

## Media Release

### *For Immediate Release*

#### **Inspired by Native Nations: Young Visionaries Launch Burri Lore Aboriginal Corporation to Revolutionise Indigenous Tourism and Education in Central Queensland**

In an inspiring move, sparked by their involvement with Native Nations - Tracing Indigenous Footsteps, Zhanae Dodd and Jordan Young have launched the Burri Lore Aboriginal Corporation (BLAC). This groundbreaking initiative aims to address the significant gap in bookable cultural and Indigenous tourism experiences in Central Queensland.

Recognising the lack of accessible cultural tourism, Zhanae and Jordan decided to take action. Their passion was ignited by the Native Nations project, which underscored the need for a dedicated platform to celebrate and share Indigenous culture.

"Our own experiences in our communities, coupled with our involvement in Native Nations showed us the power and necessity of sharing our stories and traditions with the wider community," said Zhanae.

Alongside the establishment of BLAC, Zhanae and Jordan have merged their individual cultural education and consulting ventures, Groove Co. and Mundagatta Culture, to create Warama Culture Pty Ltd. Warama, meaning corroboree (traditional dance), embodies the essence of their mission – to foster cultural understanding and pride through dynamic, immersive experiences. Through deep collaboration, BLAC and Warama Culture are working to provide renewed and shared access to culture.

BLAC's inaugural partnership project, Native Nations, is just the beginning. They are already developing multiple partnerships and projects to further their mission. In collaboration with Darumbal Community Youth Service Inc. and the Dreamtime Cultural Centre, they have launched trial "Journey through the Dreamtime" tours, providing a taste of what is to come for both the community and tourists eager for cultural learning.

Jordan, a Darumbal man and traditional owner in the Rockhampton area with Pitjantjatjara heritage, and Zhanae, a Ghungalu and Wadja woman with ties to the Birri and Kaanju clan groups, are deeply committed to their cultural roots. Their primary focus is on Rockhampton and Woorabinda, reflecting their profound cultural connections and responsibilities.

Both still in their 20s, Jordan and Zhanae are on a mission to empower young Indigenous people to share their cultural knowledge without barriers. They are excited to involve young people as delegates in their initiatives, exposing them to new opportunities and Indigenous leadership perspectives.

"We see how New Zealand celebrates Māori culture through traditions like the Haka, and we want to create that same sense of pride here in Australia by sharing our culture with non-Indigenous people, too," Jordan explained.

Zhanae added, "From my experience in conferences across the Pacific, I've witnessed the transformative power of Indigenous-to-Indigenous connections for our youth. This is a time of Indigenous resurgence and empowerment that benefits all of society. Our methods, rooted in community consensus decision-making, have much to offer everyone."

Reflecting on their vision, Zhanae concluded, “I imagine our home region becoming a powerhouse of Indigenous knowledge and cultural sharing. Through this exchange and program, we are taking the first steps toward that future.”

For more information, please contact: Zhanae Dodd on [zhanae@waramaculture.org](mailto:zhanae@waramaculture.org)

