

14/10/2019

ARTISAN

Finalist at State Awards

The Winners and Finalists of the **2019 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards** (GAMAA) were proudly announced on Thursday 19 September at a special presentation event, held at the recently opened Cairns Performing Arts Centre, Far North Queensland.

artisan was recognised as a **Finalist** for its outstanding achievement in the category of Sustainability: Organisations with Paid Staff for its project, ***A new home for craft and design.***

Founded in 1970, artisan is the peak body for craft and design in Queensland. The organisation is dedicated to providing meaningful experiences that help audiences access a deeper understanding of craft and design, and its importance to our communities.

In April 2018, artisan relocated to a new purpose-built venue in the Brisbane Showgrounds redevelopment in Bowen Hills, Brisbane, cementing the organisation's future and furthering its ability to contribute to the sustainability of Queensland craft practitioners and designers. The move was made possible through the formation of solid partnerships with corporate supporters, which financially enabled the organisation to maximise this opportunity for sustainable growth.

Museums & Galleries Queensland (M&G QLD) Executive Director, Rebekah Butler said, "artisan is commended for its vision and remarkable efforts in relocating the organisation to its new premises and for forging new partnerships. The move has not only secured the organisation a new home within a vibrant, high-traffic precinct, it has resulted in significant growth including a 70% increase in artisan's public program activity; attracting 57% of first-time visitors; a 33% increase in revenue; and increased exhibition and commercial opportunities for practitioners."

The GAMAA were established by Museums & Galleries Queensland in 2004 to honour the achievements of our State's individuals and organisations in striving towards excellence.

Robert Ryan, the Senior Co-ordinator Community Programs for Mackay Regional Council and 2019 GAMAA judge, presented awards to this year's Winners and Finalists. The Winners received an exquisitely crafted trophy by Queensland artist, Lucy Quinn. Commissioned by M&G QLD, the trophies are generously sponsored by our long-standing Awards supporter, Brian Tucker Accounting.

The awards were hosted at Cairns Performing Arts Centre in front of representatives of Queensland's public museum and gallery sector, including delegates of M&G QLD's 2019 State Conference, *Opening Doors*, also presented in Cairns.

M&G QLD acknowledges the tremendous support of the 2019 GAMAA sponsors: Brandi Projects; Cairns Regional Council; Brian Tucker Accounting; Public Galleries Queensland; and Australian Museums and Galleries Association (Queensland).

For the full list of GAMAA Winners and Finalists see:

<http://www.magsq.com.au/cms/page.asp?ID=5036>

For media enquiries or images, please contact:

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Museum & Gallery Services Queensland Ltd trading as Museums & Galleries Queensland – ABN 32 109 874 811 is supported by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland, and is assisted by the Visual Arts and Craft Strategy, an initiative of the Australian, State and Territory Governments.