

MEDIA RELEASE

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Six cultural organisations recognised in State Standards Program

Councillor Andrew Smith, Deputy Mayor, Western Downs Regional Council, and Councillor Tyson Golder, Mayor, Maranoa Regional Council joined Museums & Galleries Queensland (M&G QLD) in presenting six cultural organisations with a Certificate of Recognition for completing a challenging year-long program assessing their practices against *The National Standards for Australian Museums and Galleries* (2014). The organisations being congratulated were:

- · Chinchilla Historical Museum
- Gallery 107 @ Dalby
- Lapunyah Art Gallery, Chinchilla
- Miles Historical Village Museum
- · Roma on Bungil Gallery
- Taroom Museum

Councillors Peter Saxelby, Carolyn Tillman and Kaye Maguire, Western Downs Regional Council joined the celebrations along with other stakeholders and representatives from each organisation.

M&G QLD's Executive Director, Rebekah Butler, said,

"These dedicated organisations are to be commended for their participation in M&G QLD's Standards Review Program and congratulated for their high standard of achievement."

According to M&G QLD's Standards Program Reviewers, industry experts who were matched to each organisation and played a vital role in providing pro-bono professional advice and assistance throughout the year:

"Chinchilla Historical Museum is to be applauded for its perseverance and enthusiasm in caring for this local collection. Although always in need of extra assistance, the volunteers provide a valuable service and are justifiably proud of the historical complex."

"Gallery 107 @ Dalby is commended for its commitment to support local artists. This is achieved by working closely with local artists to present exhibitions and events, along with promotion through the Gallery shop."

"Lapunyah Art Gallery is to be congratulated for the implementation of an in-house curatorial training program with its own designed curriculum along with the

encouragement and support they provide to their local artists. The volunteer staff are to be commended for their passion, commitment and excellent work to-date."

"Miles Historical Village Museum is to be praised for their commitment to good governance and long-term sustainability, along with excellent strategic planning that guides their actions."

"Roma on Bungil Gallery is to be recognised for its commitment to support local and regional artists. This is achieved by working closely with the artists to present exhibitions and activities. Their dedication to presenting an attractive venue and continuing to develop school programs, along with the popular biennial charity fundraiser project is to be commended."

"Taroom Museum is to be congratulated for its progress made on many activities. The volunteer team have been working hard to implement many of the items discussed throughout the Program, such as display techniques. The volunteer team are to be commended for their commitment to and passion for the Museum and the history of the district."

M&G QLD's Standards Review Program supports museums and galleries to build skills and capacity, plan for a sustainable future, identify strategic priorities for improvement, develop an action plan and ensure the safeguarding and accessibility of community collections and stories. For more information on the Standards Review Program, please visit http://www.magsq.com.au/cms/page.asp?ID=5520

M&G QLD is pleased to acknowledge the support of Western Downs Regional Council, Maranoa Regional Council and the Regional Arts Development Fund, which allowed M&G QLD to deliver this program to the regions. The Regional Arts Development Fund is a partnership between the Queensland Government and Western Downs Regional Council to support local arts and culture in regional Queensland. The Regional Arts Development Fund is a partnership between the Queensland Government and Maranoa Regional Council to support local arts and culture in regional Queensland.

For media enquiries or to obtain high quality images, please contact:

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Image Caption: 2016 Standards Review Program participants and their stakeholders.

Acknowledgement: Courtesy Museums & Galleries Queensland. Photographer Penny Eamer.

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