Bowen State High School

Mother Beddock: The Grand Lady

Mother Beddock: The Grand Lady is a tribute to Mother Beddock, an ancient rock formation that rises from the Bowen landscape with silent strength and timeless grace. To the Indigenous custodians of this land, and to the broader Bowen community, she is more than stone — she is a matriarch, a symbol of endurance, strength, wisdom, and presence.

Over millions of years, Mother Beddock has stood unyielding - weathered by wind, rain, sun, and shifting earth - yet unchanged in her essence. Like a grand old woman of the land, she holds the stories of time within her layers, watching over Juru Country, bearing witness to the ever-changing world around her.

This work translates her form and spirit into wearable art. Through textured fabrics, earth-toned palettes, and layered materials, we echo her rugged surface and grounded presence. The structure of the piece reflects her silhouette: strong, dignified, and enduring. Elements of shimmer and shadow speak to the way she interacts with light - a reminder that she is not just rock, but a being alive with memory and meaning.

Creating this piece is our way of honouring her and our culture - and acknowledging the deep cultural, spiritual, and emotional significance she holds for Traditional Owners and all who call this land home. In wearing her story, we carry her strength.

She is stone, she is spirit, she is Mother Beddock - the Grand Lady of Bowen.

Mother Beddock: The Grand Lady 2025

Kala AUDA, Amahli CORA, Jamee JACOBS, Chelci JENSEN, T'Rayah SIMMONS (Model), Daisha TAMBO Sharlet TAMBO, Aaliyah TERARE, Kyah UPKETT, Tiarni UPKETT. Recycled wedding dress, stockings, wire, tape, paint, glue, beads, stencils, headband.

