

# Creative Learning 2026

# Membership Program

*Get the most out of  
your local museum!*

## Are you a member school?

NERAM offers an annual school membership at the beginning of each year. Please see information below for schools that wish to sign up in 2026.

What is the school membership? NERAM is offering an annual school membership to all schools, centres and educational institutions for a flat rate of \$70.

### Benefits include:

- Priority access to all Creative Learning programs
- Two free guided tours with self-directed curriculum-based activities annually\*
- Access to one free outreach program annually\*
- Discounts on Creative Learning programs and studio based art-making activities
- Invitations to exclusive events and teachers' previews
- Discounts on Professional Development for educators, teachers and students
- Discounts on NERAM workshops and masterclasses
- Subscription to NERAM Creative Learning E-Newsletter
- Set of NERAM Art Catalogues for your school

### Terms and Conditions of school membership:

\*Member schools receive two free guided tours annually for up to 30 students each visit, further visits will be discounted to member schools at \$1 per student

\*Member schools receive one free outreach programs annually; further outreach programs will be at a discounted fee

Applications close Tuesday 24th February 2026



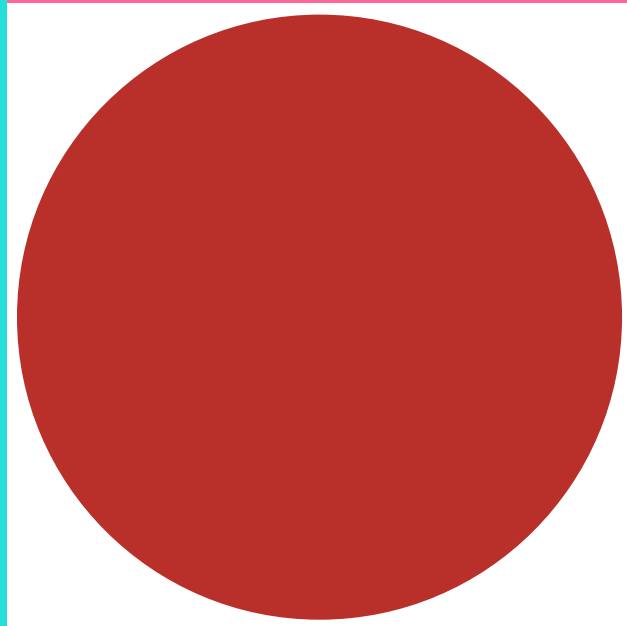
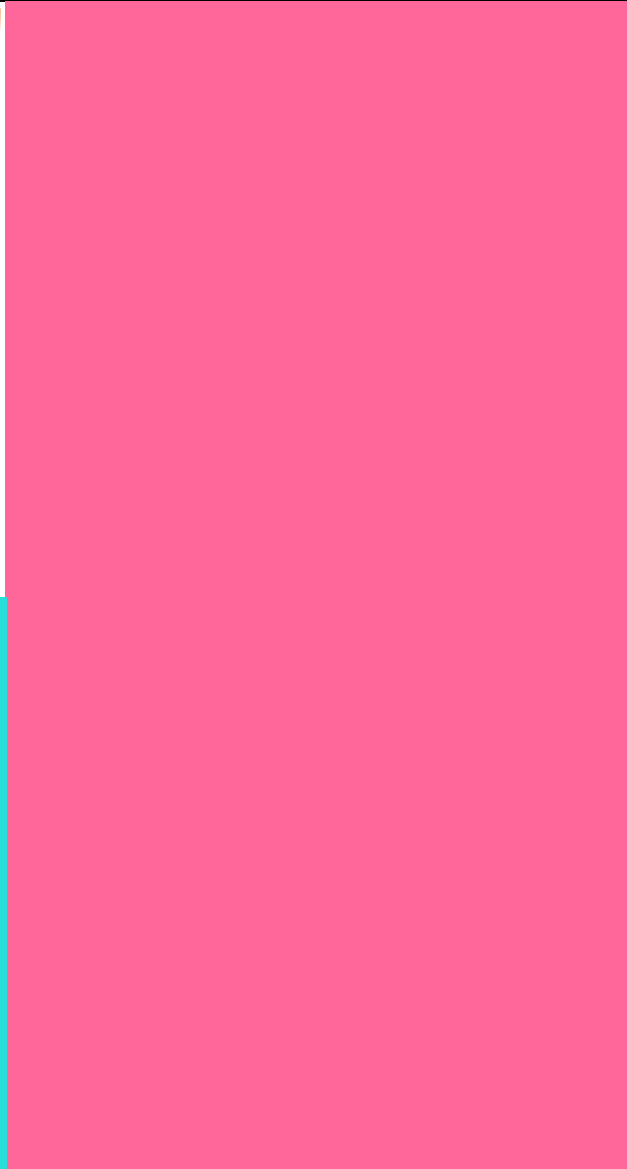
NERAM's School Membership is offered to early childhood centres, primary and secondary schools, and education institutions in Armidal and surrounding areas.

