

# bricc

## **Building Resilient and Inclusive Communities through Creativity**

*A creative wellbeing program for young people aged 12–18*

up&up

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# ABOUT UP&UP

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UP&UP is a creative community engagement organisation operating at the intersection of art, youth work and community development. We deliver art and music-based programs that strengthen wellbeing, confidence and connection across schools and community settings throughout NSW.

Our work supports young people who may be disengaged or navigating complex educational pathways, providing safe, structured creative environments grounded in participation and meaningful connection.



UP&UP has experience working across alternative and mainstream school settings, flexible learning environments and community-based youth programs. Our practice reinforces the importance of trust-building, responsive facilitation and creating visible, strengths-based opportunities for young people to contribute positively to their learning and community environments.

Our leadership combines research-informed community development with extensive frontline youth work experience. Faith Curtis, PhD (Community Development), brings expertise in inclusive practice, participatory program design and evaluation. Shane Kennedy brings over 30 years' experience as a youth worker and creative facilitator, with deep knowledge of graffiti and hip hop culture as tools for engagement.

Together, we have partnered with alternative and mainstream schools, local councils and government agencies to deliver creative wellbeing initiatives that strengthen identity, resilience and positive community participation.



# PROGRAM OVERVIEW

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BRICC (Building Resilient and Inclusive Communities through Creativity) is a creative wellbeing initiative funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services. It is designed for young people aged 12–18 who may be disengaged or at risk of disengaging from education or community life. The program uses street art and collaborative mural-making as practical tools to strengthen wellbeing, confidence, connection and belonging.

BRICC can be delivered in partnership with schools, alternative education settings and community organisations. Programs are tailored to local context and delivered in safe, structured environments aligned with each partner's wellbeing and engagement priorities.

The program provides a supported creative space where young people develop practical street art and mural skills, express identity and ideas constructively, strengthen peer relationships and experience positive recognition through public artwork.

The program is delivered by UP&UP's experienced leadership team, combining over 30 years of youth work experience with research-informed community development practice.



# PROGRAM STRUCTURE & DELIVERY

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BRICC is delivered over 10 consecutive weeks, with each weekly session running for approximately 2–3 hours.

Program dates are scheduled in consultation with the partner organisation to align with school terms or community calendars.

Sessions are delivered at the host school, alternative learning site, or a suitable community venue identified in partnership with the organisation. Final venue arrangements are confirmed prior to commencement.

## **Participant Numbers, Supervision & Flexibility**

BRICC is designed for small cohorts of 10–15 participants to support strong group cohesion and meaningful engagement.

The program is independently facilitated for groups of up to 10 participants. Larger cohorts (up to 15 participants) can be accommodated in partnership with host organisation staff to ensure appropriate supervision and support.

We recognise that within education settings, student attendance and participation can fluctuate due to personal, wellbeing or engagement factors. BRICC is designed with flexibility in mind, and students may move in and out of sessions as needed.

At the same time, we strongly encourage consistent participation across the full 10 weeks wherever possible. Ongoing attendance supports group cohesion, trust-building, skill progression and the collaborative design process required for the public mural. A stable core group enables stronger teamwork and more meaningful outcomes for participants.



## Program Locations & Delivery

UP&UP will deliver six BRICC programs across the Hunter region between 2026 and 2027, with three programs delivered each year in partnership with schools, alternative education providers and community organisations.

### 2026 Programs

- Term 2 – Raymond Terrace (in partnership with ALESCO)
- Term 3 – Kurri Kurri / Abermain
- Term 4 – Tanilba Bay / Lemon Tree Passage (after-school community program)

### 2027 Programs

Three additional programs will be delivered across the same regional areas:

- Raymond Terrace
- Kurri Kurri / Abermain
- Lemon Tree Passage

Partner schools and host organisations for the 2027 programs will be confirmed in collaboration with local schools, youth services and community organisations.



# PROGRAM PHASES

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## **Weeks 1–3: Creative Foundations**

Students explore street art as a legitimate art form and a powerful tool for self-expression. Participants develop foundational skills including sketching, lettering styles, colour theory and spray-paint techniques. Sessions prioritise relationship-building, confidence and creative identity.

## **Weeks 4–6: Collaboration & Connection**

As skills develop, participants engage in collaborative design processes, theme exploration and guided discussions around identity, belonging and positive participation. Where appropriate, students are introduced to local youth services and community supports aligned with the program's objectives.

## **Weeks 7–9: Public Mural Project**

Participants co-design and create a collaborative public mural located within or near the host school or community site.

This public artwork provides:

- A visible and positive presence in the local community
- Recognition for constructive contribution
- A strengthened sense of pride and ownership in place
- An opportunity to be celebrated for creativity, effort and collaboration

The mural provides a lasting outcome that celebrates young people's voices while strengthening identity, connection and positive community engagement.

## **Week 10: Celebration & Reflection**

The program concludes with a structured reflection and celebration session recognising students' achievements and the completion of the public mural. School representatives and community stakeholders may be invited to acknowledge participants' contributions.



# LEARNING, DEVELOPMENT & OUTCOMES

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Through participation in BRICC, students develop:

## **Creative & Technical Skills**

- Street art lettering and design techniques
- Spray-paint safety and application
- Collaborative mural planning

## **Personal Development**

- Increased confidence and self-expression
- Greater comfort participating in group activities
- Strengthened sense of identity and belonging

## **Social & Relational Skills**

- Peer collaboration
- Constructive communication
- Positive engagement with trusted adults

## **Community Connection**

- Pride in contributing to shared public space
- Increased awareness of local supports
- Recognition as valued members of their community

These outcomes align strongly with relational, strengths-based and wellbeing-focused educational approaches.



# STUDENT PARTICIPATION & REPORTING

Participation in BRICC is voluntary and free.

As part of federal funding requirements through the Australian Government Department of Social Services, UP&UP collects limited de-identified participant information for reporting. Participants complete a brief check-in at the beginning of the program and a similar reflection survey at the end. These tools measure changes in confidence, connection, wellbeing and participation. All responses are confidential and reported without names.

This process ensures accountability while maintaining student privacy and dignity.



# RISK MANAGEMENT & SAFETY

UP&UP has extensive experience delivering community-based mural projects with young people as collaborators. All activities are supported by documented risk assessments, safety planning processes and current Public Liability Insurance. Where required, UP&UP will supply appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including masks and gloves for mural production. Copies of insurance certificates and risk documentation will be provided to the partner organisation prior to commencement.

Clear supervision arrangements and communication protocols will be established in partnership with the host organisation to ensure safe participation.

## WHY BRICC MATTERS

BRICC provides structured, strengths-based creative engagement that supports young people to build confidence, develop practical skills and strengthen their connection to community.

Through collaborative street art and public mural outcomes, participants experience positive recognition, shared achievement and a visible sense of contribution.

We welcome partnerships with schools and community organisations seeking meaningful, creative approaches to youth wellbeing and engagement.



# CONTACT US.

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