

2/11/2017

[EMBARGOED UNTIL 9PM THURSDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2017]

## OLD GOVERNMENT HOUSE, QUT 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.

**Old Government House**, QUT, Brisbane, was **recognised as a Finalist** for outstanding achievement in the category of 'Engagement: Organisations With Paid Staff' for its nomination ***To promote, excite and entice: the Miss Fisher public programs at Old Government House.***

In 2016, Old Government House partnered with the National Trust of Queensland to activate the internal spaces of the House in a new and entertaining way by presenting the *Miss Fisher Murder Mysteries Costume Exhibition*. Through this wondrous exhibition, the public was invited to enter the opulent 1920s world of the Honourable Miss Phryne Fisher and her crime fighting associates. Miss Fisher's character and charm were epitomised by the stunning costumes and props of the award-winning costume designer, Marion Boyce.

**Museums & Galleries Queensland** (M&G QLD) Executive Director, Rebekah Butler said, "Being recognised as a Finalist in this category is testament to Old Government House's ability to successfully trial new initiatives and to engage new audiences in creative and meaningful ways."

To complement the *Miss Fisher Murder Mysteries Costume Exhibition*, Old Government House introduced a range of engaging, themed public programs which held tremendous appeal for the broader community and Miss Fisher enthusiasts. These programs included sixteen special events: Miss Fisher's Lawn Party, a 1920s themed family event with swing dance classes, live jazz music, and pop-up beauty salon; an Evening with costume designer Marion Boyce; a 'Behind the Seams' tour of the exhibition; fashion and styling workshops including a Lindy Charm School for Girls;

speakeasy pop-up bars with the option to come dressed in 1920s costume; as well as specialist talks and panel discussions with Brisbane art deco and crime authors.

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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