



Artwork by Merindah-Gunya

The story of the artwork in Merindah-Gunya's words:

This artwork tells a story of community connection and collaboration, through the rich tradition of Aboriginal storytelling. It portrays the enduring and harmonious relationship between Banyule City Council and the land, reflecting a timeless connection embedded in the cultural fabric of Country.

The central meeting place serves as a symbol of Banyule City Council, echoing its commitment to actively listen to the diverse voices within the community. This space becomes a metaphor for creating an inviting and resilient environment, a place where people can come together.

The river that flows through the piece pays acknowledgement to the significance of rivers and waterways for the Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung peoples, the Traditional Owners. In the upper left-hand corner, three journey lines are seen, representing the past, present, and future endeavors of the Council.

The artwork shows a diverse array of figures—people of all shapes, sizes, and colors - forming a mosaic that radiates from the core of the community. This visual celebration underscores the truth that people are the heartbeat of any thriving community, symbolizing the inclusive spirit that Banyule City Council values.

Other symbolic recognition includes the hills in the bottom right-hand corner and the native animals scattered throughout. The hills are a reflection of the Council's name "Banyule" meaning "Big hill" in Woi-Wurrung language. The stars in the top right-hand corner are for past local Elders that played a key role in continuing culture.

The artwork stands as a gentle declaration of the Council's dedication to recognition and reconciliation with the First Nations peoples, fostering a harmonious coexistence that bridges the past, present, and future.

Scan the QR code to learn more.

