Entry type: Person
Entry ID: AWE1202

Torres, Patricia

(1956 -)

Born	19560101, Broome Western Australia
Occupation	Administrator, Artist, Community worker, Educator, Health worker

Summary

Patricia Torres, of Yawuru, Nyikina, Bardi, Punuba and Walmatjarri descent, was born in Broome, Western Australia. She completed a secretarial training course, a Bachelor of Arts degree and a Diploma of Education.

Torres became a health worker with the national Aboriginal trachoma program in Western Australia. In 1978 she became a Legal Aid Field Officer with the Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre, where she designed and conducted a statewide socioeconomic survey of Aboriginal families. She was a Curriculum Development Officer with the state Education Department in Hobart during 1981. Upon her return to Western Australia, she was appointed Secretary to the Kimberley Land Council at Derby. From 1982 to 1989 she worked for the federal Department of Education and Youth Affairs, serving in Broome, Darwin and Canberra.

Since then, Torres has concentrated on writing, art and community work. She has recorded Kimberley oral history, published a couple of bilingual children's books which she also illustrated, created posters for national events and recordings of stories. She has worked with many Kimberley community organisations, including the Yawuru Aboriginal Corporation, Winarn Aboriginal Arts and Crafts, Magabala Books and the Broome Aboriginal Media Association.

Published resources

Book Section
Writing for children: interview with Pat Torres, Torres, Patricia, 1988

Journal Article
Aborigines and archaeologists, Torres, Patricia, 1980

Book
Do not go around the edges, Utemorrah, Daisy (illustrated by Pat Torres), 1990

Murawina : Australian women of high achievement, Roberta Sykes ; photography by Sandy Edwards, 1993

Edited Book
The Encyclopaedia of Aboriginal Australia : Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, society and culture, Horton, David, 1994

Resource
Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

Author Details
Leonarda Kovacic and Barbara Lemon

Created 1 June 2005
Last modified 12 February 2019