

TRACKS INC ANNUAL REPORT 2016

Photographic credits

Peter Eve, Paz Tassone, Mat McHugh, Tim Newth, David Hancock, Clancy Breasley, Yvonne Webb

CORPORATE INFORMATION

Registered Office

Frog Hollow Centre for the Arts
56 McMinn Street Darwin NT 0800
GPO Box 823 Darwin NT 0801
Phone: 08 8941 1410 Facsimile: 08 8941 2835
E-mail: info@tracksdance.com.au

Auditor

Brian Tucker Accounting CPA: PO Box 7336 East Brisbane QLD 4169

Bankers

National Australia Bank – 71 Smith Street Darwin NT 0800
People’s Choice Credit Union – 66 Mitchell Street Darwin NT 0800

Staff

Artistic Directors: David McMicken and Tim Newth
General Manager: Agnès Michelet
Production Manager: Mat McHugh
Dance Animateur: Kelly Beneforti
Administrator: Clancy Breasley
Bookkeeper: Noya Chong Wah

Committee Members

Chair: Mary Durack
Treasurer: Glenn Bernardin
Ordinary Committee Members: Michael Grant, David Taylor, Ken Conway, Stephanie Cvirn, Venaska Cheliah
Ex-Officio Members: David McMicken, Tim Newth, Agnès Michelet
Public Officer: Agnès Michelet

Public Fund Trustees Rev. Steve Orme, Dr Anita Toth, Ippei Okazaki

Patron John Hardy AO

Ongoing Government and Corporate Sponsors

Commonwealth Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body
Northern Territory Government
Southern Cross TV
Darwin International Airport
Newmont Asia Pacific

REPORT FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

Following the 2016 Annual General Meeting, Michael Grant handed over the position of Chair to me. Michael had been in the role for three years. In accepting the role I was very aware of the significant contribution Michael has made to Tracks, as a parent of a dancer and then as the Chair. On behalf Tracks Dance's board and staff, I would like to thank Michael for his commitment and enthusiastic support of Tracks particularly given his demanding roles as Solicitor General and more recently as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the NT.

Approximately 60% of Tracks income is sourced from the Northern Territory and Commonwealth Governments. Funding uncertainty during 2015 impacted the planned 2016 Artistic Program. The Darwin Festival show was scaled back from the usual ten performances to six and performed in daylight hours with reduced lighting. The number of skills development workshops was also reduced.

Extensive strategic planning was undertaken throughout the second half of 2015 towards the submission of a 2016-2020 Strategic Plan for the Australia Council. Happily, in February 2016 Tracks was advised we had secured NT Government multi year funding and in May 2016 funding from the Commonwealth. This has meant programs and longer term plans could be finalised with a view to implementation. Secure funding came as a huge relief to all associated with the company but particularly the staff who were looking at a very bleak future should this support not have come through. Many thanks to both Arts NT and the Australia Council for the confidence they have shown in the company.

The Tracks Board is aiming to build a more diverse board and to this effect Venaska Cheliah was invited to join as a "youth representative". Venaska is a former/current dancer with Tracks who is currently studying medicine. She is helping to establish of a Youth Committee which will provide an avenue for younger people to have a voice at Board level. Venaska is attracting new ideas from some of Darwin's exciting young dance talent and we look forward to discovering the outcome of this conversation/collaboration over the course of this year.

New to the Tracks program and to Darwin was Big Dance, an international event, which extended our reach into the community in the belief that "everyone can dance". Performed on iconic Mindil Beach at sunset, 77 Darwin dancers joined in to take part in one of the Top End's biggest ever group dance. Events such as this are core to the philosophy of Tracks.

Darwin Festival Show, “Landed” was set in the Marrara Swamp in the catchment area for Rapid Creek, the only significant freshwater system in Darwin’s urban area. This year saw a return to high attendances, more than 80%, in a year when festival audiences were lower. Tracks continues its commitment to the longstanding relationship with the Warlpiri people of Lajamanu through the successful delivery of a Milpirri performance in October 2016. Notable improvements were seen in school students’ participation which is very positive. Over the past two years, representatives of arts organisations throughout the Territory have been meeting and discussing the establishment of a body that would create a unified voice on issues that impact on the arts and culture in the Northern Territory. Late 2016, the NT Chamber of Arts and Culture was formed and meets on a monthly basis. While it is still early days, I have been participating in the Chamber meetings and am optimistic the Chamber will be well placed to promote what the sector has to offer and explore opportunities that will benefit the Territory and the arts.

