

15/10/2024

Jodi Ferrari

Highly Commended at State Awards

The Winners, Highly Commended and Finalists of the **2024 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards** (GAMAA) were proudly announced by Museums & Galleries Queensland (M&G QLD) on Tuesday 8 October, at a special awards presentation hosted by the Queensland Museum Cobb+Co, Toowoomba.

Jodi Ferrari, Curator Children's Gallery, HOTA, was honoured with a **Highly Commended** award in the **Individuals: Paid Staff** category at the prestigious **2024 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards** (GAMAA).

With more than 20 years of experience in the art gallery sector across Queensland and New South Wales, Jodi Ferrari is an accomplished arts professional dedicated to arts education and the development of new audiences for the visual arts.

Jodi's expertise in exhibition development, educational materials, and creating immersive experiences for children and families has been instrumental in shaping the creative direction of HOTA's Children's Gallery. This dedicated family space is designed to bring young people together, make them feel comfortable in a gallery environment, and spark a life-long love of art and creative thinking. Her unique approach, which involves collaborating with contemporary artists to create inclusive, interactive and playful spaces, has inspired audiences from diverse backgrounds.

In her role as the Curator Children's Gallery at HOTA, Jodi has curated significant exhibition projects and received notable recognition, including a TEDxUQ talk and an international travel grant. Her ongoing research and initiatives, such as the Young Gallery Guides program, continue to inform her curatorial work at HOTA, positioning the Children's Gallery as a leader in the sector. Furthermore, her efforts in building partnerships demonstrate her commitment to the sustainability and wider impact of her work at the Children's Gallery.

Jodi is passionate and advocates the importance of providing children and young people with meaningful arts experiences. The judges recognised Jodi as a dedicated individual worthy of celebration and commended her commitment and the high standards she achieves for children's engagement and programming.

Museums & Galleries Queensland (M&G QLD) Executive Director, Rebekah Butler said, "We congratulate Jodi Ferrari for her outstanding contributions to arts programming for children and young people. Her ability to implement new ways of thinking, forge new partnerships and

develop fun, safe and engaging spaces for families to meaningfully engage with art is commendable.”

Ms Butler continued, “The 2024 Winners, Highly Commended 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.”

Now in its twentieth year, the GAMAA were established by Museums & Galleries Queensland (M&G QLD) to honour the achievements of our State’s individuals and organisations in striving towards excellence.

The 2024 Winners received an exquisite trophy by emerging Queensland artist, **Monique Burkhead**. Monique is of Polynesian, Maori and Australian heritage and lives and works in Cairns. She is passionate about conserving the environment, and through her art, hopes to raise an awareness of the fragile nature of our natural environment and the impacts of climate change.

The 2024 GAMAA trophies are generously supported by Brian Tucker.

The 2024 GAMAA are proudly supported by the **Queensland Museum** and 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

