



*Blak Queens is more than jewellery and more than a brand,
it is a movement towards a better future for
our women, children, families and communities.*

The mistreatment of Blak women started with invasion and still continues today in almost every space we are in. For over 230 years our women have been treated with disrespect, abuse and violence.

We believe that as sovereign Blak women, girls and boorais (babies) we deserve nothing less than to be treated with love, kindness and respect.

It's time to change the narrative!



ABOUT THELMA

Thelma is a Gunditjmara woman from Framlingham in Victoria's south-west who has long dedicated herself to the advancement of First Nations peoples through a series of high-profile roles across government and the private sector as well as many paid and voluntary roles across Community.

Thelma is currently the Employee Experience Culture Lead at Telstra Energy Group and has previously worked for the Victorian Government with the Department of Justice and Community Safety, Magistrates Courts, Department of Education, Aboriginal Affairs and with the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs.

Thelma's experience in community is vast. She has worked with Djirra, VAEAI, Aborigines Advancement League and the Melbourne Aboriginal Youth Sport and Recreation Co-op. She has served on the Board of Directors of Oxfam's National Aboriginal Reference Group, the Fitzroy Stars Little Athletics Club, City of Yarra's Aboriginal Advisory Council, Elizabeth Morgan House, Yappera Children's Service and was Chairperson of the Melbourne Aboriginal Youth Sport and Recreation (MAYSAR) for over three years.

'My first artistic teachings were at the Nindeebiya workshop with Aunty Jan Chassell's and Uncle Jackie Charles under the Fitzroy Stars Gym in Fitzroy. It was my therapeutic outlet and safe space from the family violence I experienced at home. I have had a love of art and craft ever since...

Hearing my mother's screams all too often as a kid, at eight years old I made the decision that my kids and I were never going to have this same violence and abuse in our lives. I am now 46 and have been working across community since I was 14 years old. My constant passion has been the safety of our women and children.'

BLAK QUEENS OFFERINGS

Blak Queens offers a range of experiences that can be tailored to your audience and setting. Whilst the movement aims to support Aboriginal women in their journey to safety and healing we also have a range of offerings for men, allies and our supporters.

Keynote Speaking

Thelma is available for corporate or community speaking events. She shares her journey to founding Blak Queens, including steps to meaningfully engage your audience in the movement. 20+ minutes

Crown Making Workshops

A nurturing, creative experience for Aboriginal women to connect and start their journey to embracing their inner Blak Queen. Participants are invited to make their own crowns from dried plants & flowers, crystals and craft materials - weaved through strengths based discussions around culture and identity. 60-90 minutes.

Blak Queens Workshops

An in-depth workshop that supports Aboriginal women to connect with their inner birth-right as a Blak Queen. Through yarning and sharing we explore how to heal from the impacts of colonisation and violence and step into our power as powerful Blak women. Includes personalised crown making. 4+ hours

Workshops for Aboriginal men

Both the Blak Queens and Crown Making workshops can be adapted to audiences of Aboriginal men and delivered in partnership with our key partners. These workshops focus on supporting men to explore their relationships with the Aboriginal women in their lives and take meaningful action to support the Blak Queens movement (which may include connecting to ongoing Men's Behaviour Change programs). 3+ hours

Workshops for Corporates and Allies

Thelma can offer information sessions and workshops exploring the impacts of invasion and colonisation on Aboriginal women and how supporters can meaningfully engage with the movement.

Merchandise

Blak Queens offers a range of merchandise that supports the growth and messages of the movement. Available to purchase on our website, we also offer custom orders in any quantity and with co-branding available.

BLAK QUEENS WORKSHOPS

The Blak Queens Workshop is an in-depth experience for Aboriginal women and girls- delivered through a lens of culture and connection. Whilst all of our workshops are tailored specifically to each audience we work with it is likely to involve:

- Thelma sharing her story of family and domestic violence, her healing journey and how this led her to starting the Blak Queens Movement.
- An overview of the history of violence against Aboriginal women from colonisation to today and how ongoing systemic issues across the country continue to adversely affect Aboriginal women.
- Exercises to support participants to re-connect with their Ancestors and Matriarchs to find their inner strengths, passions and creative outlets.
- Tools and supports available to Aboriginal women and discussion around the importance of creating your own team of supporters.
- A crown making experience that encourages participants to connect with their culture and identity through art and creativity.
- Full Day experiences can include a self-care / pampering session delivered with key industry partners. This could include facials, hair and make-up and professional photos delivered by Aboriginal women.



INVESTMENT

To ensure our services are accessible for Community we operate on a sliding scale, with our corporate and private work subsidising our Community focussed work.

We also offer pay it forward and sponsorship opportunities if you would like to support our impact across for Aboriginal women and girls.

Please contact the team to discuss you goals and budget.

- **Speaking Events & Information Sessions: From \$750**
- **Crown Making Workshops: From \$150 per person with a minimum of 6 participants**
- **Blak Queen Workshops: (Mob rate) From \$1800**
- **Workshops for Aboriginal Men: (Mob rate) From \$1800**
- **Blak Queens Workshop for Men, Allies and Corporates: From \$2400**

***Max participants of 20 per workshop**

***Travel & accommodation incur additional costs**

Notes:

A welcoming and informal space will support the best outcomes for these workshops. The team can work with you to adapt your current space or support you to identify other suitable venues.

Blak Queens will provide all materials needed for the workshops however request access to a projector where practical.

Given the sensitive nature of the content discussed we recommend workshops are delivered in partnership with a health or wellbeing service (or professional that is known to the participants) so that all participants can be fully supported through the experience and beyond. This will be explored on our first planning discussion.