This year the Tracks team, employees and Committee, has seen no changes thus enabling ideas and relationships to be consolidated. The dedication of the team is a key factor in the success of Tracks. Thank you all.

Loyal volunteers are critical to the success of the Festival performance and I would like to thank everyone involved for their enthusiasm, commitment to what we are trying to achieve.

Our sponsors deserve special mention, notably our ongoing partners Newmont Asia-Pacific, SCTV and the Darwin International Airport. Many thanks for the support of all and our generous donors.

Mary Durack
March 2017

REPORT FROM THE TREASURER

2016 was another good year for Tracks Inc financially with a budgeted deficit turning into a sizable surplus of \$44,672 on the back of increased revenue offset by higher expenses. Tracks continues to maintain good expenditure control in a difficult operating environment. With regards to cash management, Tracks maintains a high level of liquidity to fund its ongoing operations.

Tracks maintains a healthy balance sheet with net equity of \$ 738,194 which includes reserves and retained earnings from previous years. Tracks continues to manage its liabilities which includes provision for short term and long term staff costs and unexpended grants.

Glenn Bernardin

March 2017

ARTISTIC DIRECTORS' REPORT

Core Operations

2016 saw a consolidation of the Tracks Program. We saw: the creation of two major full length works, *Landed* (Darwin Festival) and *Milpirri* (Lajamanu); the clarifying of the Development Program (Space Time Studio Residencies, the Choreographic Development Course, and the new project Fresh Tracks featuring experimental dance for Darwin Fringe); and the expansion of the Participation program with workshops and the international Big Dance project.

2016 is also the year we were successful for gaining 4 year funding (2017-2020) from the Australia Council. This was very welcome for us in the overheated and competitive national sector due to Federal Government removal of funds from the Australia Council.

Over the year 319 people performed in a Tracks Event. We made 11 paid performance events, 1 major remote community performance, 18 Pop-Up performances, 30 general dance workshops, 44 Grey Panthers Senior Workshops, 9 dance artists clocking up 319 hours of studio residencies, 1 hosted International residency, 4 public forums, 118 school workshops in the remote community of Lajamanu, 15 Secondary school workshops, 13 other Primary School workshops, 3 Tertiary presentations, we logged over 75 service requests. 262 volunteers worked 7,663 volunteer hours.

MAJOR PERFORMANCE PROGRAM

The **Darwin Festival Season** is our primary ticketed season, focussed on high quality outputs, while maintaining the community engagement aspects of our work with cast and audience alike.

LANDED

Darwin Festival - July 31 (Preview) Aug 5-7 and 12-14
Gurumbai Walking Trail - Woodland Loop, Marrara



Landed was a full-length dance work embedded in the local landscape. A cast of 45 was made up of professional and community dancers as well as Casuarina Senior College, Millner Primary School. Landed explores sources of wisdom, through the experiences of three different characters arriving back home in Darwin after being away for some time.

Creative Team

Concept and Direction: David McMicken and Tim Newth

Choreography: Gary Lang (guest), Kelly Beneforti, Aaron Lim (Tracks 2016 mentoree), David McMicken, Tim Newth and dancers

Choreographic Assistant to Kelly Beneforti: Will Nery

Performers

Lead Dancers: Vera Tabuzo, Kelly Beneforti and Darren Edwards. Break Dancers: Aaron Lim, John Rigas, Kyle Ramboyong. Tracks Ensemble: Harry Balaj, Leanne Eltagonde, Merlene Hutt, Clarissa Kennedy-Scott, Taleisha Kessell, Ashlee Kirkham, Kate Mornane, Kyle Ramboyong, Kristi Renfrey, Tara Schmidt, Jenelle Saunders, Emma Poole. Casuarina Senior College: Piodena Sulong, Vicki Nguyen, Ervin Polinio, Katherine Rideout, Bethany White, Allen Villa, Aga Manulid, Don Ofiaza MacKenzie, Jemma Stanley, Michelle Long. Millner Primary School: Marilyn Gurruwiwi, Keilani Rotumah, Kupe Potaka, Shakur Petterson, Sophie Finden, Daisy Wesley, Harini Bitla, Tikki Gohier, Gabrielle Vanweydeveld, Eden McCosh, Bianca Barberis, Jazley Bruce-Morich, Miggy Maduro, Fletcher Anderson, Yaseen Ursani, Kean Nabua, Mia Lay and Yvonne Rankin

