

13/12/2022

LOGAN ART GALLERY, LOGAN CITY COUNCIL

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.

Logan Art Gallery, Logan City Council was announced as **Winner** for its outstanding achievement in the category of Engagement: Organisations with Paid Staff for its project ***My story: the unbroken spirit of the Kalkadoons (Kalkadunga)***.

The City of Logan is renowned for its culturally diverse and creative communities. The city is home to over 300,000 people from more than 217 different cultural groups.

My story: the unbroken spirit of the Kalkadoons (Kalkadunga) is the title of a truth-telling exhibition of work by First Nations artist Colleen Sam (Ngungurnnumma Kalkadon) and furniture designer Keith Weribone (Mandandanji), shown at Logan Art Gallery. This exhibition was a collaborative curatorial project between Colleen Sam and the Logan Art Gallery team and ran from 23 April to 5 June 2021.

For four generations, since the Frontier Wars in the Kalkadunga (Kalkadon/Mt Isa) region, the Sam family has passed down their stories of survival in secret. They include accounts of massacres, Kalkadon (Kalkadunga) resistance, and frontier battles.

In responding to the oral histories through art, film and design, the exhibition reflects on how Colleen's people have survived and built spiritual and cultural strength through these experiences. Nationally acclaimed First Nations filmmaking company, Doublewire Productions, produced a truth-telling film as part of the exhibition which, importantly, allowed Colleen's family's story to be recorded in a First Nations-led and culturally appropriate process.

Intergenerational trauma is an ongoing issue that impacts Indigenous health and wellbeing. One of the major aims of the project was to broaden understanding of these issues and to facilitate conversations around healing and reconciliation with communities. Working together with the Sam family, Logan Art Gallery hosted culturally sensitive engagement sessions with new health

and community sectors, including First Nations Elders aged care services from Logan and the wider Brisbane area.

The exhibition and complementary public programs were well received by the wider community of Logan. Over 1,700 people visited this exhibition over five weeks. The artist held a series of online talks and film screenings, and posted copies of the catalogue and supplementary information to regional and remote communities not able to physically view the exhibition. 90 people attended these online and alternative community outreach sessions across remote Kalkadunga communities situated in St George, Alice Springs and Mt Isa.

Museums & Galleries Queensland Executive Director, Rebekah Butler said, "Our congratulations go once again to Logan Art Gallery, Logan City Council for its commitment to celebrating the rich cultural diversity of its community and for supporting its local artists to develop their practice and to share poignant stories like those told through the *My story: the unbroken spirit of the Kalkadoons (Kalkadunga)* exhibition. This is Logan Art Gallery, Logan City Council's sixth consecutive GAMAA, which is testament to their excellent work."

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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