

## MEDIA RELEASE

### UNCLE EDDIE MABO HONOURED WITH A STAR

In recognition of Mabo Day, this year Sydney Observatory will name a star from the Sydney Southern Star Catalogue in honour of Uncle Eddie 'Koiki' Mabo.

On 3 June members of the Mabo family will attend the Observatory for a dedication ceremony and be given the opportunity to view the star from one of the Observatory's telescopes.

Director of the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences (MAAS), Rose Hiscock, said the dedication was an opportunity for the Observatory to recognise the ongoing legacy of Uncle Eddie.

"The stars have great significance for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and it is fitting that we honour Uncle Eddie through the dedication of a star in our most iconic constellation, the Southern Cross," said Ms Hiscock.

"This star is visible not only from the telescopes at Sydney Observatory, but also from Uncle Eddie's home, Murray Island in the Torres Strait.

"For MAAS this is a genuine demonstration of respect for the Elders of our community and a recognition of the contribution of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders have made to our culture."

Members of the public can see the star dedicated in Uncle Eddie's memory on nightly tours at Sydney Observatory, which include telescope viewing of the night sky. The stars in the Southern Cross are most prominent from Sydney Observatory throughout the winter months.

On 3 June MAAS will also present its inaugural Mabo Day Address with Genevieve Grieves, part of an ongoing commitment to demonstrating reconciliation.

#### ENDS

**Photo opportunity:** Members of the Mabo family onsite at Sydney Observatory  
**Dates:** 2pm, 2 June 2015  
**Address:** Sydney Observatory, 1008 Upper Fort St, Millers Point

Interviews available on request

#### Editor's Note:

Sydney Observatory, alongside Powerhouse Museum and Discovery Centre, is part of the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences (MAAS), Australia's contemporary museum for excellence and innovation in applied arts and sciences. The Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences has a vast and diverse collection of over 500,000 objects.

#### Media inquiries:

Rebekah Waite, Communications Manager, 0466 331 483 [rebekah.waite@maas.museum](mailto:rebekah.waite@maas.museum)