

**Building on Aboriginal
Communities' Resilience initiative
artwork**

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OVERVIEW

When creating this work it was important that it felt positive. I wanted viewers to be able to look at this work and find comfort in the stories represented in each layer. I want this artwork to show what you can be, and who you are now, and all of the positive things you bring to the world, rather than focus on how sad it is when life is over. This is about celebrating the person who is here with us because I think so often we forget to do that until it's too late.



LAYERS



This layer is reminiscent of ripples which aims to portray the ripples your life and presence makes.



Country is an important aspect of identity and sense of place. This layer is about representing the many different countries that make up who we are. This layer is made up with varied items and artefacts found across our diverse landscape.



This layer of the artwork represents our journey through life and the obstacles we face. Each circle is a significant moment, good or bad, with the continuous line of resilience taking us onward.



This row was created to represent all the different communities affected by suicide. I wanted to ensure this layer showed both our rural, regional and coastal communities, as well as our urban communities. Our struggles are shared.



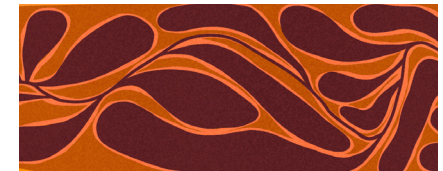
These lines represent the paths you've taken and the many paths you're still to take.



This layer signifies your place within your family and community and the connection you have with them. I wanted this layer to be reminiscent of paper cutout people, when one is removed the chain will never be the same. I want viewers to recognise their importance in that row of people and how significant their place in their family and community is and how many people love and care for them.



These connected circles are to portray your community networks and who you can rely on in your hardest times.



This vine is often used in my work to be representative of the Muloobinba Seafern in Newcastle, however, in this work I wanted it to show that change is always happening and growth into a more positive space is possible.