Response

"Tracks' Landed integrates dance, site and community to express a sense of sacred belonging. ... exemplify[ing] more than diversity; it represent[s] respect for and a capacity to build on the past, ... to acknowledge the power, currency and survival of traditional spiritual life." Nicky Fearn - Realtime

MILPIRRI - KURDIJI

Lajamanu, Tanami Desert

Saturday October 15



This year's Milpirri performance draw from the values found in the Kurdiji Ceremony, the transition from child to adult, from 'milk learning to meat learning'. The performance looks at the major symbols found both in this ceremony and in the Australian Coat of Arms: the

kangaroo, the emu, a shield, the Southern Cross, and leafy poles (witi). Lajamanu elders hope that through sharing their sacred story, and linking it to the elements featured in the Australian Coat of Arms, members of the Australian mainstream will be stimulated to acknowledge that the Warlpiri Nation shares with them common, meaningful symbols.

Within six week 108 workshops were taught through the school. There were 153 performers and approximate 600 audience. A forum focusing on introducing the themes was held for 50 visitors.

Creative Personnel

Creative Director: Steve Wanta Jampijinpa Patrick

Warlpiri Cultural Adviser/ Elder: Jerry Jangala Patrick

Artistic Directors: Tim Newth, David McMicken

Traditional Choreography: Lajamanu Elders

Youth Choreography: Kelly Beneforti, Aaron Lim, assisted by Caleb Japanangka Patrick

Soundtrack Production: Marc Peckham and Rob Tremlett

Voiceovers: Jerry Jangala Patrick, Steve Wanta Jampijinpa Patrick

Song Vocals: Lajamanu School Students

Performers

Traditional Singers: Jerry Jangala Patrick, Henry Jakamarra Cook, Leslie Jampijinpa Robertson, Norbert Jampijinpa Patrick, Myra Nungarrayi Herbert, Molly Napurrula Tasman, Kitty Napanangka Simon, Judy Napangardi Martin

Dancers: Jezeniah Japanangka Poulson, Junior (Dudley) Japangardi Polly, Reguel Japanangka Green, Alex Jupurrula Dixon, Leo Jupurrula Patterson, Mickisha Nakamarra White, Mikaela Nakamarra Cooke, Romanus Jakamarra Lawson, Albert Jangala Seela, Brody Jangala Patterson, Chris Jangala Moora, Michael Jangala Watson, Russellisha Nampijinpa Burns, Shem Jampijinpa Jurrah, Zacquasha Nangala Gumbula, Athelita Nungarrayi Dixon, David Jungarrayi Brown, Keturah Napaljarri Payton, Theo Japaljarri Rose, Zakeyla Napaljarri McDonald, Prestina Napaljarri Spencer, Sekiah Napaljarri Gibson, Ronson Japangardi Dixon, Caleb Japanangka Patrick, Cyril Japanangka Tasman, Maxwell Japanangka Tasman, Teddy Japanangka Dixon, Steven Japangardi Dixon, Maxie Japanangka Gordon, Jerry Japanangka Patrick, Ashwyn Japanangka Johnson, Morgan Japangardi Rex, Shaun Japanangka Johnson, Biddy Napangardi Raymond, Denise Napangardi Tasman, Judy Napangardi Martin, Remeika Napangardi Simon, Ursula Napangardi Marks, Lynette Napangardi Tasman, Agnes Napanangka Donnelly, Valerie Napanangka James, Kim (Napangardi) Blake, Christine (Napangardi) Reid, Merinda (Napangardi) Johnson, Cher Nakamarra Mathews, Dakota Napurrula Dixon, Liza Nakamarra Patterson, O'Shai Jupurrula Gibson, Tara Nakamarra Morton, Estella Nakamarra Gordon, Esther Napangardi Gordon, Kelly Napanangka Scobie, Martin Japanangka Johnson, Sarafina Napanangka Marks, Prestina Napanangka Dixon, Fabian Jangala Ross, Venice Nampijinpa Wilson, Zarifah Nampijinpa Hargraves, Kyle

