

2/11/2017

[EMBARGOED UNTIL 9PM THURSDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2017]

MUSEUM OF BRISBANE Recognised at State Awards

The strength, ingenuity and talents of Queensland's public galleries and museums were triumphantly demonstrated tonight with the announcement of the winners of the **2017 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards** (GAMAA) at a gala presentation event, proudly hosted by Old Government House, QUT.

Museum of Brisbane was **recognised as a Finalist** for outstanding achievement in the category of 'Engagement: Organisations With Paid Staff' for its nomination ***Indigenous Culture Learning Program***.

The Indigenous Culture Learning Program, launched last year at Museum of Brisbane in collaboration with Aboriginal leader Shannon Ruska, aims to increase awareness of Indigenous histories and heritage, ensuring future generations recognise both the value of Indigenous cultures and the importance of supporting them to thrive. This program focuses on the key concepts of Country/Place, Culture and People and allows students to experience Indigenous culture from a wide range of perspectives: through artworks and artefacts in the Museum's exhibitions; storytelling from Elders and activists in a short film on Country; and then first-hand in the dynamic dance, storytelling and conversational presentation from the Nunukul Yuggera Aboriginal Dance Troupe.

Museums & Galleries Queensland (M&G QLD) Executive Director, Rebekah Butler said, "A success of the Museum of Brisbane's Indigenous Culture Learning Program has been enabling students and program participants to engage directly with storytellers from the Nunukul, Yuggera, Yugimbir and Nugi tribes."

Learning about local Indigenous histories through exhibition content is important, but the unique experience of being able to ask questions directly to a person of Indigenous heritage creates a

meaningful and lasting connection and develops confidence in seeking on-going self-guided learning opportunities for both students, teachers and the general public. It instils in future generations a respect for and deeper understanding of the rich Aboriginal history of Brisbane.

Ms Butler said, "This year's winners and finalists stood out from an exceptional group of nominations. These accolades embody outstanding examples of our sector's achievements, professional excellence, and innovation. They also highlight the valuable contribution and achievements of professionals and volunteers working in our industry."

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.

Winners of the 2017 GAMAA received an exquisite trophy crafted by Queensland artist, Lincoln Austin. Commissioned by M&G QLD, the trophies are generously sponsored by our long-standing Awards supporter, Brian Tucker Accounting.

For media enquiries or images, please contact:

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