

Indigenous Alice Springs comic book artists Stick Mob put final touches on inspirational sequels

At the local arts centre in Alice Springs, a group of young indigenous artists is preparing banners and merchandise ahead of launch day. The group, called Stick Mob¹, have been working diligently on the hotly anticipated second series of their comic books after breaking out into the niche industry in 2021. Born from the
5 dreams of four high school students – and featuring mutants, cyborgs and phantasms – Stick Mob brings to life unique, central desert stories through their imaginative art.

Their own releases – *Mixed Feelings*, *Exo Dimensions* and *Storm Warning* – took a deep dive into a range of topics, from climate change to intergenerational trauma and
10 healing, set against the backdrop of life in Central Australia.

When the series launched in 2021, writer-illustrator Alyssa Mason, Seraphina Newberry and Lauren Boyle became the first female Aboriginal graphic novelist to be published in Australia.[...]

Alyssa Mason, now in her early-20s, said the creations had filled the group with pride,
15 and inspired them to keep making new work. [...]

For Seraphina Newberry, the work is an opportunity to create a brighter future for our hometown of Alice Springs. She said many young indigenous people, including herself, faced adversity but that it does not need to define their lives.

“We’re showing them that Alice Springs, or the youth, or whatever is happening in
20 town, is not all bad”, she said.” There’s some really great stuff coming from this community, and the fact that we’re all working together and we're actually thriving² and not, essentially, just being really closed off.”

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¹ Aboriginal term for a family or clan group

² grow