



ONE BILLION STARS



www.onebillionstars.net

One Million Stars installation in King George Square. Photo: Lauren Panrucker.



ONE BILLION STARS

INSPIRATION:

**Returning hate for hate only multiplies hate
adding deeper darkness to a night already
devoid of stars. Darkness cannot drive out
darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot
drive hate; only love can do that.**

DR MARTIN LUTHER KING JNR



ONE BILLION STARS



One Million Stars installation King George Square, Brisbane, March - April 2018 Photo: Kgbo

About One Billion Stars

Weaving one billion stars for violence free communities by 2032

In 2021, One Billion Stars was launched as a star weaving movement to raise awareness about violence, especially violence against women while also prioritising solidarity, joy and community connection. One Billion Stars builds upon the One Million Stars to End Violence project (2012), founded by Samoan-Australian weaving artist Maryann Talia Pau after the rape and murder of a local young woman.

Driven by the overwhelming support and compassion from her local and church community during that time, Maryann Talia Pau sought to channel the profound grief and anger of her local community into something transformative.

"I decided to teach as many people as possible how to weave an 8-pointed star, the same star my mother wove while growing up in Samoa, and to collect one million woven stars for a display by 2018."

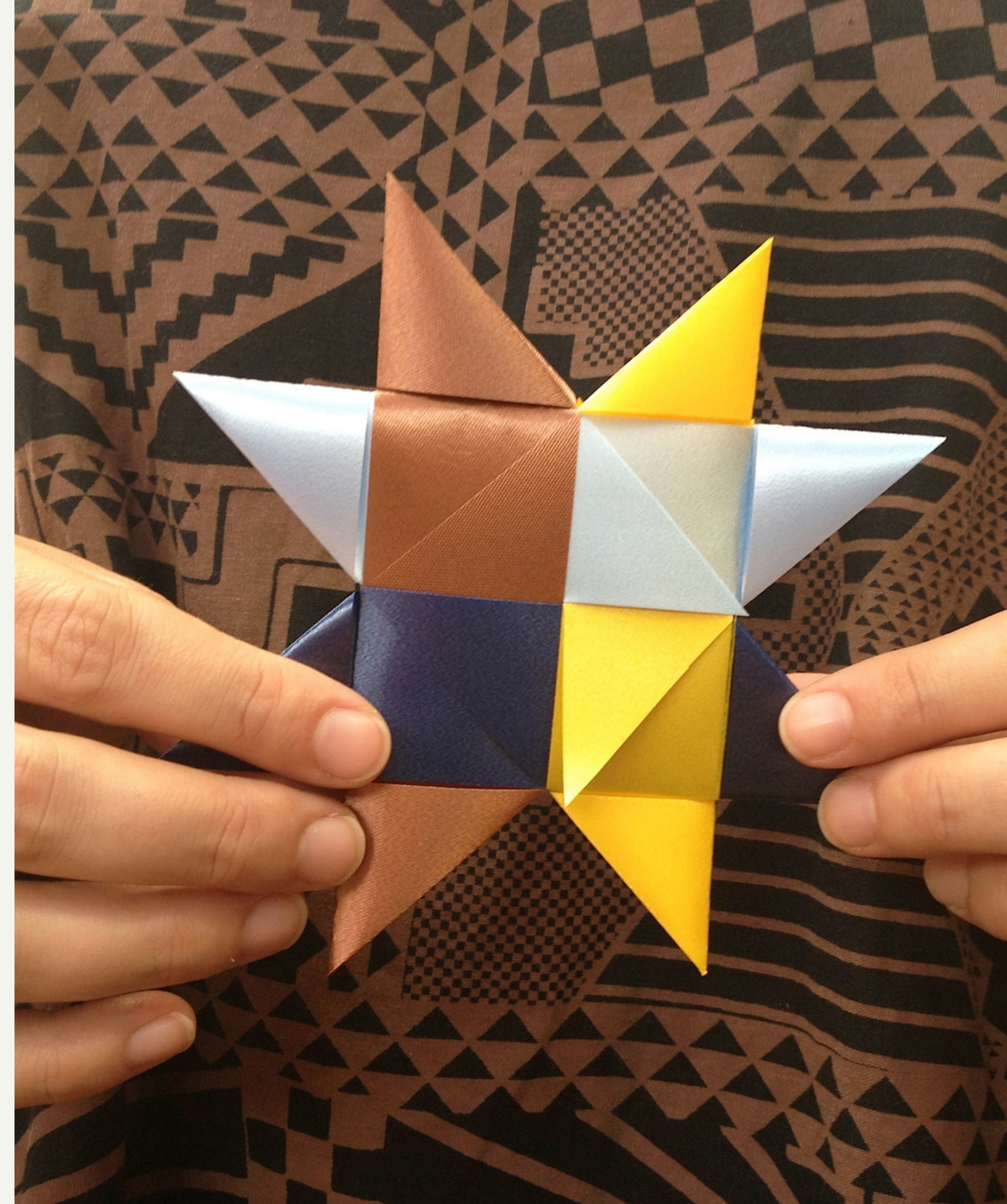
"After seeing some words by Dr Martin Luther King Jnr in the sea of flowers, I ran up to my studio, I grabbed some florist ribbon and started weaving an 8 pointed star that comes from the Pacific Islands."

