

14/12/2021

BILLIE-JO OGILVIE

Finalist at State Awards

The Winners and Finalists of the **2021 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards** (GAMAA) were proudly announced by Museums & Galleries Queensland tonight, 14 December, at a special live-streamed presentation.

Billie-Jo Ogilvie, in her role as Artspace Mackay's Public Programs Officer, was recognised as a **Finalist** for her outstanding achievement in the category of Individuals: Paid.

Billie-Jo Ogilvie has served as Artspace Mackay's Public Programs Officer for over twelve years. This position is a pivotal role for the Gallery, taking responsibility for planning, development and implementation of an innovative public program that includes educational, promotional and audience development outcomes.

In 2020, during COVID-19 facility closures and imposed travel restrictions, Billie-Jo's swift, creative thinking led to the development of a number of quality, engaging online programs and activities. These included the introduction of 3D virtual tours of exhibitions and live Facebook streaming of Artspace Mackay's 2020 Libris Awards announcements.

'My Backyard and Beyond' was an all-ages art project calling on the Mackay community to create original works on paper and to post them via traditional postage or via a makeshift post box installed at the front entrance of the Gallery during closure. Over 100 of these artworks by children and adults were displayed in the Foyer Gallery upon re-opening.

'Welcome to my Studio' introduced filmed studio tours with local artists, promoted via the Gallery's website, Facebook and Instagram platforms. An online BMA Kidspace program provided employment for local art workshop tutors and a local musician to present filmed art activities and entertainment that toddlers and their carers could engage with at home.

Museums & Galleries Queensland (M&G QLD) Executive Director, Rebekah Butler said, "Billie-Jo is a worthy Finalist in this category. She consistently provides inspiration as a role model for others and encourages her Public Programs team to implement new ideas, directions and initiatives. Her decisive leadership kept Artspace Mackay connected with local communities and audiences during COVID-19 lockdowns, and reminded Council of the important role that the arts can play in keeping a community's spirit buoyant in difficult times."

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.

For the full list of GAMAA Winners and Finalists and to view the GAMAA presentation visit:
https://magsq.com.au/?page_id=5826.

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