Jungarrayi Doolan, Norah Nungarrayi Jurrah, Raphayelia Napaljarri Kelly, Shontelle (Remika) Napaljarri Payton, Zeon Japaljarri McDonald, Jake Jakamarra Patterson, Kimath Jupurrula Patterson, Titus Jupurrula White, Lyndon Jupurrula Gordon, Steven Jupurrula Morton, Daswyn Jakamarra White, Lachlan (Jupurrula) Casburn, Doris Nakamarra Lewis, Laura Nakamarra Doolan, Belinda Nakamarra Baker, Melinda Napurrula Simon, Maybe Napurrula Samuels, Alison Nakamarra Luther, Colleen Nungarrayi Bambra, Dionia Nungarrayi Herbert, Mervyn Japaljarri Rose, Severa Napaljarri Payton, Trevion Japaljarri Lewis, Daniel Jakamarra White, Goliath Jupurrula Simon, Jarad Jakamarra White, Oscar Jupurrula Simon, Japeth Japangardi Tasman, Kamus Japanangka Johnson, Shontana Napangardi Tasman, Evangeline Nangala Gumbula, Gabby Jampijinpa Wesley, Mona-Lisa Nampijinpa Kelly, Sheilleah Nangala Watson, Shenise Nangala Watson, Steven Jampijinpa Robertson, Roger Japaljarri Jurrah, Travis Japaljarri Rose, Brendon Jungarrayi Payton, Ananais Japaljarri Payton, Clifford Jungarrayi McDonald, Zebeon Japaljarri Robbo, Waylon Jungarrayi Hudson, Corey Jungarrayi Raymond, Costello Japaljarri Ronson, Keithen Japaljarri Ross, Nick (Japaljarri) Brustolin, Sonya Napaljarri Cooke, Bidy Nungarrayi Jurrah, Margaret Nungarrayi Martin, Marjorie Nungarrayi Gibson, Beth Nungarrayi Jurrah, Qin Musgrave, Lesley Jampijinpa McDonald, Gloria Nampijinpa Rose, Ruby Nampijinpa McDonald, Ezekiel Jupurrula Walker, Jason Jupurrula Simon, Regan Jakamarra Lewis, Felicia Napurrula Simon, Lianna Napurrula Patterson, Davon Japanangka Marks-Burns, Ronan Japanangka Johnson, Tarkyn Japangardi Tasman, Shemira Napangardi Rose, Leah Napanangka James, Emmanuel Japaljarri Martin, Jeriah Japaljarri Payton, Liam Japaljarri Rose, Katie-Anne Napaljarri Payton, Shakira Napaljarri Payton, Shaunisha Nungarrayi Herbert, Valentine Napaljarri McDonald, Keanu Jampijinpa Kelly, Micky (Michaelis) Jangala Sampson, Kane Jampijinpa Kelly, Dion Jangala Kelly, Elijah Jampijinpa Kelly, Stephen Jangala Robertson, Norman Jampijinpa Kelly, Liam Jangala Patrick, Andre Jampijinpa Kelly, Tony Jampijinpa Sampson, Jasper Jangala Burns, Terry Jangala Sampson, Peter Jangala Jigili, Charlie (Jampijinpa) Dack, Patsy Nangala Herbert, Nita Nampijinpa Patrick, Annette Nampijinpa Patrick, Jenelle Nampijinpa Burns, Liddy Nampijinpa Miller, Atrina Nangala Robertson, Jasmine Nangala Patrick, Judith (Nangala) Crispin

Response

“It was one of the proudest moments I have had since I have been at the school and that the kids went out there and did what they had been practicing to a fairly high standard. There was none of that teasing that sometimes goes on, everything was very positive and everyone applauded, so my thoughts in the final wash up were that whether this is linked to traditional history or not, is not my judgement call to make, what I am here to do is to meet educational outcomes and what they did the other night was very positive thing for the school, themselves and their teachers.” James Bryant (Principal Lajamanu School)

“It creates a very sensitive and emotional event for everybody because part of that festival, or the event in the festival, really brings back the memories of your grandfather and grandmother.” Norbert Jampijinpa Patrick (Central Desert Region Council)

DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The **Development and Participation Programs** inform our major performance seasons by upskilling local choreographers, dancers, and by providing alternative performance experiences for participants and audiences.

DIRT - CHOREOGRAPHIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

April 23, 24 - Frog Hollow Centre for the Arts gardens, Darwin



Seven aspiring choreographers, diverse in age, dance style, and physical theatre backgrounds, and cultures worked together over twelve weeks. Working with program director Kelly Beneforti the choreographers learnt new choreographic skills and then were guided into developing new dance pieces for a public showing.