If you are interested please contact our Education Officer:  
email: [education@neram.com.au](mailto:education@neram.com.au)  
phone: 6772 5255

# Program Costs



A visit to NERAM offers a rich learning experience for students that complements and extends the curriculum in the classroom. Our education staff work to build visual literacy and an understanding of culture, history and the importance of art in society. We offer a range of activities, including tours, talks, art trails, studio sessions, role-play, workshops and professional development programs all in relation to current exhibitions at NERAM.



	<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>NON-MEMBER</u>
Guided Tour	Free	\$2.00/ student
Guided Tour and Art-making	\$4.50 per student	\$6.50/ student
Outreach	Free	\$30.00/ program

Self Guided Tours: All self guided tours to NERAM are free, however, donations are gratefully accepted.

Payment: NERAM can send an invoice to the school for full payment prior to program commencement. Alternatively, payment can be made on the day.

For more information or to book a program, please contact our Education Officer on 6772 5255 / [education@neram.com.au](mailto:education@neram.com.au)

Details and any updates to the programs can be found on our website: [www.neram.com.au](http://www.neram.com.au)



## Self-Guided Tours

Self-guided tours are available for school groups with an educational activity linked to this. This allows students and teachers to explore the exhibitions at their own pace and still take some valuable content away with them.

## Creative Learning Programs

Based on the programs we have running, book in your school for an incredible gallery experience. Students will get a guided tour and connected artmaking activity to follow. If you wish to extend this experience afterwards, let us create some additional resources for you to take back too!

## Outreach Programs

Let us come to you! Excursions (and the paperwork that comes with it) can be hard, and we don't want you to miss out on some amazing educational and creative experiences because of it. Outreach allows us to send resources and equipment to you to use within your classroom.







## EXHIBITION HIGHLIGHTS

# What's on in 2026?

## Term 1 & 2

### ***Wonders of Hinton***

Ongoing

### ***Intimate Connections***

6 February – 29 March

### ***Hinton – Of Brushes and Light***

6 February – 29 March

### ***Experimenta Emergence: International Triennial of Media Art***

4 April – 17 May

### ***The Neighbours at the Gate***

22 May – 26 July

## Term 3 & 4

### ***University of New England Schools Acquisitive Art Prize (UNESAP)***

24 July – 9 August

### ***Unfamiliar Territory: Angus Nivison Retrospective***

31 July – 18 October

### ***Boundaries: Transcended***

21 August – 27 September

### ***Into the Dark and Out Again - Patricia Wilson-Adams***

13 November – 31 January 2027

### ***Elemental***

13 Nov 2026 – 31 Jan 2027



# Term 2.

## *Hinton: Of Brushes and Light*

6 February - 15 March

***A collection exhibition highlighting key Australian impressionists including Tom Roberts, Arthur Streeton, Walter Withers, Charles Conder, and influential expat painter Girolamo Nerli.***

### **Early Childhood:**

Children use pre-cut coloured paper shapes to create an abstract artwork inspired by the Impressionists' use of light. They then add “sunlight marks” using pencils and pastels, exploring colour, movement, and simple brushstroke-like patterns.

