



PAPULU APPARR-KARI ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

“Leaving Language Footprints across the Barkly Region.”

A win for Indigenous languages across the globe

A LANGUAGE program that had its beginnings in the Barkly region some 20 years ago has won in the South by Southwest (SXSW) Innovations Awards in Austin, Texas on Tuesday.

The Living First Language Platform program won in the category of Innovation in Connecting People.

The program was run under the expert skills and guidance of Mrs Nixon, the Language workers at Papulu Apparr-kari

and the Australian Literacy and Numeracy Foundation (ALNF).

SXSW awards celebrate the most forward-thinking advancements in the digital space.

ALNF’s Living First Language Platform addresses the urgent need to revitalise, preserve and teach Indigenous Languages through the development of community-driven, interactive and dynamic digital literacy apps for not only First Language speakers, but also the many

communities that support them.

The ground-breaking platform includes key features that enhance literacy outcomes, including the ability to:

- Reveal the code of traditional languages by understanding their unique pronunciation and phonogram patterns.
- Provide translations from First Language to English and vice versa.
- Experience words as whole words, syllables, sounds and

phonograms.

- See how particular sounds are formed in the mouth.
- Use unique mobile applications to rapidly collect assets.
- Use the tool to explore words and sentences.
- Record and experience stories and culture.

Users can interact with the platform to contribute, organise, experience, teach, and learn in their Mother Tongue, and the

platform serves to empower communities to be their own change-makers, teachers, and language experts.

“Receiving this international recognition is a win for First Languages in Australia, with the potential to impact individuals and communities across the globe,” said ALNF Director of Programs Eric Brace.

“ALNF is incredibly honoured to be a recipient of this prestigious and competitive award, and continues to

be deeply passionate about contributing to the vital maintenance, revitalisation and revival of First Languages.

“The words of Mrs Nixon come to mind of the importance to learn and listen to your mothers to learn your language and cultural stories.”

PAK staff were thrilled about the great acknowledgement and know how happy the good news would have made Mrs Nixon, Mrs Fitz and Mrs Nelson and others.



● The PAK team and the ALNT team at the beginning of program.



● Eric, Kim and Tom.