



Four-year-old Ziggy 'getting into' the Hervey Bay Regional Gallery's Pipis Club weaving activity with some alternative materials.

Credit: Allison Bateman



Queensland artist Christopher Trotter talks to guests attending the opening of *Animated Steel* hosted at Hervey Bay Regional Gallery.

Credit: Stewart Riddell, StewArt Photography



Secondary students enjoy a talk on artist Susanne McLean's installation, *Water Ways*, at Hervey Bay Regional Gallery.

Credit: Hervey Bay Regional Gallery

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Hours: 10am to 4pm, 7 days a week. Closed public holidays.

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Presented by Museum & Gallery Services Queensland in partnership with Hervey Bay Regional Gallery.

'Did You Know' – intriguing facts about the Gallery

- As part of the education program established at the gallery, *Art in a Box* travels artworks to classrooms with lesson plans for teachers. The gallery specially commissioned local artists to create works for *Art in a Box* and the artists accompany the program to the schools. Students handle the art works closely, inspect techniques and materials, learn about art processes and the mounting of an exhibition.
- Major Australian artists, galleries and museums regularly exhibit at Hervey Bay Regional Gallery. Artists and art lovers enjoy visiting and being involved in the program.
- Over 60 dedicated volunteers actively support vital aspects of the gallery and enjoy being part of the gallery community. The volunteer program attracts and retains volunteers through stimulating training programs and ongoing extension activities looking at other galleries, developing skills in art gallery practice and experiencing a sense of belonging and well being.
- The award winning *Mudskippers Art Adventures* and *Pipis* early childhood sessions encourage children and their parents/carers to feel welcome and engaged with the Gallery and to participate in a more in-depth exploration and positive experience of art and artists. In the *Pipis Club* three to five-year-olds explore the exhibitions and participate in related hands-on art activities. The *Mudskippers Club* engages artists from the local region to conduct workshops for eight to fourteen-year-olds, complementing the themes and media of the exhibitions on display. These programs earned the gallery statewide recognition and praise from the GMAA judges for commitment to lifelong learning and a sustainable approach to developing new audiences.

Our Profile

Hervey Bay Regional Gallery was established in 1997 and is a cultural initiative of the Fraser Coast Regional Council. As of December 2012, the gallery operates from a new purpose-built venue, the Fraser Coast Cultural Centre, adjoining a Discovery Sphere. This signature development will set a new standard of activity for the gallery. As the major Category A regional gallery in this area, exhibitions include touring shows from major galleries and museums throughout Australia, and unique state and regional exhibits.

HBRG also provides a professional platform for local artists, creative groups and organisations. Programs include: official opening events and floor talks; ArtChat professional development presentations by visiting artists; children's programs including Mudskippers Art Adventure sessions and Pipis early childhood sessions once a month. The volunteers program involves up to 60 volunteers in reception duties, installation and catering. They also hold up to four bus trips a year to other galleries and cultural events.

The gallery currently has two major business sponsors, one of which supports the Senior Student Art Bursary program initiated by the gallery in 2011. Another highlight is a cultural exchange program of exhibitions and artists visits with sister cities in China and Japan. The Gallery Shop features beautifully created objects by mostly local artists, while the gallery reference library provides art books and periodicals for the community to peruse or borrow. Other community services include lists of art classes, available tutors and Queensland art valuers.

What the Standards Program has meant for our museum

Highlighting strengths and weaknesses: In working through the Standards program, Hervey Bay Regional Gallery received well deserved acknowledgement of the excellent programs presented, while helping to clarify what areas of museum practice needed some attention, particularly as we move into a new venue.

Working with industry peers: Working with the peer reviewers was an invaluable experience and provided much-needed clarity on areas to focus on as we move into a new venue. It gave us the chance to see things with fresh eyes.