### **Primary:**

Students choose a colour palette from an artwork in the exhibition and create a layered background using mixed media (watercolour, pastel, sponge textures). Over this, they use complementary-colour markers to add abstract patterns inspired by landscape shapes and Impressionist brushwork.

### **Secondary:**

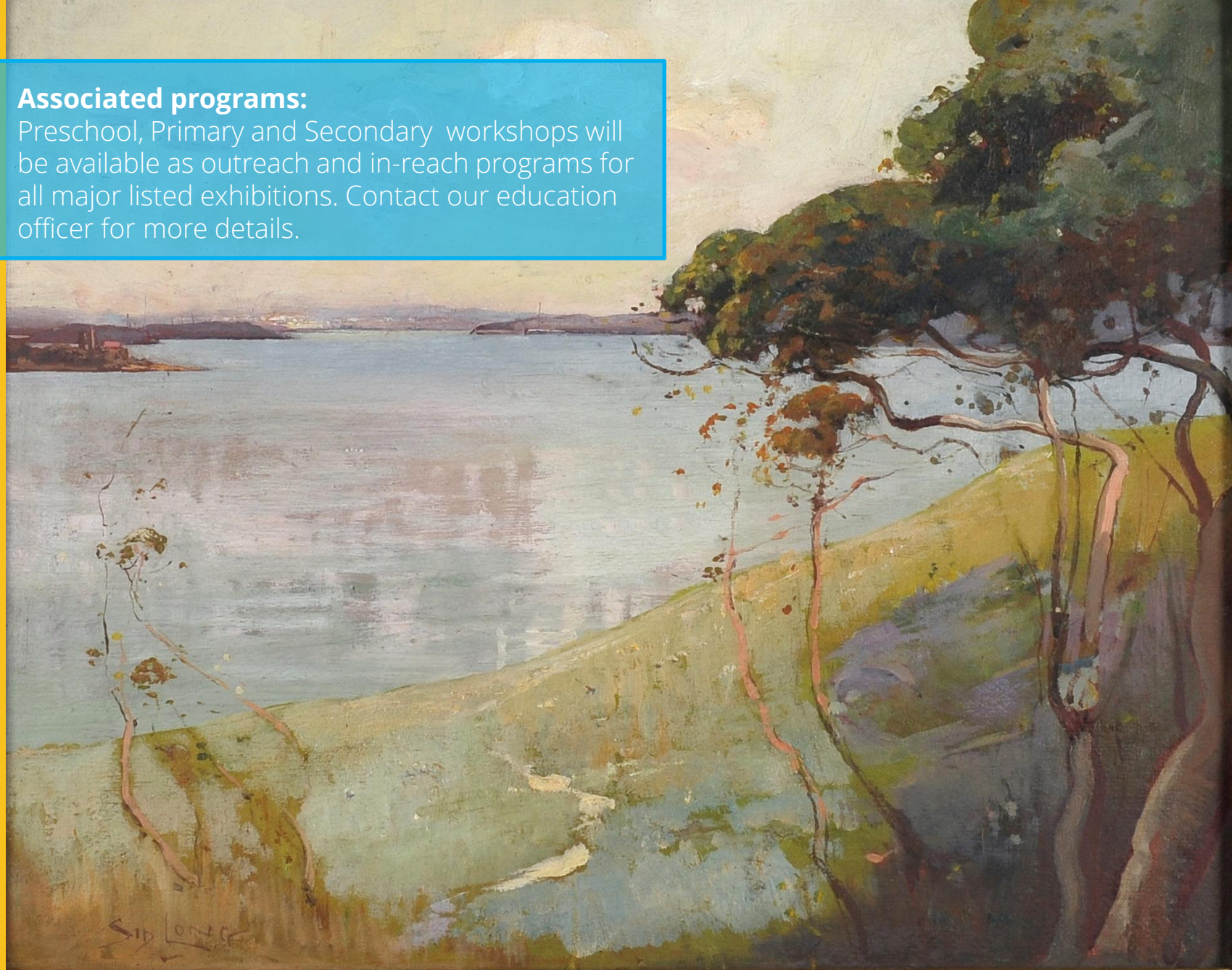
Students explore key compositional elements—light, movement, colour and texture—then use a viewfinder to crop *Wind and Sun* by Fred Leist. They redraw their cropped section using coloured pencils, pastels, or markers, focusing on colour blending and Impressionist mark-making. The final works are displayed together as a mosaic of Impressionist fragments.





