

DOGWOOD CROSSING @ MILES A MODEL OF EXEMPLARY PRACTICE

Museum and Gallery Services Queensland (M&GSQ) congratulates **Dogwood Crossing @ Miles**, one of nine museums and galleries from Southern Inland Queensland who have completed a challenging year-long program assessing their existing practices and policies against the **National Standards for Australian Museums and Galleries**.

Reviewers, Helen Pithie and Christine Ianna, who played a vital role in providing professional advice and assistance throughout the program, free of charge, congratulated **Dogwood Crossing @ Miles** saying,

'Dogwood Crossing @ Miles is a model of exemplary practice in the key area of the National Standards for Australian Museums and Galleries: "Involving People". It is well used, supported and valued by its diverse communities.'

They praised **Dogwood Crossing @ Miles** saying,

'Dogwood Crossing @ Miles connects every age group to diverse, high quality library, gallery and new media public programs.'

Dogwood Crossing @ Miles is the home of a regional Art Gallery, Library, IT and Social History centre. Its multi-disciplinary delivery of integrated cultural experiences within one enterprise was a first for Queensland, and possibly Australia. Imaginative programming includes Toddler Tuesday in the gallery and library, Holiday programs, School & kindy visits, Author visits, Sunday @ the gallery for young adults and adults, Respite visits for the elderly, the Queensland Art Gallery regional lecture and Gallery Gateway with digital workshops and new media programs. The innovative model of integration demonstrates the leadership role of this small regional community.

Dogwood Crossing @ Miles plays a key advocacy and advisory role in the region's cultural development. It has become the cultural heart of the district and fulfils its vision of 'a vibrant centre that connects people and inspires creativity, thus enriching our community and the lives of those who visit us'.

The award winning building has itself become a cultural icon for the region with the seven metre tall, stylized bottle trees forming a colonnade down the centre of the facility.

The gallery hosts traveling exhibitions from across Australia, enhancing regional access to significant arts programs and resources. The vibrant program of changing exhibitions every 6-8 weeks is developed with community input and the active involvement of local artists and

designers. Local programming includes the annual Local Artists Show and *Craft+ Design = Art*, showcasing work from all over Queensland, and community displays such as the Milton House Art exhibition, featuring the art work of the elderly residents of the local high care residential facility.

Managed and programmed as an integrated cultural facility, Dogwood Crossing @ Miles prides itself on its emphasis on interpretation, education and public programs and community engagement in the arts and culture.

With the assistance of the expertise of Standards Program Reviewers Dogwood Crossing @ Miles have drafted an Action Plan with the aim of ensuring adequate resourcing of their proven leadership role, in the newly formed Western Downs Regional Council.

Sally Hinz, Cultural Development Coordinator, Dogwood Crossing @ Miles explained what they gained from participating in the Standards program,

'The Standards Program reinforced the leadership role we can play in our region, and the broader community, and encouraged us not to underplay our value.'

In 2010 the Museum Standards Program will be offered by M&GSQ in the Brisbane metro and surrounding regions.

Full program information is available at

<http://www.magsq.com.au/01/cms/details.asp?ID=509>

The profile for Dogwood Crossing @ Miles is attached as are print quality images from Dogwood Crossing @ Miles and the presentation ceremony.

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IMAGE CAPTIONS:

Image 1 – Dogwood Crossing @ Miles receives their Certificate of Recognition. L-R: Debra Beattie, General Manager, Museum & Gallery Services Queensland – Sally Hinz, Cultural Development Coordinator, Dogwood Crossing @ Miles – Anne Keam, Cultural Officer, Dogwood Crossing @ Miles.

Photographer Acknowledgement – Bruce Cowell

**Image 2 - Dogwood Crossing @ Miles at Night
Acknowledgement - Dogwood Crossing @ Miles**

**Image 3 - Toddler Tuesday @ the Gallery
Acknowledgement - Dogwood Crossing @ Miles**

Image 4 - Sunday @ the Gallery
Acknowledgement - Dogwood Crossing @ Miles

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