Creative Team

Program Director and Facilitator: Kelly Beneforti

Choreographers: Natalie Hafsteins, Venaska Cheliah, Darryl Butler, Nikki Jeffries, Felicity Wardle, Clare Scarce and Penny Paton

Additional performers: Chloe Lauerjon, Carmel Alderson, Kathryn Ezzy, Kyle Ramboyong, Nimila Heys

Response

“The choreographic program offers local dancers and choreographers an opportunity to develop skills and gain experience that would normally be provided through tertiary type institutions. In a Territory without tertiary dance programs, this allows the current and future leaders of our dance sector to enhance and motivate their practices, which in turn invigorate and feed back into our communities. With the isolation our dancers and dance audiences face compared with the rest of the country such programs help to combat the constant disadvantage and risk of artistic stagnation. I look forward to seeing the choreographic program grow in future.” Lizzi Webb

FRESH TRACKS

Brown's Mart Theatre, Darwin

Darwin Fringe Festival – July 17 (two performances)



A short season of contemporary dance works by local choreographers, artists and dancers. Commitment to the growth of new and independent dance in Darwin.

Creative Team

Program Director: Kelly Beneforti

Choreographers: Chloé Lauverjon, David McMicken, Natalie Hafsteins (in collaboration with Venaska Cheliah), Darryl Butler, Lizzi Webb

Performers

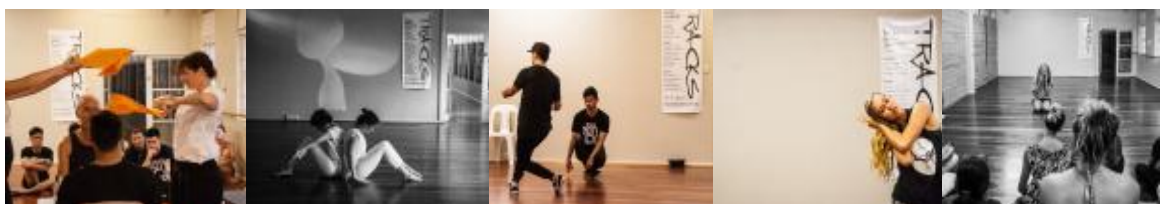
Chloé Lauverjon, Cathy Young, David McMicken, Darryl Butler, Natalie Hafsteins, Kelly Beneforti, members of the Grey Panthers: Val Hristova, Janine Sutter, Maria Vlastuin, Darryl Butler, Toni Vine-Bromley, Marge Duminski, Pat O'Neill, Judy Markwell, Shirley Somers, Judy McKerr, MaryAnn Hinton and Ellen Hankin

Response

"As a company, to allow creative space and time is really important ... the support is by just letting things happen." David McMicken

SPACE TIME STUDIO RESIDENCIES

In response to the ongoing challenge of accessible space for the development of dance practice, we offer independent Northern Territory dance artists an opportunity to use our studio free of charge during our down times, to work on dance and choreographic research and development, giving an in-house showing and artist talk on completion of the residency. Residents came from contemporary, Classical Indian, circus, and break dance backgrounds.



Residents: Chloe Lauverjon, Jess Ford, Aaron Lim, Lizzi Webb and Jenelle Saunders, Darryl Butler, Kate Mornane, Venaska Cheliah, and Felicity Wardell.

Response

"It was lovely to get to interact with the first moments of new ideas and to gain both insight and inspiration...I saw an emerging artist creating and taking on Saturday and it was really exciting." Britt Guy (Guest at Track 2016 Residents showing)

YOUTH DANCE TEACHER TRAINING

Under the mentorship of Kelly Beneforti a block of dance classes were run over three months lead by young emerging dance teachers: Venaska Cheliah - Bharatanatyam, Aaron Lim - Break Dance, Will Nery - Hip Hop, and Chloe Lauverjon - Contemporary.

MENTORSHIP

To assist in the creation of pathways for artists development, Tracks takes on mentorships of emerging and/or mid-career choreographers/directors. Across 2016 Tracks mentored local break dancer Aaron Lim, this included paid performance, choreographic (within major season and in remote aboriginal community of Lajamanu) and teaching opportunities.