### Associated programs:

Preschool, Primary and Secondary workshops will be available as outreach and in-reach programs for all major listed exhibitions. Contact our education officer for more details.



## *Intimate Connections*

6 February – 29 March

**This exhibition reveals the personal and creative connections that bind artists within the NERAM Collections. Highlighting relationships such as those between Douglas Dundas and Dorothy Thornhill, Joshua Smith and William Dobell, and Kenneth Macqueen and Olive Crane, it uncovers the intimate networks—familial, collaborative and deeply personal—that shaped their artistic lives. Through these stories, the exhibition offers a fresh perspective on the intertwined histories that animate Australian art.**



## *Wonders of Hinton*

Ongoing

**The Wonders of Hinton exhibition at New England Regional Art Museum presents the extraordinary Howard Hinton Collection — one of the most significant assemblies of early-20th-century Australian art outside the capital cities. Drawing on works donated by collector-patron Howard Hinton, the display spans Australian art from the 1880s onward. Through roughly 130 key works, students and visitors can trace major artistic developments, explore Australian identity and landscape, and understand the power of art philanthropy. The exhibition offers unique opportunities for learning, discussion, and reflection on cultural heritage, history, and the role of art in society.**



# Term 2.

## *Experimenta Emergence International triennial of media art*

4 April - 17 May 2026

Includes  
study  
guide

*Experimenta Emergence presents the work of contemporary artists who explore emerging societal and environmental changes and offer other perspectives, imagined possibilities and directions.*

*At a time when the unknown and maybe the unknowable is building like a wave, these artists encourage us to question our shifting realities. What are the forces shaping our worlds? How might we encounter, counter or adapt to the transformations of the human and more-than-human world we are part of? Can we alter current trajectories?*

**Early Childhood, Primary and Secondary:**

A series of STEM based activities are being developed.





