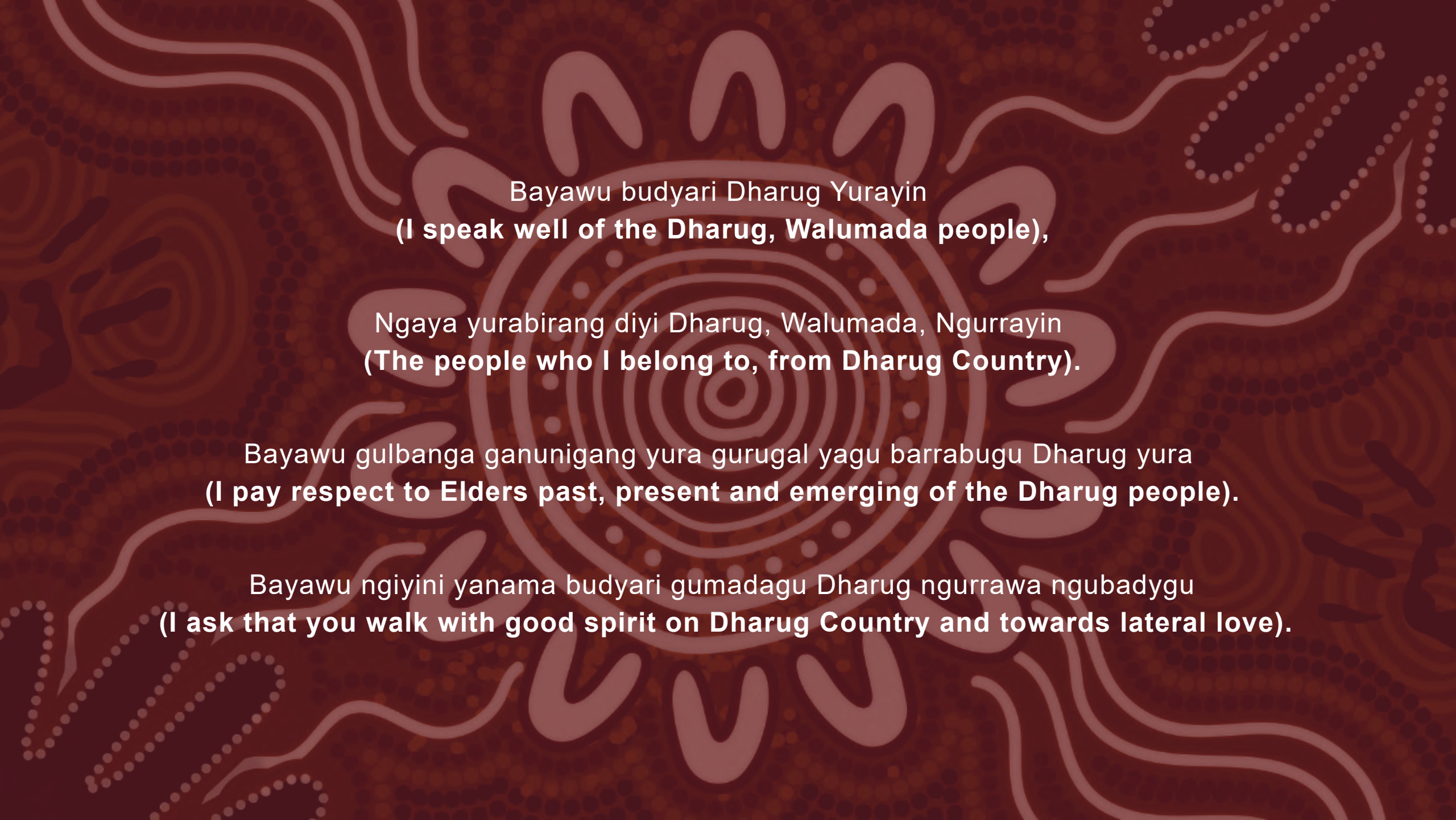
(YOU)^{US}



MACQUARIE
University
SYDNEY · AUSTRALIA

Summary

Macquarie University's Office of the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous) with the combined efforts of the Australian Harmony Centre for Ecosystem Futures will be hosting the Caring for Country Day Dharug event, which aims to raise awareness of the significance of Ngurra / Country's wellbeing. This event also emphasizes the need to care for the land both physically and spiritually, and for that reason, we are honored to be the host to stakeholders that have chosen to collaborate with us and expand further recognition of this event happening in March 2026. The following pages will be the brochure for the event.



Bayawu budyari Dharug Yurayin
(I speak well of the Dharug, Walumada people),

Ngaya yurabirang diyi Dharug, Walumada, Ngurrayin
(The people who I belong to, from Dharug Country).