PARTICIPATION PROGRAM

Tracks Participation Program is about engaging in dance as a whole of life activity and presenting it publicly. This program includes large-scale one-off participatory performances and smaller pop-up performances

BIG DANCE DARWIN==

Mindil Beach, Territory Day - July 1



Big Dance is an international event started in the UK. In 2014 Big Dance first came to Australia and was performed on the steps of the Sydney Opera House. In 2016 we performed Big Dance on the iconic, Mindil Beach with the sun setting over the ocean. In uniting our community in the belief that “everyone can dance” 77 Darwin dancers helped put Darwin on the world map. This year the choreography was by world-renowned Akram Khan.

Creative Team

Coordinator: Bryn Wackett

Tracks Dance Animateurs: Kelly Beneforti, Bryn Wackett, David McMicken, Stuart Fong

Performers

Alex McInnes, Amy Simpson, Andrew John Arthur, Andrew Blundell, Anna Dowd, Annette Brown, Antonietta Vanzella, Ashley Birkin, Alexia Amy, Barry Thomson, Bronte Hewett, Bryn Wackett, Carmel Alderson, Chandrika Munasinghe, Chay Arthur, Christine Murphy, Darlene Wright, Darryl Butler, David McMicken, David Taylor, Demi Poort, Di Sinclair, Eldon Arthur, Ellen Hankin, Eve Rivalland, Gabriele Driver, Gwen Varney, Jack Hewett, Janine Sutter, Jasper Mules, Jenelle Saunders, Jenni Sanderson, Jennifer Warren-Bender, Jo Parish, Joanne Edwards, Jonathan Tan, Josephine Brine, Judy Markwell, Julie Hepburn, Karen Schmiing, Kathryn Lloyd, Kathryn McMicken, Kathy Conway, Kelly Beneforti, Kyle Ramboyoung, Kyle Adams, Lani Hewett, Loris Lacy, Mal Hunt, Margaret McGregor, Marge Duminski, Maria Vlastuin, Marita Smith, MaryAnn Hinton, Melea Apps, Molly Kroes, Monika Ostermeyer, Natalie Eerden, Nikki Higgins, Pamela Stagg, Pat O'Neill, Peta Elderson, Piper Mules, Putu Desak Wati, Rebecca MacKrow, Rebecca Patrick, Rosa Norman, Rosemary Scrutton, Sara Scrutton, Sarah Lacy, Sarah Hona, Sarah Harpur, Shirley Somers, Stuart Fong, Susan Smith, Toni Vine-Bromley, Valerie Hristova

MAKE A DANCE IN A WEEK

In April we ran a school holidays program for young males (students in Year's 7-12) an intensive week of movement and dance making. Working with guest choreographer Aaron Lim and Macon Riley, participants were challenged in a creative process to make and perform a dance work in a week. The piece was performed at the Good Vibes Youth Fest at Jingili Water Gardens on Saturday April 9.



Participants

Tyler Engels, Jesse Quinell, Kaden Reid, Andrew Hughes-Morris.

DANCE IN COOL SPACES AND POP UP PERFORMANCES

Smaller one off performances, often in non conventional performance spaces.

Performances

Good Vibes Youth Festival, Tracks Dance Fundraiser Film - Strictly Ballroom, Seabreeze Festival Media Launch, Nightcliff Seabreeze Festival, the Biggest Morning Tea, Council Of The Ageing Seniors Expo.

Creative Team

David McMicken, Kelly Beneforti, Aaron Lim, Macon Riley, Akram Khan, Julia Quinn, Penny Paton, Joanna Noonan and dancers

Performers

Tyler Engels, Jesse Quinell, Kaden Reid, Andrew Hughes-Morris, Macon Riley, Leanne Eltagonde, Venaska Cheliah, Chandel Sablerolle, Penny Payton, Chloe Lauverjon, Natalie Hafsteins, Antonietta Vanzella, Barry Thompson, Carmel Alderson, Darryl Butler, Diane Lucas, Dianne Mount, Ellen Hankin, Francisca Kleinebeck, Gwen Varney, Helen Haritos, Jan Hastings, Janine Sutter, Jenni Sanderson, Jo Parish, Josephine Brine, Judith Allen, Judy Markwell, Judy Mckerr, Kay Brown, Linda Mansour, Lillian Mann, Liz Gammon, Marg Lee, Marge Duminski, Maria Vlastuin, MaryAnn Hinton, Mavis Waddell, Patricia O'Neill, Shirley Somers, Toni Vine-Bromley, Val Hristova, David McMicken and Kelly Beneforti.