# Term 2.

## *The Neighbours at the Gate*

22 May – 26 July 2026

Includes  
study  
guide

### *A National Art School exhibition*

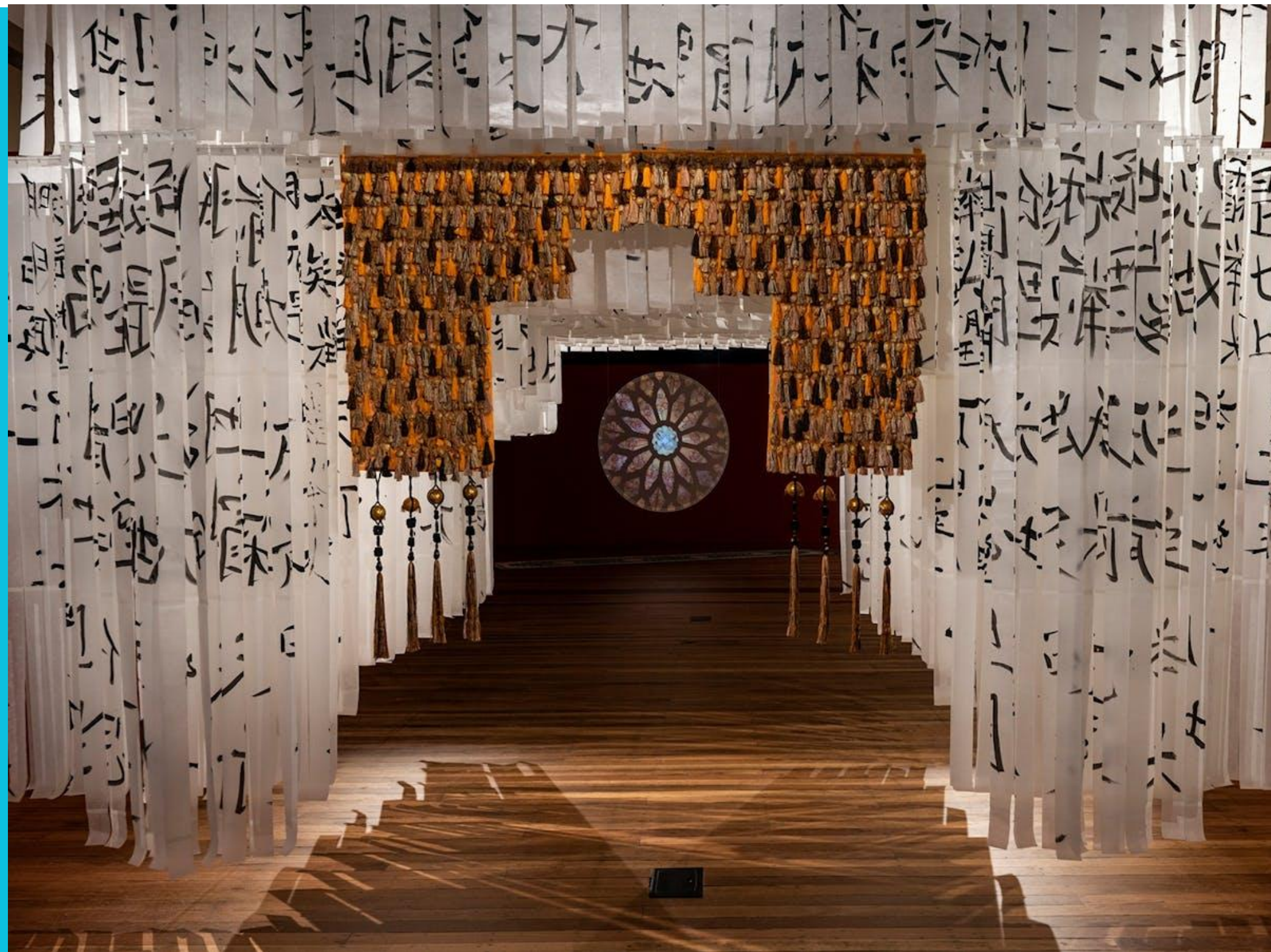
Asian-Aboriginal cross-cultural alliances problematize black/white and migrant/settler dichotomies, which in turn contest dominant narratives of nation and expose the limitations of 'multiculturalism' and reconciliation. Working hard to un-knit and unravel the impacts of colonization, race and ethnicity between and within these groups are the key source of works and narratives in this exhibition, which brings together 3 First Nations and 3 Asian-Australian artists in collaboration.

#### **Early Childhood:**

Children explore identity and connection by creating a simple collage portrait using coloured paper, fabric, and textured materials. They add drawn lines or symbols representing family, community, or things that make them feel connected, encouraging early reflections on belonging.

#### **Primary and Secondary:**

Students create a small ceramic or air-dry clay incense holder inspired by *The Neighbours at the Gate*, exploring ideas of ritual, scent, and shared cultural practices. Their finished pieces are displayed together as a collective installation reflecting the exhibition's participatory spirit.







## Intimate Connections

6 February – 29 March

An exhibition drawing out the stories of artists in the NERAM collections who share intimate connections. Artists include Douglas Dundas/Dorothy Thornhill, Joshua Smith/William Dobell, Kenneth Macqueen/Olive Crane, Sydney Ure Smith/Viola Quaife, Elioth Gruner/Gordon Esling, Rosemary Madigan/Robert Klippel, Myfanwy Gullifer/Ross Laurie and more.



