Hi, my name's Siena. I went to Genazzano FCJ College in Kew, and I studied Visual Communication Design. I've always had an interest in environmental design so I did Vis Com. I picked it up in Year 9, and I just fell in love with the communication and the environmental fields. So I knew that I wanted to do something community based and create a community arts centre and bring my culture, since I have an Aboriginal heritage, into that kind of space.

I wanted to acknowledge themes like diversity and inclusion and just promoting connectedness within the Melbourne community. It's pronounced “Gan-boo Bar-in” and that basically means “one pathway”. We all have the same journey, but when we come to the community arts centre, one path, one way, and we're all connected.

That's from Wurundjeri and I'm from Yorta Yorta mob, I'm from Shepparton, that's my mob. But that specific name, that language, is from here as that's Wurundjeri language. So for Presentation One, I did communication. I created a logo with the water hole. I've got the two people in the centre, then a circle around them, so yarning within the water, relating to the one path.

This relates to my structure, as I've got the rounded curves. So that stands for that one pathway and coming in together, which reflects the water in a water hole. It always moves in that one direction, so kind of coming in and coming into the art centre. And then that kind of relates to my environmental, as I've got the rounded curves, which also signify the waves, which relate to the water. So coming into that centre and into that pathway, which is what my community arts centre stands for as well.

For the branding, I've also got a uniform. I wanted to create something where everyone feels comfortable and can be recognised for the arts centre. And then for my Presentation two, for my environmental design, I did a community arts centre. So I've researched a lot of exteriors for community arts centres.

I looked at a lot of local nurseries in different communities as well as at the Eye and Ear Hospital. They've got really, I think it's called the Wurundjeri gardens, which was really nice. So wanted to incorporate some of those concepts into my garden. And then I really liked how the Box Hill one all came in. So it leads to the door, that pathway coming in and the engagement from the outside world. Just to come in and connect with everyone.

So on the ground floor, we've got a cafe as well as an information desk. We've also got a lift and stairs, making it accessible for anyone who's got a disability. We've also got a kitchen, which leads to the cafe, and then the open space into the garden. And then as you move upstairs, we've got the arts room, so the studio arts room for art classes as well as a multipurpose room.

So that can be for meetings, for functions. It can also be for a gallery for the studio artwork to be viewed in as well. All the circles represent a yarning circle. And then each connected to each other, similar to my theme about diversity and inclusion. So we're all connected.

And then I've got the traditional Wurundjeri plants and stuff around it that represents my garden in my community art centre. So it's all about yarning together. So you've got totem poles, which are very special to the Aboriginal culture. And then just lots of greenery. Yeah, that took a while to do on SketchUp. I was probably up really, really late, just quietly. My parents didn't know.

But yeah, it took a while, especially, like I said, the garden because there's so many plants. I think the programme just, to load each of those plants just took forever and forever. And I'm like, oh my god. Am I going to finish this garden? But I just took my time, and yeah I think it's definitely a learning curve. Now I feel much more confident in that particular programme now.

I love the garden that's also just a safe space. I've got also a sitting area right in the middle with a tree coming out. So I think that's a quiet place just to relax, read a book, and explore with family or even just to quiet down, have some personal time out there. I guess I just wanted to promote awareness to my culture, as I believe it's such a special culture. It has been here for more than 60,000 years.

So I think for having something inspired by the Traditional Custodians of the land, especially on Wurundjeri country, would be pretty special to elders. And for a lot of Aboriginal people as well, can see it as a safe space to come to, to yarn, to connect with their family and friends, feel comfortable, feel connected, and yeah. And feel supported by other Aboriginal people there as well.

I would like to thank my teachers, especially Mrs Saville and my art technician as well, Emma Chan. They helped me immensely, and I'm so grateful for the support and their help. I'd also like to thank my brother. He did help me a lot with especially the artwork and the direction I wanted to go in as well.

And my family as well for all the late nights. I think I was a little bit annoying in the living room up until 2:00 AM. So I thank them as well.

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