

[EMBARGOED until 7pm Friday 22 November 2013]

Wondai Regional Art Gallery Wins Prestigious State Award

Museum & Gallery Services Queensland (M&GSQ) proudly announced the winners of the **2013 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards** (GAMAA) at a gala event hosted by Museum of Brisbane on Friday 22 November 2013. Special guest, Hon Ian Walker, Minister for Science, Information Technology, Innovation and the Arts congratulated this year's recipients and presented the winners with a specially commissioned trophy created by artists, Theresa Beeron, John Murray, Charlotte Beeron and Ethel Murray, represented by Giringun Aboriginal Art Centre.

The **Wondai Regional Art Gallery** was **recognised for outstanding achievement** in the category of 'Organisations: Staff of Under 4' for its *Construction of The Studio, a multi-purpose workroom extension to the gallery project*.

Construction of The Studio is the result of five years of solid planning, fundraising, grant writing and sheer determination by the Gallery's Management Committee and is now used on a daily basis by the Wondai community for activities including art workshops; choir practices; local musical groups and 'jam sessions'; tai chi and yoga classes; and weekly games afternoons for attendees from local nursing and retirement homes.

In declaring **Wondai Regional Art Gallery** the **winner** in this category, the judges acknowledged the achievements of this volunteer-run organisation in demonstrating the leadership, strategic thinking and drive to address a need within the Gallery and the community.

Presented by Museum & Gallery Services Queensland, the **GAMAA celebrate** the **outstanding achievements, professional excellence, and innovation of Queensland's museum and gallery sector**. It also recognises the valuable contribution our State's museums and galleries

make to enriching their local and wider communities, and honours the extraordinary commitment and talents of paid professionals and volunteers working in the industry.

M&GSQ Executive Director, Rebekah Butler, said today

'It is with great pleasure that M&GSQ congratulates the winners of the 2013 GAMAA and commends all those who nominated for their remarkable achievements and contribution to the sector. This year's awards recognise a range of inspirational people and projects.'

For a full list of GAMAA recipients go to the M&GSQ website at www.magsq.com.au.

In 2013, the GAMAA celebrates its tenth anniversary. To mark the occasion, a special one-night-only exhibition of past GAMAA trophies will be displayed at the Museum of Brisbane.

The 2013 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards are presented by M&GSQ in partnership with Museum of Brisbane and proudly sponsored by Brian Tucker Accounting, Brandi Projects, Archival Survival, Regional Galleries Association of Queensland and Museums Australia Queensland.

For media enquiries or images, please contact:

Rebekah Butler, Executive Director

Museum & Gallery Services Queensland

Phone: **07 3215 0820** Freecall: **1800 680 433** (within Queensland) Mobile: **0422 579 180**

Email: rebekah.butler@magsq.com.au Website: www.magsq.com.au

MEDIA RELEASE END



Museum & Gallery Services Queensland Ltd. acknowledges the assistance of the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland and is supported by the Visual Arts and Craft Strategy, an initiative of the Australian, State and Territory Governments, and by the Commonwealth through the Australia Council its arts funding and advisory body. ABN 32 109 874 811