Grey Panthers

Forty-four Grey Panthers dance classes for people over 60 were run during 2016. The troupe performed at 10 one-off community performances. We began the year with 29 Active members. With sadness we Lost Punny Vegter to leukemia, Shirley Somers to a stroke, Liz Gammon to dementia, and Kay Brown and Carmel Alderson shifted interstate.

Creative Team

Program Leaders: David McMicken and Kelly Beneforti.

Guest Tutors: Bryn Wackett, Gary Lang, Lizzi Webb.

REPORT AGAINST COMPANY GOALS

GOAL 1.

TO CREATE, PRODUCE AND DEVELOP ORIGINAL MOVEMENT BASED WORK THAT REFLECTS NORTHERN TERRITORY CULTURE

Landed: Full length work. 1 preview and 6 performances for the Darwin Festival, Gurrumbai Walking Trail, Marrara. Audience 1,204 (Planned for 1,280 over 8 shows, only did 7). Box Office \$27,214 (Budget \$21,120)

Dirt (Choreographic Development Program and Showing): 2 showings - 8 new works created.

Big Dance: 1 performance - Territory Day. Sunset time. Mindil Beach. About 2,000 audiences. 77 performers. Free event. Also performances at Seabreeze and Seniors Expo. It was also filmed and shown at the Australian Dance Awards in Perth in September.

Milpirri - Kurdiji: 1 event- Performed with the Lajamanu Community

Fresh Tracks: 2 performances at Brown's Mart Theatre, undertaking a dance season of emerging works by NT artists for Fringe Festival. 60 audience

Women of the World Festival: produced by the Godinymayin Yijard Rivers Arts and Culture Centre in Katherine. Kelly Beneforti was responsible for working with Sandy McKendrick (puppet designer) and local dancers to create a fashion and dance catwalk event for the opening of the Festival.

5 Cities film project: Film shoot with Nicholas Rowe, David McMicken, and Darryl Butler at East Point Gun Turret in Darwin as part of an international Film project directed by Dr Nicholas Rowe, Associate Professor of the University of Auckland (NZ).

GOAL 2.

FACILITATE THE DEVELOPMENT OF DANCE AND CULTURAL ACTIVITY IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

Tracks provides dance development programs through its studio usage.

Choreographic Development Program: 23 sessions leading to 2 showings and forums.

2015/16 Space Time Studio Residencies: 9 Local dance artists took part in this program. 217 hours of residency, led to a showing and forum.

Hosted **Tiny Toons** (Cambodia), **D*City Rockers** (Darwin- Aaron Lim) and **Nick Power** (Sydney) for 2-week rehearsals and showing of *Dual* followed by forum produced by Artback (Darwin).

Studio Usage for Tracks alumni: for rehearsal, and audition preparations

Studio Hire: Various dance organisations and individuals

CemeNT Stars: Disabilities workshops 3 sessions

Mentoring: Aaron Lim and Venaska Cheliah. This led to Venaska joining the Committee of Management with a Youth Advisory capacity.

Youth Dance Teacher Training: 4 dance teachers were mentored.

Workshops: 17 popup, 13 contemporary dance, 149 Education workshops (including: Victorian College for the Arts, College of Physical Education Sydney, Millner Primary, Lajamanu School, Good Shepherd Lutheran College), 44 Grey Panthers Seniors Dance, and a Sydney Dance Company master class in partnership with Darwin Entertainment Centre.

Pop-up performances: 18 performances by Pop Up Dance Mob, Grey Panthers, and contemporary dancers

Dr Nicholas Rowe: interviews and academic writing Dance performance and the elderly, for a Routledge Publication

Service Requests: 75 requests from 48 arts workers and 26 others. Most of these requests would have been handled by Ausdance NT in the past, but since its demise there is a clear direction towards us.

GOAL 3.

TO DEVELOP THE PROFILE OF TRACKS WITHIN THE TERRITORY, NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY.

Our Darwin Festival show is a major place for us to raise the profile of the company, with television advertising, media campaigns, and nominations for awards. We also garnered a deal of profile through Tim and David being NT Australian of the Year Finalists.

2016 saw us step up our social media marketing campaign with a repositioning of the Administrator, Clancy Breasley. Training and strategic directions were facilitated by Amy Hetherington. Presence Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and our Web Site

Fundraiser film-night at Deckchair (*Strictly Ballroom*) was successful with 204 attending, \$2,000 money made, plus the Grey Panthers held a cake stall raising an additional \$265, and \$75 of additional donations.

