



**Core Dreaming (Strong Women Strong Future)**

Juanella McKenzie

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Juanella McKenzie, a Adnyamathanha and Luritja woman

Our culture is ever dependent on knowledge of Elders being passed on to the next generations. This is what my painting is about. It has tiny detail, using the fine tip of a bamboo stick to dot (took forever); this piece means so much to me as it's everything that's important for us young people today and the next generation.

My painting represents the core dreaming of us all.

The Elder women sit with bowls they fill with knowledge, they share, talk, listen, learn, sing, dance, share stories and they are always together. The bowls behind the Elders represent the bowls of the future women, the girls coming up next who must fill their bowls to pass on to the next and so on and so forth. It's our jobs to ensure the bowls are filled. The lines down the bottom are a part of our body paint for ceremony, two stripes down our arm and two across our chest!

*Sharing the Wisdom of Our Elders*



This project is an outcome of the Koori Growing Old Well Study and was funded by The Lowitja Institute CRC. For full details see the *Sharing the Wisdom of Our Elders Final Report 2019*.