

Government of Western Australia  
**PERCENT FOR ART SCHEME**



BOB HAWKE COLLEGE STAGE II • 2023







The Yarragadee is a significant freshwater aquifer system running from Geraldton to the south coast of Western Australia. In Perth it is located beneath the Leederville Aquifer which itself is below two superficial aquifers known as the Gnangara and Jandakot Mounds. Formed during the Jurassic period, water seeps in subterranean flow through these deep ecological systems. Precipitation trickles through porous surface geologies, tiny droplets count out time, and rivers cut a gravity curve through the topography to seek the passage between pools and lake systems.

The geological and cultural significance of the Yarragadee emphasises the harmonic co-existence of all lifeforms with nature's elemental forces. The water system is a vital link in sustaining life and culture. Originally Nyoongar people gathered at the lakes, streams, and rivers of the aquifer for exchange, learning, and developing communities of knowledge. Post settlement immigrant peoples from all over the world are drawn to the same places for the same reasons.

Inspired by the Yarragadee, the three artworks by Dr. Jon Tarry, Sharyn Egan and James Morton describe geography and explore ideas of flow and interconnection. At the external ground level entry students, staff, and visitors are greeted by a map of the original north metropolitan lake system. Handcrafted by Sharyn in bound rope and string, the lakes were cast in bronze using a technique that ensures the original texture of the rope is prominent. The use of bronze at the entry subtly connects to the bronze bust of Bob Hawke, also by Jon, at the other end of the College on Roberts Road.

Soaring above, a computer-generated image suggesting flow and movement rises from the ground over three storeys of glass bathing the internal corridors with a pink luminosity. Motivation

for artwork development comes from different directions coursing paths to a new iteration. Describing her favourite painting medium, Xanthorroea resin, as 'liquid fire' Sharyn took the team to concentrated colour and twisting, whirling, white lines. The intense pink background with soft yellow and amber highlights is created by an interlayer within the glass whereas the white lines are printed on the top with a high performance baked ceramic frit called Imageink.

The internal wall artwork between Levels 1 and 2 was constructed at Bob Hawke College. Over 300 metres of hand dyed cotton rope was bound, tied and twisted over brass rods that are affixed to a stainless steel structural frame. All three artists took part in making this artwork. Sharyn and James dyed the rope, Sharyn led the team through the methodology for binding and tying, while Jon did the metal construction and welding.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Artists:	Dr. Jon Tarry, Sharyn Egan, James Morton
Title:	The Yarragadee
Photography:	Dr. Jon Tarry
Architect:	Hassell
Art Coordinator:	Maggie Baxter
Client:	Department of Education
Project Manager:	Department of Finance
GPS Coordinates:	115.8376237 -31.9454777



Department of Local Government, Sport  
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Department of Finance