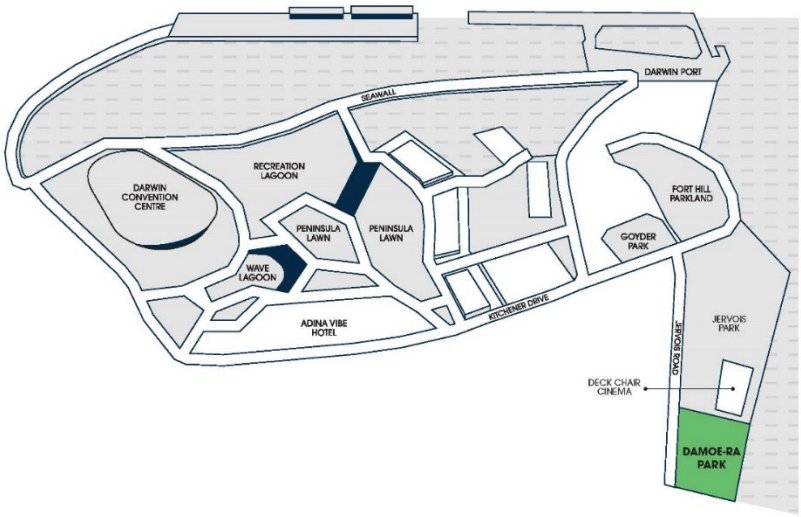
Artist Brief

Damoe-Ra Park Revitalisation

Background

Damoe-Ra Park, located beneath the escarpment near Parliament House in Darwin, is being revitalised. This project aims to restore the park as a peaceful, inclusive green sanctuary that honours the contributions of Northern Territory women, particularly Larrakia women, in a respectful and engaging way.



Originally dedicated in 1992 and named by Larrakia Elder Topsy Juwaning Secretary, "Damoe-Ra" means ‘eye’ or ‘spring’, referencing a sacred water source on nearby Lameroo Beach. The park holds cultural and historical significance, featuring mosaics and plaques installed to honour Territory women. Many of these have since deteriorated. The revitalisation seeks to restore this legacy and create a reflective and community-focused space.

Artwork

Artists are invited to submit proposals for a new public artwork that responds to the rich history of Damoe-Ra Park and enhances its role as a site of remembrance, reflection, and community connection. The artwork will form part of a broader revitalisation of the Park, which includes landscaping, improved seating and pathways, and links to the Territory Heritage Trail and online history resources. Artworks should:

- Honour and celebrate the achievements of Territory women.
- Reflect values of peace, strength, resilience and cultural inclusivity.
- Respect the sacred nature of the site and its significance to Larrakia people.
- Be family-friendly, accessible and suited to all ages.
- Consider interpretive elements (e.g., signage, digital features like QR codes) and invite community engagement (note: any digital hosting or QR code elements will be managed and funded ongoing by the Department of People, Sport and Culture).
- Be made from durable, low-maintenance materials suitable for Darwin’s climate and potential vandalism.

Submissions may propose to remove, reuse or reimagine the existing artworks as part of their concept (with endorsement from the previous artists). The current artworks have sustained damage overtime. The

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original artists have been contacted and are aware of the project and its intent to respectfully revitalise the site.

The total budget available for the commissioned artwork is **$100,000 excluding GST**. This is to cover all costs associated with design, fabrication, transportation, installation, contingency and artist fees.

Eligibility

Artists must be professionals with experience in public or large-scale artworks and demonstrate strong ties to the Northern Territory. Proposals must align with the park's themes and practical requirements, including environmental durability and ease of maintenance.

Aboriginal artist submissions will be granted priority consideration.

Key date summary

Activity	Date
EOI opens	23 June 2025
EOI closes	31 August 2025
Shortlist announced	September 2025
Concept proposals due	September 2025
Final design selection	October 2025
Notification to successful artist	October 2025
Design development period	October/November 2025
Installation period	December 2025 to March 2025
Launch event	April 2026

To apply

Submit your CV, portfolio, and a short statement outlining your interest and initial ideas for the site. Proposals will be assessed on artistic quality, relevance to themes, site understanding, and feasibility.

This project is managed by the Darwin Waterfront Corporation in collaboration with the Department of People, Sport and Culture, Larrakia Nation, and other cultural stakeholders.

For questions or submissions, please contact:
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