

Gifts in Wills



Bringing stories to life

Changing the world, one book at a time



*“Every child
in Australia,
wherever
they live, has
the right to
thrive and
to excel in
education.”*

Thank you for considering supporting the Indigenous Literacy Foundation through a gift in your Will. A gift in your Will is an investment in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander remote Communities to provide the tools and resources they request to shape the direction of their children's literacy future.

Every child in Australia, wherever they live, has the right to thrive and to excel in education. Every child should benefit from equity of opportunity. We can't achieve justice for our First Peoples without setting First Nations children up to succeed in education. Education matters, because education opens doors.

Our Communities and families are strong. They are the backbone of our culture and our first educators. It is our vision to empower remote Communities to drive our process; to anchor the ILF's literacy programs into the family and Community structures.

What better gift to give to the future than access to books and education resources where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children can see themselves, their culture and languages reflected. It is a powerful thing that can change the world for us.

I thank you for joining me and the Indigenous Literacy Foundation community in our commitment to giving our First Nations children, families and their Communities the ability to navigate the world around them and opportunity through literacy, no matter where they live.

Ben Bowen
CEO, Indigenous Literacy Foundation



Indigenous Literacy Foundation

The Indigenous Literacy Foundation (ILF) is a national charity of the Australian Book Industry, working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander remote Communities across Australia. It is Community-led, responding to requests from remote Communities for culturally relevant books, including early learning board books, resources, and programs to support Communities to create and publish their stories in languages of their choice.

In remote Communities across Australia there is often no infrastructure such as libraries or bookstores. Access to reading material is extremely limited and this impacts the opportunities for Indigenous children.

The Indigenous Literacy Foundation's programs focus on ensuring access to quality resources, including books in First Languages, publishing Community stories and empowering Communities and families to lead the entire process to ensure leadership, ownership, and authenticity is held with both Community Elders and members.

A gift in your Will to the Indigenous Literacy Foundation helps Communities bring their stories to life.



In 2019 during a visit to the Tiwi Islands, Lifetime Ambassador Alison Lester had the opportunity to work with a group of students from Milikapiti School with Tiwi Elder Nina Black.

“Often the words don’t come until the children start doing the art,” Alison says. “In this instance we all came together in a classroom on a really hot sleepy day when no one had any energy. It was on this day, that one of the students sparked the idea – what is the Tiwi most loved animal?”

The story *Ngaripirtangaya* was then developed over a series of edits and illustration workshops during 2020 and 2021, all done remotely due to COVID-19.

“It is such a magical experience to see the joy generated through art and a little guidance to create these books, and the beautiful productions that are then taken back to Community are very special. When I look back on my time working in remote Communities, I used to take out a printer and make a few copies to leave at the school. Now with the Indigenous Literacy Foundation having financial independence through philanthropic donations and gifts in Wills, they can really back a project. This has incredible meaning to our remote Communities – having access to high quality books that are about them, written in their language that they can read to their children,” Alison says.



a, ha, ha;
pp, pop;
buzzzzz;
n, splash.
ing those sounds?
ook inside this
terful book —
ay be surprised
what you find.

Ngaripirtangaya



Written and illustrated by children
from Millikapiti School, Melville Island
with Alison Lester and Nina Black





Suzy Wilson

Founder - Indigenous Literacy Foundation

It was a visit to Jawoyn country in the Northern Territory, where I came to understand how talented the children in remote Communities were with languages, often speaking up to five. That first visit opened my eyes to the beauty of First Nations peoples' Country and culture and how profoundly culturally illiterate so many white Australians are, myself included. There is still so much to learn.

It sparked an idea to work in collaboration with our remote Communities to help bring their stories to life, in their languages, in books that could be published and shared in their schools and homes. As a result, the Indigenous Literacy Foundation was formed.

One of the countless highlights of

doing this work is attending book launches in Community. I remember the day after a book launch in Gunbalanya, West Arnhem Land, a parent told me that they went home and their child made them read the book twenty times at least. That definitely makes your heart sing.

Children deserve the best and brightest future that we can give them, which is why I have made a commitment to leaving a gift in my Will, so that the Indigenous Literacy Foundation will continue this important work. What could be better than leaving a gift in your Will, knowing that your legacy will support literacy development, and together send positive messages of love and support to remote Communities.



Dr Anita Heiss

Author, poet, cultural activist and social commentator

I'm proud to be a Lifetime Ambassador of the Indigenous Literacy Foundation, not simply because I am Wiradyjuri and an author, but more importantly, because I know the incredible life I live today is because throughout my childhood I had access to all the resources and books I needed to learn, to grow, to dream, to be able to live my very best life.

I am passionate about the work of the Indigenous Literacy Foundation because they focus on the often forgotten, but equally important towns of this country. These are places rich in stories, but who do not enjoy the fabulous and well-stocked libraries that we do in urban areas.

I want all Australian kids to have equal opportunities to learn while growing up. To do that they need books in their First Languages, books they can see themselves and their Communities in, books that tell stories relevant to their life experiences. This should not be difficult to achieve in a wealthy country. If you believe in the same, then I urge you to consider leaving something in your Will. Please consider leaving a legacy that contributes to the empowerment and self-determination of First Nations children and Communities. Many are often spoken of in terms of deficit positions, but shine with excellence when provided with the right opportunities. Those opportunities come with support from people just like you who want to be part of a better future for all.

"I know the incredible life I live today is because throughout my childhood I had access to all the resources and books I needed to learn, to grow, to dream..."

Supporting the Indigenous Literacy Foundation through a gift in your Will

Making a provision for a gift to the Indigenous Literacy Foundation in your Will should be a personal and carefully considered decision that is discussed with your family and loved ones.

