

13/12/2022

## **JOY WILSON**

### **Winner 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.

**Joy Wilson**, in her role as **Honorary Curator, Museum of Nursing History, Royal Brisbane Hospital Nurses Association Inc.**, was announced as **Winner** for her outstanding achievement in the category of Individuals: Volunteer.

Joy Wilson, was recognised for her ongoing and exceptional contribution and commitment over a number of years with the Museum.

Joy devoted her working career as a Nurse and Nurse Educator. Whilst working, she developed a love of the history of nursing and pursued a path of life-long learning, not only to further her career but also to increase her knowledge of nursing history and how to preserve it.

Since 2003, Joy has been actively involved with the Museum of Nursing History and has been directly responsible for or involved with many major milestones connected with the Museum. This includes the challenging relocation of a collection.

Joy has pursued every opportunity to learn skills in museum management in a concerted effort to improve the Museum of Nursing History's practical applications. She has taken advantage of an extraordinary number of workshops, seminars and conferences to further her skills and encourages colleagues from the Museum to also attend.

Joy's workload increased substantially early in 2022. Whilst on well-earned extended leave from her curatorial position, Joy was asked back as a matter of great urgency to deal with the disastrous consequences of the February 2022 floods. Many precious items from the Museum of Nursing History collection, housed in two containers, were badly water-damaged and Joy's leadership and expertise were called upon to coordinate the management of this disaster. Joy knew expert help was needed and quickly enlisted assistance from Museums & Galleries Queensland and members of the Australian Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Material who

jumped in with their considerable salvage expertise. These expert conservators are still providing practical hands-on support and Joy follows their advice and techniques assiduously. Joy is still dealing with the process of salvaging damaged items, and the challenge of storing salvaged items.

Joy also volunteers at the Army Museum South Queensland where she further contributes her time and skills.

**Museums & Galleries Queensland (M&G QLD) Executive Director, Rebekah Butler said,** "As the Winner in this category, Joy is recognised for her great commitment and contribution to the Museum of Nursing History. Passionate about the Museum and its collection, Joy is extremely proactive in developing relationships with any organisation or expert who can assist in her quest to improve the Museum's practice."

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.

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