

2/11/2017

[EMBARGOED UNTIL 9PM THURSDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2017]

Queensland's Outstanding Public Galleries and Museums Recognised at State Awards

The strength, ingenuity and talents of Queensland's public galleries and museums were triumphantly demonstrated tonight with the announcement of the winners of the **2017 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards** (GAMAA) at a gala presentation event, proudly hosted by Old Government House, QUT.

Museums & Galleries Queensland (M&G QLD) Executive Director, Rebekah Butler said, "This year's winners and finalists stood out from an exceptional group of nominations. Representing organisations large and small from across Queensland, these accolades embody outstanding examples of our sector's achievements, professional excellence, and innovation. They also highlight the valuable contribution and achievements of professionals and volunteers working in our industry."

M&G QLD was pleased to announce and to congratulate the **Winners** and **Finalists** of the **2017 GAMAA**. These are recognised in seven categories:

PROJECTS: ORGANISATIONS WITH PAID STAFF

Winner: **CAIRNS HISTORICAL SOCIETY**, for *Reimagining Cairns Museum*

Finalists: **YUGAMBEH MUSEUM LANGUAGE AND HERITAGE RESEARCH CENTRE**,
Beenleigh, for *The Bunyip Story*
MUSEUM OF BRISBANE, for *Robert Andrew: Our Mutable Histories*
GOLD COAST CITY GALLERY, for *Signs of the Time*

PROJECTS: ORGANISATIONS VOLUNTEER RUN

Winner: **TEXAS QLD INC.**, for *Restoration of Texas Rabbit Works*

Finalist: **LAPUNYAH ART GALLERY INC.**, Chinchilla, for *Exhibition Facilitators – In House Traineeship*

ENGAGEMENT: ORGANISATIONS WITH PAID STAFF

Joint Winners: **QUEENSLAND MUSEUM NETWORK**, for *World Science Festival Brisbane 2017*

LOGAN ART GALLERY, for *lesu ra mir giz (From the beginning) ge omaida (when the Gospel came) Mer ge baziarda (it took root in Erub) igiare Torres Strait (and branched out to the whole of the Torres Strait)*

Finalists: **ABBEY MUSEUM OF ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY**, Caboolture, for *Medieval Family Fun Week*

OLD GOVERNMENT HOUSE, QUT, Brisbane, for *To promote, excite and entice: the Miss Fisher public programs at Old Government House*

MUSEUM OF BRISBANE, for *Indigenous Culture Learning Program*

ENGAGEMENT: ORGANISATIONS VOLUNTEER RUN

Winner: **KILBURNIE HOMESTEAD**, Jambin, for *Open Days*

SUSTAINABILITY: ORGANISATIONS WITH PAID STAFF

Winner: **QANTAS FOUNDERS MUSEUM**, Longreach, for *Powering on Sustainably*

INDIVIDUALS: PAID

Winner: **VIRGINIA GORDON**, Assistant Curator, Queensland Police Museum, Brisbane

Finalists: **JENNIFER GARCIA**, Communications & Programming Manager, Newstead House, Brisbane

TONY MARTIN, CEO, Qantas Founders Museum, Longreach

INDIVIDUALS: VOLUNTEER

Winner: **MICHAEL STRONG**, Senior Curator, Abbey Museum of Art and Archaeology, Caboolture

Finalist: **DAVID MASON**, Archivist, Beaudesert Museum, Historical Society of Beaudesert Inc.

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.

Winners of the 2017 GAMAA received an exquisite trophy crafted by Queensland artist, Lincoln Austin. Commissioned by M&G QLD, the trophies are generously sponsored by our long-standing Awards supporter, Brian Tucker Accounting.

Ms Butler took the opportunity at the GAMAA presentation to thank not just the winners, but all those who contribute to and support Queensland's public gallery and museum sector. She also acknowledged the significant contributions these organisations make to their communities.

For media enquiries or images, please contact:

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