Bayawu gulbanga ganunigang yura gurugal yagu barrabugu Dharug yura
(I pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging of the Dharug people).

Bayawu ngiyini yanama budyari gumadagu Dharug ngurrawa ngubadygu
(I ask that you walk with good spirit on Dharug Country and towards lateral love).

Details of Caring for Country Day

Date: 5th March 2026

9.30am: Welcome to Country and Traditional Smoking Ceremony

10am: Community stalls open

12.30-1.30pm: Lunch and networking conversations

2-3pm: Stalls close



Why We Should Care for Country

Dharug custodianship has always been an integral part of the area known today as Sydney. This event intends to highlight the importance of Ngurra / Country that we as fellow Australians will inhabit for generations to come.

Climate change holds immense pressure on Sydney's waterways, landscapes and biodiversity. This can potentially bring about disasters like droughts, heatwaves, wildfires and floods, which can cause irreversible damage to significant cultural sites, flora and fauna. These disasters can severely disrupt spiritual and symbolic connections to the lands.

As Macquarie University is positioned upon the lands of the Walumadagal Clan of the Dharug Nation, we are obligated just as we are responsible, to ensure their continued legacy and traditions through a joint collaboration with multiple stakeholders and individuals. As the hosts of the Australian Harmony Centre for Ecosystem Futures, we at Macquarie University would be honoured for you to join us in this journey of healing and revitalization that the Caring for Country Day offers.



Goals and Objectives

Build consciousness of Caring for Country across the University and community.

Strengthen partnerships with Dharug custodians and local councils, corporates, and NGOs to encourage welfare and harmonization between various parties.

Showcase initiatives already underway (e.g., cultural burns, catchment projects, water health).

Foster future collaborations, research, and student involvement to ensure the continuation of Indigenous culture.



What To Expect On The Day

- Welcome to Country & Smoking Ceremony
- Information stalls showcasing stakeholder contributions - (councils, corporates, community)
- Yarning with stallholders and community groups
- Student and staff participation
- BBQ and Aboriginal coffee cart
- Walking on Country

Why Be Involved With This Event?

Active Leadership: Macquarie University is hosting a Caring for Country event on Walumada for the first time.

Community Visibility: Profile initiatives to 1000s of staff, students, alumni, and community members.

Council & NGO Benefits: Showcase programs in bushcare, waterways, citizen science, and community education

Corporate Social Responsibility: Align your brand with reconciliation, sustainability, and Indigenous knowledges.

Staff Engagement: Volunteer opportunities, participation in stalls / activities to promote your work and cultural learning.

Opportunities



Exhibition Stalls

Councils, corporates, NGOs, and community groups showcase Caring for Country initiatives.



Experiential Activities

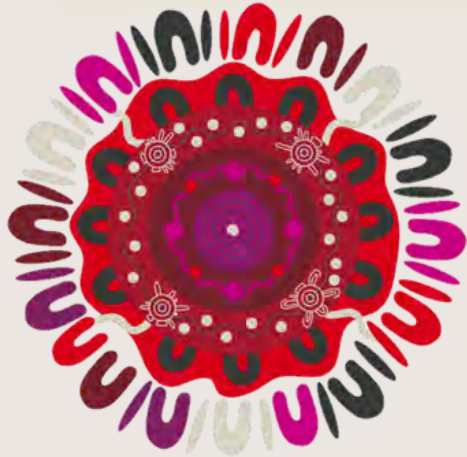
Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony by Dharug community.



Collaborative Experiences

Yarning circles with Dharug custodians, ecological restoration discussions, art/culture installations.

Caring for Country Day is Brought to You by



**Ngarra-Nuru
Office of the Pro-Vice Chancellor
(Indigenous)**



**Australian
Harmony Centre**
FOR ECOSYSTEM FUTURES

**The Australian Harmony Centre for
Ecosystem Futures**



Dharug People

Walumada Stakeholder Supporters

Councils

Lane Cove, Ryde, Hornsby, Hunters Hill, Kuringai, Willoughby, Parramatta

Government

DCCEEW, NPWS, Sydney Water, NSW Department of Planning & Environment

Corporates

AstraZeneca, Fujifilm, Stockland, Optus, Goodman, Johnson & Johnson, Bev Debrincat Habitat

Community

Dharug community, Friends of Lane Cove NP, Landcare, OzFish, cultural fire community

Macquarie University

Australian Harmony Centre for Ecosystem Futures, Environmental Science, Smart Green Cities, Indigenous Studies, Archaeology, Sustainability, Media & Communications, Ronika Powers, Geography & Planning

How to Get Involved



While Caring for Country Day does not require you to actively partake in various activities, we encourage you to check out the links below regarding the connection between “caring” for our lands through sustainable methods and how Aboriginal traditions can bridge the gap between cultural differences in both knowledge and methods.

