

9/10/2026

## JESSICA BROWN WINNER 2026 GALLERY AND MUSEUM ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Museums & Galleries Queensland (M&G QLD) was delighted to announce **Jessica Brown**, Collections and Conservation Volunteer at the Museum of Lands, Mapping and Surveying, as the Winner in the **Individuals: Volunteer** category at the **2026 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards (GAMAA)**, proudly hosted by **Ipswich Art Gallery** on Thursday 8 October.

Now in their twenty-second year, the GAMAA are Queensland's premier awards program for the museum and gallery sector, recognising excellence, innovation and leadership across the State. Special guest, **Ipswich City Council Mayor Teresa Harding**, congratulated this year's recipients and presented winners with individually crafted trophies by acclaimed Queensland glass artist **Jarred Wright**.

Since joining the Museum of Lands, Mapping and Surveying as a volunteer in 2025, **Jessica Brown** has demonstrated exceptional professionalism, initiative and commitment to excellence. She has played a vital role in preserving and improving access to the Museum's collections, contributing to research, interpretation, cataloguing, conservation and exhibition development projects that have significantly strengthened the organisation's capacity.

Jessica's impact extends beyond her own work. Through mentoring fellow volunteers, developing procedures and training resources, and championing best-practice standards, she has helped build a strong culture of learning and collaboration within the Museum. Her work establishing and documenting processes for the Museum's eHive catalogue has been particularly significant, supporting the creation of 973 collection records since August 2025, including 263 items made publicly accessible for the first time.

Through her dedication, curiosity and collaborative approach, Jessica has enhanced public access to cultural heritage collections, enriched visitor experiences and made a lasting contribution to the preservation and sharing of Queensland's history.

In addition to her volunteer work with the Museum of Lands, Mapping and Surveying, Jessica volunteers with the Royal Historical Society of Queensland.

**Museums & Galleries Queensland Executive Director, Rebekah Butler**, said "Jessica Brown exemplifies the remarkable contribution volunteers make to Queensland's museum and gallery sector. Through her professionalism, initiative and commitment to excellence, she has made a significant impact on the preservation, accessibility and interpretation of important collections.

Her willingness to share knowledge, support fellow volunteers and champion best-practice museum standards has strengthened the organisations she serves and enriched the experiences of countless visitors. This award is a well-deserved recognition of her time and efforts."

This year's awards attracted nominations from across the state, recognising excellence in exhibitions, public programs, collections management, First Nations and community engagement, leadership, innovation and volunteer contribution.

M&G QLD congratulates each of this year's winners, highly commended recipients and finalists. Their achievements exemplify the passion, creativity and commitment that continue to enrich Queensland's cultural landscape and inspire excellence across the sector.

### **ABOUT MUSEUMS & GALLERIES QUEENSLAND**

Museums & Galleries Queensland (M&G QLD) is the peak professional industry body for the public museum and gallery sector in Queensland.

Our purpose is to inspire and support excellence in Queensland museums, galleries and keeping places, fostering innovation, connection and cultural leadership.

### **SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR 2026 GAMAA SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS**

The 2026 GAMAA are proudly supported by the **Ipswich Art Gallery** and sponsored by **Public Galleries Queensland** and **Australian Museums and Galleries Association Queensland**.

The 2026 GAMAA trophies are generously supported by **Brian Tucker**.

#### **For media enquiries, please contact:**

Rebekah Butler, Executive Director

Museums & Galleries Queensland

Phone: 07 3059 9740

Freecall: 1800 866 101

Mobile: 0422 579 180

Email: [rebekah.butler@magsq.com.au](mailto:rebekah.butler@magsq.com.au)

Website: [www.magsq.com.au](http://www.magsq.com.au)

### **MEDIA RELEASE END**



Museum and Gallery Services Queensland Ltd  
trading as Museums & Galleries Queensland  
- ABN 32 109 874 811 is supported by the  
Queensland Government through Arts Queensland.