

Pathway to Planetary Health




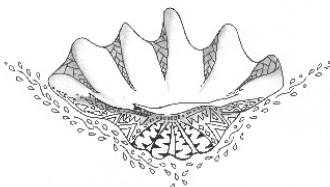
Cultural artwork symbolism


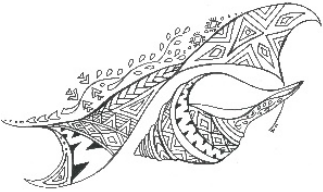
The artwork featured within the Pathway to Planetary Health presentation and poster is by artist Jessie Mordey (Zomered Style). Jessie was born and grew up in Tamwoy Town, Waiben (Thursday Island). She is a descendant of the Dauareb and Komet Clan and including the Kemer Kemer Meriam Nation and Wakaid Clan from Badhu (Badu) Island.

Jessie's style is mainly contemporary, but she likes to create traditional symbolic images that connect strongly to her Torres Strait Heritage. These images represent:

- Identity
- Torres Strait Heritage and Connection to Ancestors
- Cultural Storyline
- Community
- Connection to natural Elements

For the Pathway to Planetary Health, some examples of the symbolism are featured below.

	Action	Symbolism includes shark (Beizam/Baidam KLY,MM) – top god (Kai Augad), an important figure, skilled, keeps moving forward and can adapt. Features ocean waves to denote movement and action.
	Agency	The artwork features a droplet ripple effect with sun which denotes growth. The turtle (Nam/Waru KLY, MM) has several meanings including family, stamina, survival, knowledge and homely (the cycle of coming back).
	Ascension	The artwork features the wild hibiscus – Sim (Torres Strait Meriam Mir). The flower and plant represent peace, trust, relationship and communication. When approaching other tribes or other islands, a small branch this plant show you come in peace to meet and to negotiate. The stars, including Tagai the warrior, inform Islanders when to plant, predict seasonal changes, when to hunt and act as a compass to guide Islanders home. The stars represent moving above.
	Alignment	The artwork features the clam shell - Moeywa /Mi (KLY, MM) which represents; directions, a visual reference to somewhere important (Clam shells were not only vessels to hold water they were also used as landmarks for very sacred sites). This symbolises direction and connection to self.

	Alliance and Allyship	. The featured patterns and woven fish - Wapi/Lar (KLY, MM) represent strength in bonding and united (Fish travel in school, they migrate seasonally, and the weaving patterns strengthen in the interlocking patterns).
	Advocacy and Activism	The artwork features the trumpet shell – Bu/Maber (KLY, MM) which Represents community gathering, important status in community, awareness and is used to gather community or as a warning with urgency.

Some additional symbolism within the artworks includes the Torres Strait Drum (Warup) which represents gathering, celebration, culture and storyline, the Torres Strait Headdress (Dhari) which represents importance, community, traditions and culture and the Stone Club (Gab Gab) which represents Lore, order and culture.



I would like to acknowledge that, the intricate patterns I used are influenced by patterns used on artefacts and clan body art in the Torres Strait. These patterns showcase the very essence of our identity and how unique these symbols are. It's a visual reference to Torres Strait Islander's heritage. Jessie Mordey.

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