

14/10/2019

## **QUEENSLAND STATE ARCHIVES**

### **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.

**Queensland State Archives** was recognised as a **Finalist** for its outstanding achievement in the category of Engagement: Organisations with Paid Staff for its program, ***The Memory Lounge***.

Queensland State Archives (QSA) holds the State's memories and through The Memory Lounge – a purpose-built dementia-friendly space – is now helping the community share their own memories.

QSA's Memory Lounge aims to value, respect and actively engage older people in the community. The lounge area provides a comfortable and welcoming space inspired by mid-century interiors, with furnishings selected to accommodate people living with dementia.

Visitors can relax and browse through photo albums of images from the Archives, watch films from the 1950s and 60s, and share memories over morning tea. Attendees leave with a copy of a photograph to take home to continue conversations about personal memories and past experiences.

**Museums & Galleries Queensland** (M&G QLD) Executive Director, Rebekah Butler said, "Queensland State Archives is commended for this wonderful initiative. Through the Memory Lounge project, it is engaging older members of the community, sharing Queensland stories and creating new social experiences and meaningful conversations."

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>

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## **MEDIA RELEASE END**



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