

14/12/2022

BIANCA ACIMOVIC

Finalist at State Awards

The Winners and Finalists of the **2022 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards** (GAMAA) were proudly announced by Museums & Galleries Queensland on Monday 12 December, at a special awards presentation held at the Queensland State Archives, Runcorn, Brisbane, and live-streamed across the State.

Bianca Acimovic, in her former role of Gallery Director of Rockhampton Art Gallery | Rockhampton Museum of Art, was recognised as **Finalist** for her outstanding achievement in the category of Individuals: Paid.

Bianca was the Gallery Director of Rockhampton Art Gallery | Rockhampton Museum of Art from 2016–2021. In this role, she made the Gallery a place of thoughtful exchange and networking, inspiring creativity. Her energy, passion and understanding brought people together and allowed many to flourish and find their strengths. Local artists report that she was a mentor, providing invaluable support to those who came to the Gallery seeking guidance or direction.

Bianca created a Gallery space that was active and vibrant, introducing programs and events for the community to enjoy. She transformed the Gallery into a meeting place where the community was encouraged to visit, shop and socialise and to engage with the extraordinary artworks on display.

An excellent networker, Bianca brought together artists, industry leaders, arts organisers, community and gallerists to build their own networks and exchange of ideas.

With a keen sense of inclusion and social justice, Bianca led a solid and active relationship between First Nations communities, Indigenous State government departments and the Gallery; recognising the role and power of art in Reconciliation.

Bianca invested considerable time and energy into realising the new Rockhampton Museum of Art. Almost six times the size of the old Gallery, the new Rockhampton Museum of Art was officially opened to the public in February 2022.

Museums & Galleries Queensland (M&G QLD) Executive Director, Rebekah Butler said, "Bianca Acimivic is a worthy finalist in this category and is acknowledged for her role in the development of the recently opened Rockhampton Museum of Art and her strong contribution to Rockhampton's community and the wider arts sector. Her willingness to share knowledge and her ability to bring people together is commendable."

Ms Butler continued, "The 2022 Winners and Finalists were selected from a strong field of nominations received from organisations, large and small, across Queensland. It is an honour to be shining a spotlight on the outstanding work of so many worthy individuals and organisations."

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.

The 2022 Winners received an exquisite trophy by Queensland artist, **Donna Davis**, commissioned by M&G QLD. Inspired by science and the natural world, her work examines human and non-human relationships with respect to ecological health. The 2022 GAMAA are generously sponsored by Public Galleries Queensland and Australian Museums and Galleries Association Queensland.

For media enquiries please contact:

Rebekah Butler, Executive Director, M&G QLD
Museums & Galleries Queensland

Phone: **07 3059 9740** Freecall: **1800 866 101** Mobile: **0422 579 180**

Email: **rebekah.butler@magsq.com.au** Website: **www.magsq.com.au**

MEDIA RELEASE END