While a gift that supports our general purposes is preferable as it can be deployed to the areas of greatest need at the time it is received, some of our supporters prefer to support more specific program areas, such as:

Book Supply

- Our *Book Supply* program provides new, culturally relevant books to remote Communities across Australia. Schools, Community health, and women's centres working in remote Communities, can order books to distribute to children and families

Book Buzz

- Our *Book Buzz* program aims to develop familiarity and engagement with books for children under five through a daily dedicated Story Time session, so children can develop critical pre-literacy skills

Community Publishing Projects

- Our *Community Publishing Projects* support Communities to write and illustrate their own stories in languages of their choice

We encourage you to speak with our team about your particular area of passion and how we may be able to deliver your desired impact.



How can I leave a gift in my Will?

After you have looked after your family and loved ones, there are a number of ways you may choose to leave a gift in your Will to the Indigenous Literacy Foundation.

- 1 A RESIDUAL GIFT:** You may consider leaving a portion or all of what is left over in your estate after specific gifts to loved ones, debts, expenses and estate administration have been disbursed.
- 2 WHOLE OR PART OF YOUR ESTATE:** You may choose to gift your entire estate or any portion of it.
- 3 A SPECIFIC SUM OR ASSET:** You may prefer to nominate a specific sum of cash or assets such as shareholdings, artwork or real estate.



Pamela Lofts Bequest

In 2013 the Indigenous Literacy Foundation was fortunate to receive an enduring gift from the Estate of the late Pamela Lofts, one of Australia's most celebrated children's book illustrators. Pamela gifted the royalties from her illustrations in some of Australia's most loved children's books including *Koala Lou*, *Wombat Stew* and *Snug as a Hug*. With this incredibly generous gift, the Indigenous Literacy Foundation has established a dedicated program to nurture and reward promising young Indigenous writers and illustrators/artists through a week-long camp.

The selected teenage participants learn from mentors; children's authors or illustrators, who engage and support them in a publishing project. The program aims to make good storytellers better storytellers, instil confidence and pride, and give a glimpse into possibilities and opportunities for writing and illustration.

Dr Jack Baker's legacy
(aka known as
Jack Oats, The Poet)

*'serene in my place
soaring above angst, for now
calm of mind and wing'*



*"It makes our
family proud
knowing Jack's
legacy can
provide young
people with
opportunities to
experience the
wonder of books,
which inspires
curiosity leading
to discovery and
learning."*

Jack Oats

Jack was a man of all trades: a handyman, a teacher, an ecologist, an ornithologist, a writer, father, grandfather and husband. He was passionate about many things, especially conservation. Sharing his love of the natural world with children brought him great joy.

Jack was a renowned and published ecologist but when he retired his passion for writing turned to poetry, where he enjoyed creating stories about Australia's natural and cultural heritage.

In 2015, he discovered a new passion when I introduced him to local Aboriginal Communities and the Indigenous Literacy Foundation.

Between 2017 – 2022, Jack published four poetry books and most of the proceeds from the sale of these books was donated to the Indigenous Literacy Foundation. As he became more aware of the scope of ILF, Jack decided to make a generous bequest.

Books are a gift and should be available to all children everywhere. Indeed, even to the remotest parts of Australia, which is the legacy of a bequest to the Indigenous Literacy Foundation.

Jeannie Clarke (Jack's wife).



Obtaining legal advice and suggested wording

We recommend you discuss your estate plan with an independent legal and/or financial advisor and your loved ones. This will help ensure your wishes are documented clearly in your Will, and that those wishes can be carried out as intended when your Will comes in to effect.

To make a gift in your Will to the Indigenous Literacy Foundation we suggest the following wording:

"I give (% of my residuary estate / my whole estate / specific asset / the sum of \$amount) to the Indigenous Literacy Foundation (ABN 45 146 631 843) (the Foundation) for the general purpose of the Foundation and I declare that the receipt of the treasurer, secretary or other public officer for the time being of the Foundation shall be a sufficient discharge to my executor in respect of this gift."

Thank you for considering a gift in your Will to support the Indigenous Literacy Foundation.

Please complete and return this form for a confidential discussion or further information on how to leave a gift in your Will.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

- ☐ I intend to leave a gift in my Will when I make/next update it.
- ☐ I would like to further discuss the options to support a specific area of Indigenous Literacy Foundations work.
- ☐ I have already included a gift in my Will supporting the Indigenous Literacy Foundation.
- ☐ I am not interested in including a gift in my Will to the Indigenous Literacy Foundation at this time.

Delivery Address:
PO Box 328
AUSTRALIA SQUARE NSW 1215

No stamp required
if posted in Australia



Indigenous Literacy Foundation
Reply Paid 89720
AUSTRALIA SQUARE NSW 1214

A hand with dark skin is pointing at a cartoon map of Australia. The map is drawn on a piece of paper and features a yellow car in the bottom left, a white kangaroo in the center, and a red flower in the bottom right. The background is a blue and white woven fabric. The text is contained within a blue rounded rectangle on the right side of the image.

Please let us know

While we understand making a Will is a personal matter, and we will always hold your confidentiality in the utmost respect, it helps to let us know in writing that you have finalised a gift in your Will to the Indigenous Literacy Foundation. This will help ensure we can quickly and effectively deploy your gift as intended once received.

This also means we can have the opportunity to thank you for your generosity in your lifetime, and invite you to hear more about how support like yours is providing future opportunities and choices to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children living in remote Australia. It will have a legacy for generations.

You can let us know by filling in the reply paid coupon attached, or by emailing David Stewart, our Relationships Manager, at david@ilf.org.au or for a confidential phone call please call 0421 951 266.

Thank you