Maryann Talia Pau

Not only did the project achieve its original goal of one million stars for a breathtaking installation in Brisbane during the 2018 Commonwealth Games, but it surpassed expectations, receiving over 2.4 million stars from more than 15 countries. Collaborating with dedicated partners within the Queensland Government, Museum of Brisbane, Lumen & Cloud, and Human Ventures, One Billion Stars created a global movement of solidarity against violence.

Today, star weaving communities continue to gather, expand, and advocate in creative, inclusive ways, not just in moments of tragedy, but every day. This craft is a conduit for building stronger community bonds, nurturing mental health, and fostering connection. Join us in this peaceful, collaborative journey of weaving stars for a violence-free world.

Visit www.onebillionstars.net to learn more and get involved.





Become a Star Weave Community



THE BIG DESIGN MARKET

The first installation of 12,000 stars in 2012. Royal Exhibition Building Melbourne

The Big Design Market. Photo: Nik Harrison 2012



VAKA TO A BILLION STARS

Silo Park. Auckland City Council. Matariki Festival 2021

Vaka to A Billion Stars Photo: Raymond Sagapolutele 2021



2018 COMMONWEALTH GAMES

Over 400 communities participated in weaving stars, including 200 + schools

Helensvale State High School. Photo: Embracing 2018 / GC2018



Resources



ONE BILLION STARS

GET INVOLVED

- Watch our star weaving tutorial at www.onebillionstars.net
- Read our [beginners illustrated guide on how to weave a paper star](#).
- Use our [guide to make a star weaving kit](#) for your community
- Book a facilitated [star weaving workshop](#) with co-founder Maryann Talia Pau.

BECOME A STAR WEAVE COMMUNITY

A [Star Weave Community](#) pledges to weave between 100 and 10,000 stars and uses them to create displays in their work or community space.

Use our [FREE guide to learn how to string your stars](#) for display.

ARTICLES & GUIDES

We have created [articles and other resources](#) to help communities understand what the One Billion Stars project is about and to help get involved.

Photo: Vaka to A Billion Stars by Matariki Festival 2021



ONE BILLION STARS

Weave a Star. Start a Conversation.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Anyone can weave a star.

One Billion Stars centres around bringing people together, to create calm and focussed opportunities for reflection, learning and creativity. The goal is to create a welcoming and inclusive space through star weaving and to inspire people to make one small action to start a positive change.