Agnes and David attended the Australian Dance Awards, The Move Me Dance Festival, Perth.

11 DVD's of Tracks' performances went to Victorian College of the Arts for them to digitise for student research purposes

Our media presence spanned:

Print Media: NT News, Weekend Australian, The Age. Katherine Times, Realtime, National Indigenous Times

Radio: ABC Radio, Mix 104.9, Paw Radio (Lajamanu), Bumma Bipperra Community Radio, Cairns ,

Television: SCTV generic an and Landed and Milpirri advertisements. Channel 9 and 7 television spots

Publications:

Darryl Butler (Grey Panther and Tracks performer) article in Book Perspectives from ageing GLBTQI Australians. You're not Alone - 30 years of AIDS Councils in the NT. Remote Avant-Garde: Dr Jennifer Biddle - Mentions re Milpirri and photographs. Turn It Up magazine about the Good Vibes Youth Festival incl. Tracks' youth dancers.

Websites: Dance Australia, Real Time, Arts NT, Australia Council for the Arts

Films made and distributed via Website: Landed, Milpirri. Amy Hetherington engaged to make film/doco on Choreographic Development course participants.

Nominations

CHASS (The Council for the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences) Award - Application sought for nomination.

Australian of the Year: Tim and David were nominated and were finalists for the NT chapter.

GOAL 4.

TO HAVE A HEALTHY AND RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION THAT REALISES TRACKS ARTISTIC AND COMMUNITY GOALS.

All Arts NT, Australia Council, and other Grants 2015 acquittal requirements were met
Audit, Annual Report and AGM completed, meeting our legal requirements

Grants and donations received:

- Australia Council for the Arts: Received 4 year funding (300k per year)
- Ichthys grant, for new dance flooring, Successful – \$8814
- CBF grant, for 250 chairs, successful- \$4289
- Arts NT triennial, successful but short of request. 218k plus \$10k secured for Milpirri for next three years,
- CHARITES sponsorship for Big Dance (\$5000)
- The Post Foundation - Neighbourhood program successful (\$7815) towards Caravan Grey Panthers tour to Katherine (2017)
- Department of Business Growth Program successful towards IT consultancy (\$3200 DOB \$800 GST inclusive) - Consultant: Tropical Business. Finalised December.
- Donations - \$13.8k went into the Public Trust.

The General Manager and Artistic Directors attend National and Territory sector meetings and training sessions including:

- Breakfast Club: to maintain relationships with other arts organisations
- Creative Partnerships with a view to developing a giving plan and attracting Foundation support
- Industry meeting with Ian Potter Foundation.
- 2 day Arts NT MAPS development
2 day Creative Partnerships Success in Arts Fundraising
Arts NT Tenancy and Work Health and Safety briefing
- Sector meeting of the 23rd of Sept at Brown's Mart facilitated by Gillian Harrison
- Australia Council information session specific to 4year funded organisations and presented by CEO Tony Grybowski and Executive Director Frank Panucci (afternoon same day).

- National Dance Manager’s Meeting, Perth
- Dance Sector Meet and Greet - Perth

Committee of Management: The committee met for 7 meetings. Mary Durak was voted in as Chair. She also attends the newly formed NT Chamber for the Arts and Culture meetings. **Trustees** meet twice per annum to approve the allocation of donations to Tracks Program areas.

Company Meetings: Weekly - All Staff, Management, Animateur

Evaluation:

All projects are evaluated by Cast, Production crew, Artistic Directors, and general management.

All staff partake in work evaluations

Feedback sessions with Adrian Burnett, Australia Council for the Arts, regarding our successful application for 4 year funding

Other:

Agnès was instrumental in bringing Henry Boston to Darwin to explore the development of an Arts Chamber such as the WA one. This work has been ongoing and involves the Chairs of arts organisations.

Research is taking place into possible IT companies regarding our overall systems check and renewal.

Tracks acknowledges and thanks its partners and sponsors for their commitment and generosity towards the 2016 program:

Government Bodies:   Proudly sponsored by  Northern Territory Government

Media Sponsor: 

Major Program Sponsors:  

Program Sponsors:    

Presentation Partners:    

Tracks greatly thanks for joining the Tracks Galaxy 2016 Giving Program: Supernovas Sylvia Langford and Brian Tucker, Shooting Star Judy McKerr and Stardust Barbara Bauert.