

Artwork Story

Empowered Voices

Life Without Barriers empowers the voices of people and communities that matter most – the children and communities who need support and to be the change they seek. The artwork looks at the core idea of breaking down barriers. The circles (barriers) are positive steps towards achieving empowerment and growth towards a better future.

'Empowered Voices' artwork created by Keisha Leon (Waanyi and Kalkadoon), Lisa Sorbie Martin (Moa and Murry Islands, Torres Strait Islands), and Gilimbaa.

Community-centric Grassroots

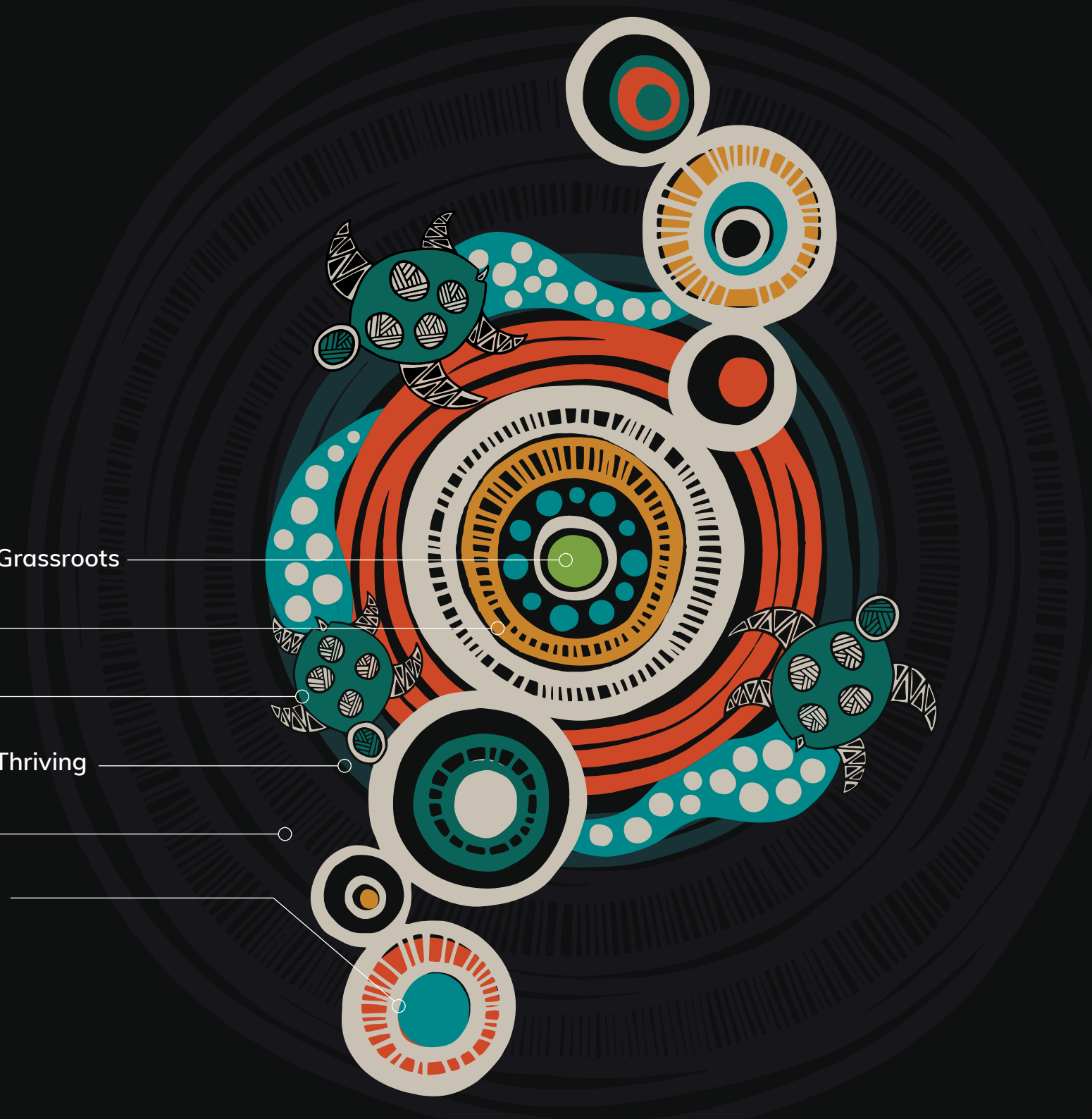
Growth and Values

Children's Voices

Empowered Voices Thriving

Future for Hope

Pathways to Future



About the Artists



Keisha Leon

Keisha Leon is an artist and designer who uses narratives to reflect her own experiences. Keisha connects conceptual designs with social outcomes to change the narrative for the future. Keisha is a proud Waanyi and Kalkadoon woman who builds her design around her connections to her continual navigation of her identity and life.



Lisa Sorbie Martin

Lisa Sorbie Martin is a Torres Strait Islander. Her family bloodline comes from Murray Island and Mua Island. Sorbie is her traditional Torres Strait Island name meaning 'wild water cherry'. Sorbie is an artist and designer who creates visual art, textile design, wearable art, ceramics and public art. She is also a cultural educator and creative innovator, bringing culture and creativity together in any community through storytelling in art making. Connecting both Indigenous and non-Indigenous story, cultural meaning and/or environment are certainly her strengths, leaving a legacy of history and culture.

Artwork Breakdown



Community-centric, Grassroots

At the centre of everything Life Without Barriers does (green), is grassroots passion and values (grey ring), and the diverse communities (blue) they support.



Values and Growth

At the centre of what Life Without Barriers does are their values which they embody to advocate for and empower the voices of community at policy levels to community led cultural connections at the local level. The bands represent the growing and strengthening of their impact, connections and empowered communities. When people's voices are heard, and services provide equitable solutions that empower people, there is a synergy of connection that unites and further strengthens voices and progress. The rings grow outward to represent growth and louder empowered voices.



Empowered Voices Thriving

These rings represent the empowered voices of the communities, people and future generations. As they grow, they become louder and more impactful towards influencing positive change.



Voice of Children

The Turtles symbolise the children. The Turtle eggs (blue) are their voices being heard. Torres Strait Islander peoples are represented by the markings of zigzag patternations. The cross-hatching showcases the weaving techniques of ancient basket weaving and Island mats. These are culturally significant objects which signify our journey in life, community and holders of knowledge and stories.



Pathways to Future

The journey pathway represents the present, where we are now. It shows Life Without Barriers working towards change to ensure a hopeful future for people, communities and future generations. The past and future will guide everything they do. By acknowledging our shared history, traditions and First Nations people and challenging what we do today, we can co-create a brighter future.



Future for Hope

The darker rings represent the future. They are the strength and growth for First Nations voices and the people Life Without Barriers supports who are at the centre of everything they do. There is a brighter future to look forward to, and although there is still a long way to go, we will continue to work together to achieve self-determination, inclusion and equity. There is a vision. There is hope.