

9/10/2026

NOOSA REGIONAL GALLERY HIGHLY COMMENDED RECIPIENT 2026 GALLERY AND MUSEUM ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Museums & Galleries Queensland (M&G QLD) was delighted to announce **Noosa Regional Gallery** as a Highly Commended recipient in the **Projects: Organisations With 1-6 FTE Paid Staff** category, for its exhibition ***Gaza Skate Team*** 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**.

Noosa Regional Gallery was recognised as a Highly Commended recipient for its outstanding exhibition *Gaza Skate Team*, a project that transformed a chance social media connection into an internationally significant cultural outcome.

Developed in collaboration with Rajab Al Reefi and artists living amid the ongoing conflict in Gaza, the exhibition presented powerful photography and video works documenting resilience, identity and hope through the lens of skateboarding. Despite significant communication and logistical challenges, the project was delivered to the highest professional standards through ethical international partnerships and strong curatorial leadership.

Presented alongside exhibitions by Shaun Gladwell and Warwick Gow, *Gaza Skate Team* generated meaningful artistic dialogue and deep community engagement, demonstrating how a regional gallery can deliver ambitious, globally relevant exhibitions with integrity, impact and relevance.

Museums & Galleries Queensland Executive Director, Rebekah Butler, said "Noosa Regional Gallery has demonstrated the extraordinary role regional galleries can play in connecting local audiences with important global stories. *Gaza Skate Team* is a powerful example of curatorial leadership, ethical collaboration and artistic excellence, bringing voices from Gaza to Queensland audiences in a way that fostered understanding, empathy and meaningful cultural exchange. We congratulate the Gallery on this well-deserved recognition."

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 contributions.

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**.

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