Ingham State High School

Beyond the Stars

As the sun sinks below the horizon, the night sky awakens - a vast canvas of stories, wisdom, and guidance. For countless generations, our ancestors have looked to the stars as a living map, carrying the knowledge of how to navigate both land and life.

There are many Dreamtime stories about how the sky was created. Our wearable art was inspired by the Dreamtime story of The Seven Sisters, as shared by Aunty Josie Barrett which explains how part of our night sky came to be. This story has been passed orally from generation to generation across Australia.

As Ingham State High School Indigenous students, we are proud to be part of this creative process to keep our culture alive and strong. Our wearable artwork reimagines

the Indigenous solar system. A deep black base, flecked with stardust, forms the heart of the galaxy. Bamboo hoops orbit the body, threaded with silver stars and florist wire and wool gems that appear to float in space. The model holds a curtain of stars, their steady presence a reminder of the constellations that have guided us for millennia. Florist wire twists like cosmic trails, while fairy lights shimmer like distant constellations. A celestial headpiece crowns the model, completing the vision of a universe in motion.

The sky maps our way binding the land and water together, each essential to our Indigenous culture, seasons and food sources. With this work, we celebrate our sacred connection — a connection as timeless and infinite as the stars themselves.