Learn how to weave a star and get started at www.onebillionstars.net

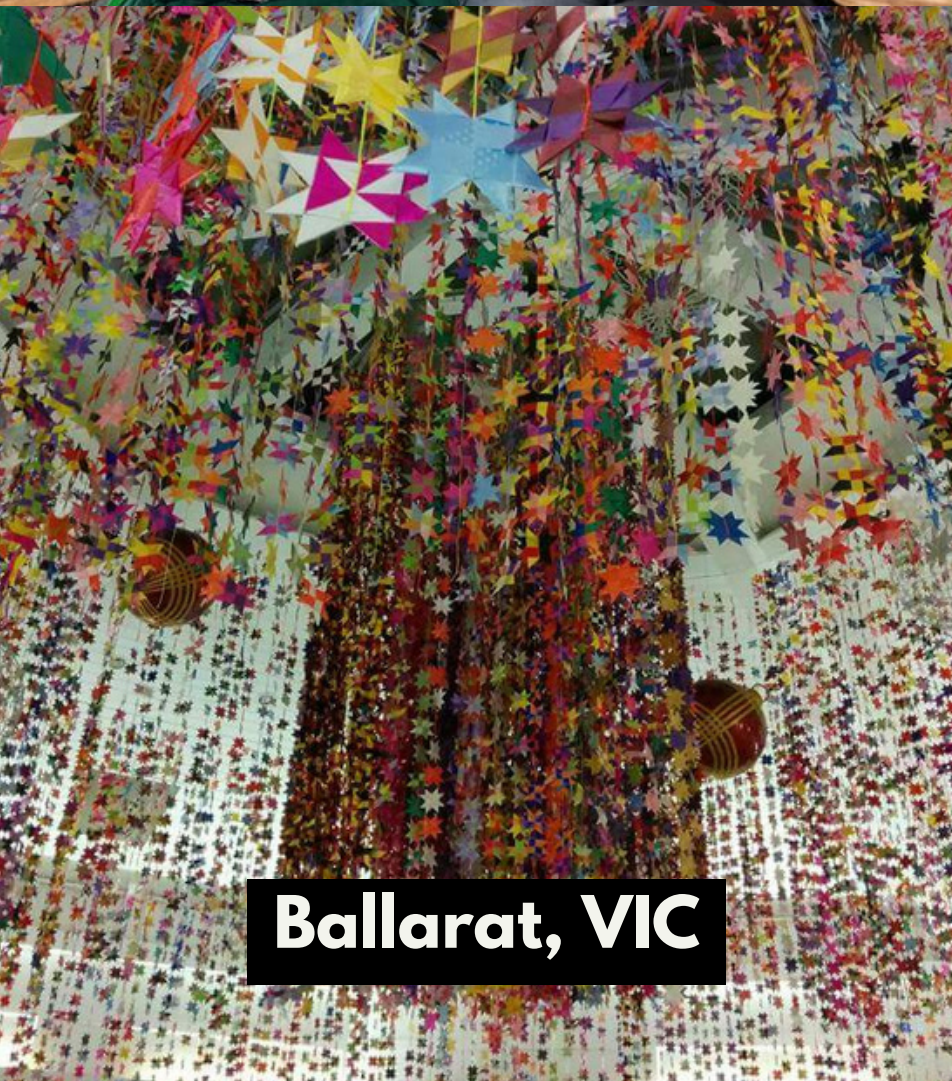




Nairobi, Kenya



Ipoh, Malaysia



Ballarat, VIC



Brisbane, QLD



Kilkenny, Ireland



Founders

Maryann and Mark are life partners and creators of One Billion Stars and Super Native Unlimited.

Maryann is a Samoan-Australian weaving artist and brings over a decade of expertise as a weaving workshop facilitator, story teller and visual artist. Maryann has exhibited work at the National Gallery of Victoria (NGV), Craft Victoria, Gallery of Modern Art (QAGOMA) and Caboolture Art Gallery.

Mark Yettica-Paulson specialises in cross cultural collaboration and is an Intercultural Leadership specialist from South East Queensland and North East NSW regions. Mark brings decades of wisdom and from his career in leadership development, diversity and inclusion and has advised organisations such as National Australia Bank, Australian Football League (AFL) Indigenous Development programs and Australia Post. Mark is an experienced facilitator and public speaker and is currently the Deep Collaboration Lead for Collaboration for Impact.

Learn more about their work at www.supernativeunlimited.com and www.onebillionstars.net.

One Billion Stars & SNU Group acknowledges the traditional custodians of the lands, waters and skies where we live, weave and work.

Photos by Alexia Rae Costello and Maryann Talia Pau.

Maryann Talia Pau



Mark Yettica- Paulson



