

South Australian Museum

# HIGHLIGHTS

2022–2023



Government  
of South Australia



SOUTH  
AUSTRALIAN  
MUSEUM



# STRATEGIC THEME: DELIVERING UNIQUE EXPERIENCES

## RELEVANT, ENGAGING AND INSPIRING

# 192,456

people visited **four major ticketed exhibitions** highlighting the environmental impacts of climate change and **three small-scale exhibitions** celebrating Aboriginal art, culture and language.



## FIRST NATIONS PERSPECTIVES

Embraced truth-telling and First Nations-led storytelling through the exhibition **A Little Bit of Justice: The Drawings of Charlie Flannigan**, and a screening and Sprigg Salon panel showcasing the short film **Close to the Bone**, co-directed by Dr Jared Thomas. Drawing on the Museum's collections, these stories explored histories of violence and injustice that are still being felt today.

## ACCESS AND INCLUSION

- Held **four relaxed, sensory friendly events** supporting access for people of all ages who have extra sensory requirements.
- Created audio descriptions for the **Relics: A New World Rises** exhibition to enhance the experience for blind and vision impaired visitors.

## IMPACTFUL LEARNING

# 23,107

students of all ages were welcomed to the Museum including **3,700** from regional schools.

Launched the Museum's **Virtual Classroom**, supported by Beach Energy, reaching over

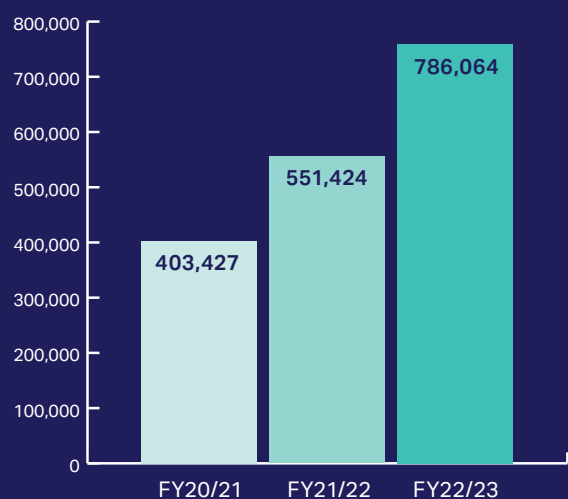
# 180 students

in the first session and connecting participants around Australia.

## OUTCOME

# 786,064

people visited the South Australian Museum in person.



# 38%

increase from previous year

## STRATEGIC THEME: AMPLIFY STORIES

### DYNAMIC AND DIFFERENT

# 9,250 people

engaged in the Museum's **three** adults-only **Night Lab** events and **two** family-focused **Block Party** events, communicating scientific themes in a fun and interactive environment.

Collaborated with a range of festival partners including **Illuminate, Adelaide Fringe, Feast, History Festival, South Australian Living Artists (SALA), Tarnanthi, Nature Festival, Wellfest** and **Dream Big** to present innovative programming to a wide range of audiences.

### EXTEND REACH

# 241,000

people attended the Museum's **touring exhibitions and activities** throughout Australia and world-wide including Spain, China, Vanuatu and South Africa.

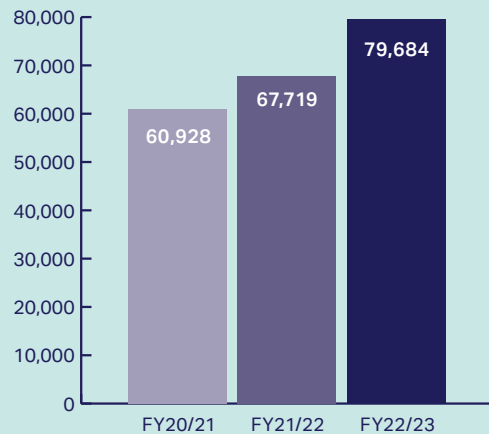
Utilised the Museum's **strong social media following** to engage and empower members of the public to capture information and provide important records of the large number of marine and freshwater species impacted as Murray River flood waters emerged at the coast.

### SHARE KNOWLEDGE

- **Storytime in the Museum**, targeted at 3-5 year olds and attended by 200 people, celebrated First Nations Authors during National Reconciliation Week.
- First Nations astronomy knowledge was included as part of the **Australian Geographic Nature Photographer of the Year Education Evening** in 2022 where astrophotography entries from the competition were used to start conversations about First Nations people as the first scientists and astronomers.

## OUTCOME

Significantly increased number of **social media followers** on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and LinkedIn



# 1,377

media mentions

# 518,567

total outreach (online/external)



## STRATEGIC THEME: EXPANDING KNOWLEDGE

### RESEARCH AND COLLABORATION

- Contributed new knowledge relevant to the Museum's major collection areas through the publication of **167 journal articles, book chapters and conference presentations** by Museum Staff and Honorary Researchers.
- **212 research collaborations** across **140 institutions** included themes of reconciliation and repatriation, evolution in terrestrial and aquatic invertebrates, fauna and megafauna, as well as the discovery of new mineral, reptile and mammal species.

## OUTCOME

The Museum's **collections and research contributed new knowledge** to understanding the impact of climate change on species extinction, and the impact of reconciliation on Aboriginal health and wellbeing.

## STRATEGIC THEME: ENHANCE COLLECTIONS

### MAKING COLLECTIONS ACCESSIBLE

**5,316 digital images** of objects and **53,479 individual items** were added to the digital record database.

**605** visitors hosted to the collections

**692 items** were added to the collection and **4,742 individual items or specimens** were loaned to institutions world-wide.



### FIRST NATIONS RESPONSIBILITIES

The Museum responded to **158 requests** for access and use of the Archive collections and **248 family history requests**.

**142**

visitors hosted to the Australian Cultures collection from **Arabana, Larrakia, Ngarrindjeri, Nukunu and Warlpiri** Communities.

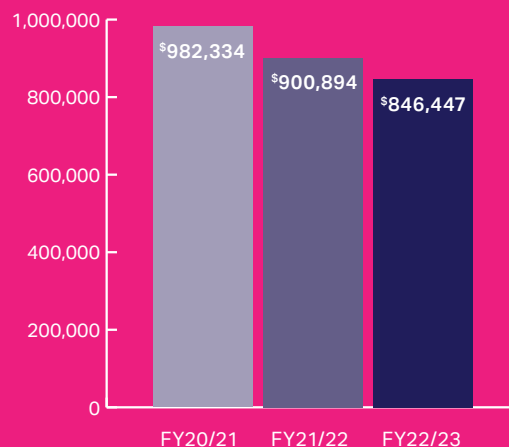
Aboriginal ancestral remains were returned to Country and reburied by the **Narungga, Wangkangurru Yarluandi and Far West Coast Peoples**.

### OUTCOME

Through repatriation and access to its archival material and collections, **the Museum helped reconnect First Nations people**, children and young people to family, communities and culture.

## DONOR SUPPORT

The Museum is grateful to its **philanthropic and corporate supporters** who generously contribute to the development and growth of the Museum's programs, exhibitions, research and collections.



### WITH THANKS TO...

#### Corporate Partners

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As well as the hundreds of individual donors whose generous contributions supported the South Australian Museum.



For more information please download the **South Australian Museum 2022–2023 Annual Report**