## University of New England Schools Acquisitive Art Prize (UNESAP)

24 July – 9 August

The University of New England Schools Acquisitive Art Prize (UNESAP) is an annual exhibition and competition celebrating the creativity of young artists across the region. Presented in partnership with the University of New England, the program invites over 300 primary, secondary and home schools to submit artworks in a wide range of media. Finalists' works are exhibited at NERAM, offering students the opportunity to showcase their skills in a professional gallery setting. UNESAP fosters artistic confidence, visual literacy and creative expression, while highlighting the talent and imagination of the next generation of artists.





# Term 3.

## *Unfamiliar Territory:* Angus Nivison Retrospective

31 July – 18 October

*Unfamiliar Territory is the first major retrospective of leading Australian painter Angus Nivison, tracing fifty years of his practice from early works to recent large-scale abstractions. Growing up near Walcha, Nivison draws deeply on memory, landscape and personal experience, creating atmospheric paintings that explore environment, emotion and the passage of time. The exhibition brings together key works from national, regional, private and artist collections, including his Wynne Prize-winning Remembering Rain. Through thematic displays and supporting archival materials, students gain insight into Nivison’s creative process, evolving techniques, and the role of landscape and abstraction within contemporary Australian art.*

### **Early, Primary and Secondary: (Education Resource also available)**

Children create a soft, abstract “landscape memory drawing” using dry materials such as chalk pastels, oil pastels, and charcoal. They gently smudge colours with tissues or fingers to suggest mist, hills, clouds, or shifting weather—echoing Nivison’s atmospheric style. Children then add simple lines or shapes to represent personal memories of places (a tree, a hill, a pathway), creating expressive abstract landscapes without using paint.





# Term 3.

## *Boundaries: Transcended*

21 August – 27 September

***Boundaries: Transcended*** is a powerful community-led installation exploring the universal idea of ‘home’. Featuring 700 small clay houses created by hundreds of participants, the work celebrates the resettlement of refugees in the Hunter Valley and the diverse experiences that shape belonging. Each handmade house reflects an individual interpretation of dwelling—ranging from traditional forms to imaginative structures—revealing the personal memories, hopes and cultural identities tied to the concept of home. The collective installation encourages students to consider empathy, migration, community support, and the ways art can bring people together to share stories and forge meaningful connections.

**Early Childhood :** Children create a small “paper home” collage using pre-cut shapes (squares, rectangles, triangles) in coloured and textured paper. They assemble their own imaginative house and add drawn details that make it feel special—windows, pets, favourite colours. The activity introduces the idea that everyone’s home can look and feel different, encouraging empathy and early conversations about belonging.

**Primary:** Students design a symbolic “home tile” using cardboard squares and dry media. They decorate their tile with patterns, colours, or symbols that represent their idea of home, and the tiles are displayed together as a collaborative patchwork of diverse experiences.

**Secondary:** Students build a small sculptural “story house” from recycled cardboard that reflects a personal or imagined narrative of home, belonging, or migration. A brief label accompanies each piece, and the works form a collective installation echoing the exhibition’s themes of shared stories.





# Term 4.



## *Into the Dark and Out Again - Patricia Wilson-Adams*

13 November 2026 – 31 January 2027

**Into the Dark and Out Again** is a powerful solo exhibition by senior Australian artist Patricia Wilson-Adams, presenting new and recent installation-based works that explore the environment, cultural landscapes and the impact of land use. Through immersive forms and thought-provoking spatial arrangements, students are invited to consider environmental change, cultural perspectives on land, and the role of contemporary art in responding to pressing ecological issues.



## *Elemental*

13 November 2026 – 31 January 2027

**A group exhibition focusing on the four elements – earth, fire, air, and water – as materials, processes, and subject in artmaking. Featuring artists such as Susan Lincoln, Mantua Nangala, Harriet Schwarzrock, Braddon Snape, Wendy Stokes, and Rochelle Summerfield (artists tbc)**