

10/09/2025

EXCELLENCE SHINES AT THE 2025 GALLERY AND MUSEUM ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

The Winners, Highly Commended and Finalists of the **2025 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards** (GAMAA) were proudly announced by Museums & Galleries Queensland (M&G QLD) on Tuesday 9 September, at a special awards presentation hosted by Museum of Brisbane. Special guest, **Hon John-Paul Langbroek MP, Minister for Education and the Arts**, congratulated this year's recipients and presented the winners with individually crafted trophies by artists Vanessa Cannon, Laurence Gibson, Gregory Salt, and Lorna Shuan, from the Yalanji Arts Collective, Kuku Yalanji Country, Mossman Gorge, Far North Queensland.

Museums & Galleries Queensland (M&G QLD) Executive Director, Rebekah Butler, said, "Now in its twenty-first year, the Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards were established by Museums & Galleries Queensland to celebrate the outstanding contributions of individuals and organisations across our State. As the peak professional body for Queensland's public museums and galleries, we are proud to honour the excellence and dedication that define our sector."

"This year, we undertook a comprehensive review of the award categories and introduced several new ones, which led to an unexpectedly high number of nominations. This response is a testament to the remarkable work being done by museums and galleries of all sizes throughout Queensland. It is a privilege to shine a spotlight on the achievements of so many deserving individuals and organisations."

Minister for the Arts, John-Paul Langbroek, said, "Queensland has more than 400 museums and galleries, all of which play an important role in sharing our stories, activating and connecting communities and attracting visitors to our regions."

"Congratulations to everyone who has taken part in this year's Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards, which celebrate individuals and organisations who support community and visitor engagement with arts and cultural experiences."

"The Crisafulli Government is proud to invest in Museums & Galleries Queensland through the Organisations Fund 2026-29, which supports delivery of our 10-year arts and culture strategy, *Queensland's Time to Shine* and its vision for a thriving creative sector supporting a statewide vibrant arts scene."

PROJECTS: ORGANISATIONS WITH 1-6 FTE PAID STAFF

Winner:

Qantas Founders Museum, for *Yayoi in the Outback – Presenting Yayoi Kusama at Qantas Founders Museum, Longreach*

Highly Commended:

North Stradbroke Island Museum on Minjerribah for *Ngali Dullan – We Remain*

Finalists:

Noosa Regional Gallery for *Imaginate featuring Pip & Pop: Sunshine Daydream*

Griffith University Art Museum for *Yuriyal Bridgeman: yubilong(mi)bilongyu*

The Condensery | Somerset Regional Art Gallery for *Volatile Terrain*

PROJECTS: ORGANISATIONS WITH 7+ FTE PAID STAFF

Winner:

Queensland Museum Kurilpa for *Say Our Name: Australian South Sea Islanders*

Highly Commended:

HOTA Gallery, Home of the Arts for *Writers Revealed: Cultural Leadership through Literary Excellence*

Finalists:

State Library of Queensland for *Neon*

Ipswich Art Gallery for *Arriving Slowly: Exploring the Abstract*

Bundaberg Regional Galleries for *Zapatos Rojos (Red Shoes)*

ENGAGEMENT: ORGANISATIONS WITH 1-6 FTE PAID STAFF

Winner:

Gympie Regional Gallery for *Guy Denning: Works on Paper*

Finalist:

Clermont Museum for *Clermont Museum Open Day*

ENGAGEMENT: ORGANISATIONS WITH 7+ FTE PAID STAFF

Winner:

Museum of Brisbane for *Micro Museum*

Highly Commended:

Living Museum of Logan for *Tattoo: Story Lines*

Finalists:

Bundaberg Regional Galleries for *The Closet*

SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES: OPEN

Winner:

Abbey Museum of Art & Archaeology, Caboolture, for *Abbey Museum Art Gallery & Café Extension Project*

Finalist:

The University of Queensland Art Museum, for *Sun Stadium: Public Artwork for UQ St Lucia*



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FIRST NATIONS: OPEN

Winner:

State Library of Queensland for *Deaf in dance: feeling the beat*

Highly Commended:

Gympie Regional Gallery for *Barambah Pottery: The Story Continues*

VOLUNTEER MUSEUM / GALLERY OF THE YEAR

Winner:

Queensland Air Museum, Caloundra

Highly Commended:

Commissariat Store Museum of The Royal Historical Society of Queensland
The Royal Theatre Winton Museum, Winton Movies Inc.

Finalists:

Vera Scarth-Johnson Gallery, Cooktown
Ipswich Hospital Museum

INDIVIDUALS: PAID

Winner:

Claire Griffiths – Frontline Coordinator (Museums), Isaac Regional Council

Highly Commended:

Leitha Assan – Exhibitions & Public Programmes Manager, Gab Titui Cultural Centre, Thursday Island

Effie Skoufa-Klesnik – Registration (Loans and Acquisitions), The University of Queensland Art Museum

INDIVIDUALS: VOLUNTEER

Winner:

Nick Stokes – Museum Volunteer, Queensland Transport Museum, Gatton

Highly Commended:

Nigel Cox – President & Curator, Gaythorne RSL Sub-Branch

The 2025 GAMAA are proudly supported by the **Museum of Brisbane** and sponsored by **Public Galleries Queensland** and **Australian Museums and Galleries Association Queensland**.

The 2025 GAMAA trophies are generously supported by **Brian Tucker**.

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