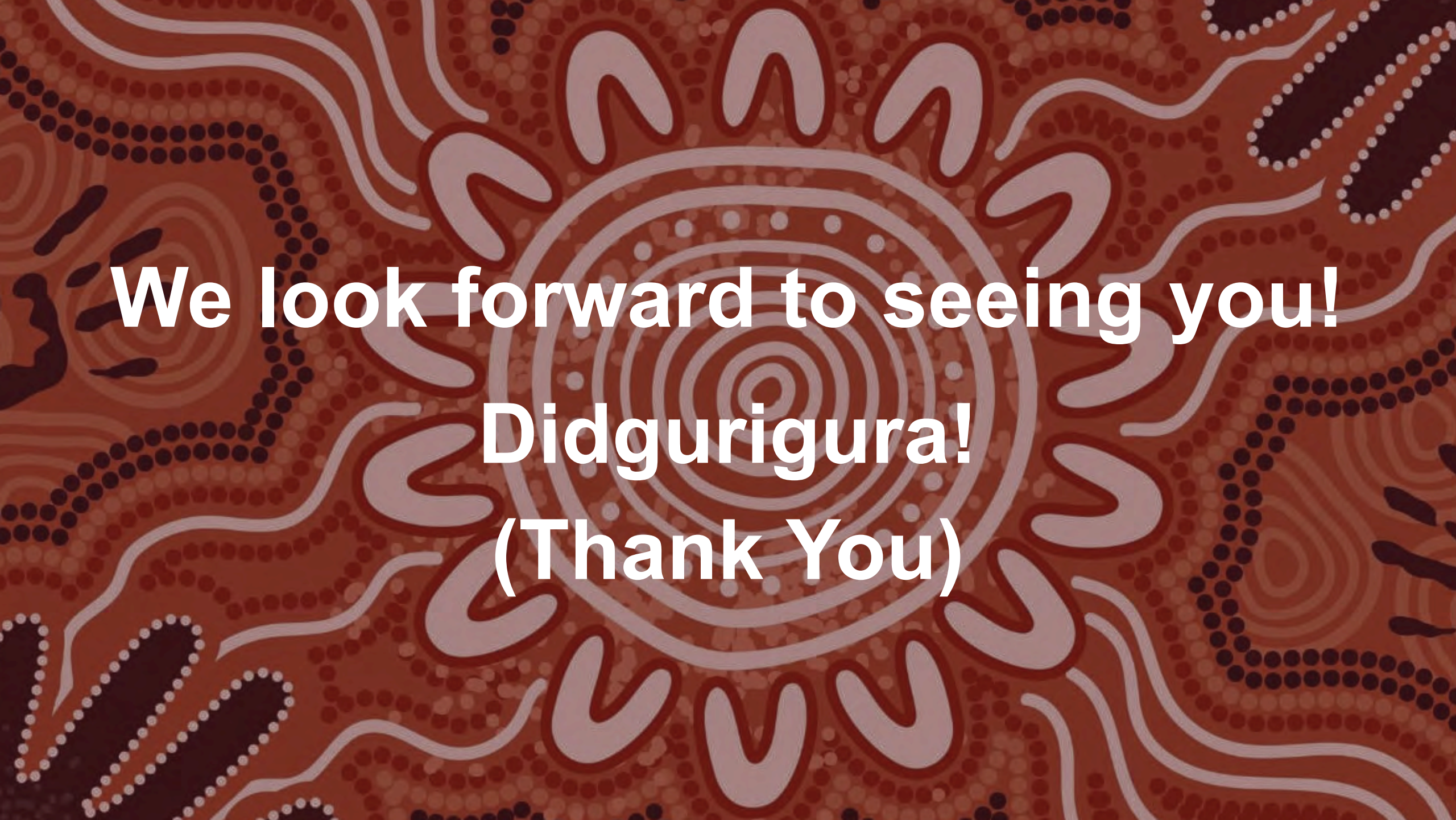


<https://circularbioeconomyalliance.org/>



<https://www.mq.edu.au/faculty-of-science-and-engineering/our-research/australian-harmony-centre-for-ecosystem-futures>

<https://www.mq.edu.au/about/about-the-university/vision-strategy/other-university-initiatives/sustainability>



We look forward to seeing you!
Didgurigura!
(Thank You)