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## **Shane Fitzgerald Recognised as Finalist at Queensland Gallery and Museum Awards**

**Museums & Galleries Queensland** (M&G QLD) proudly announced the recipients of the **2015 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards** (GAMAA) at a gala event hosted by The University of Queensland Art Museum on Thursday 19 November 2015.

**Shane Fitzgerald** Manager, Gallery Services, Townsville City Council was recognised as a **Finalist** for his outstanding achievement **in the category of 'Individuals—Paid'**. In announcing Shane as a Finalist in this category, the judges recognised his broad ranging achievements and contribution to Townsville's cultural programs.

Shane has contributed to the growth of Townsville's leading public galleries, Perc Tucker Regional Gallery and Pinnacles Gallery, over his three-year tenure. His leadership and particular skillset has seen the development and implementation of a Visual Arts Strategy that has netted many and various positive outcomes for the Townsville region.

These include the restructuring of the Gallery Services' business unit; increased support, advocacy and collaboration with exhibitions and publications; growth of Townsville City Council's internal and external art collections; facilities and equipment upgrades; greater national media; increased funding through State and Federal grants programs; and contribution to the public consultation process for significant arts and cultural infrastructure development in the proposed city masterplan.

Presented by Museums & Galleries Queensland, the **GAMAA celebrate the outstanding achievements, professional excellence, and innovation of Queensland's museum and gallery sector**. It also recognises the valuable contribution that 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&G QLD Executive Director, Rebekah Butler, said,** "It is with great pleasure that M&G QLD congratulates the winners and finalists of the 2015 GAMAA. We commend 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&G QLD website at [www.magsq.com.au](http://www.magsq.com.au).

The 2015 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards were presented by M&G QLD and generously supported by The University of Queensland Art Museum. The GAMAA are proudly sponsored by Brian Tucker Accounting. WE also acknowledge the Regional Galleries Association of Queensland and Museums Australia Queensland.

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