

14/10/2019

REDLAND ART GALLERY

Finalist at State Awards

The Winners and Finalists of the **2019 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards** (GAMAA) were proudly announced on Thursday 19 September at a special presentation event, held at the recently opened Cairns Performing Arts Centre, Far North Queensland.

Redland Art Gallery was recognised as a **Finalist** for outstanding achievement in the category of Engagement: Organisations with Paid Staff for its exhibition, ***From Little Things: Artist books by Robyn Foster and St James Lutheran Community Kindergarten.***

This collaborative exhibition, between local Redlands artist Robyn Foster and children from St James Lutheran Community Kindergarten, explored how kindergarten children learn to become members of a wider community outside of their home.

Drawing inspiration from class photographs from Redlands' schools – schools which have helped to nurture and teach successive generations of Redlanders – local artist Robyn Foster developed a new exhibition which was presented at Redland Art Gallery in the form of hanging works and artist books. The works were mainly hand-drawn or cyanotype prints, some with hand stitching – mediums which were all available a century ago when these schools were being built by the Redland local community.

As part of the initial stages of the project, 114 children and over 21 staff and parents from the St James Lutheran Community Kindergarten took part in workshops at Redland Art Gallery, with most being first-time visitors to the Gallery. Since the project has wrapped up, the Gallery has

experienced increased visitation and return visits from the children and their families and opened the Gallery to a wider audience.

Museums & Galleries Queensland (M&G QLD) Executive Director, Rebekah Butler said, "Redland Art Gallery is congratulated for this exhibition project. Identifying and connecting the St James Lutheran Community Kindergarten's current curriculum with local artist Robyn Foster's work enabled the children to be a part of a special exhibition and workshop program, and to explore and share their thoughts on how they see their own place in the Redland community."

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.

Robert Ryan, the Senior Co-ordinator Community Programs for Mackay Regional Council and 2019 GAMAA judge, presented awards to this year's Winners and Finalists. The Winners received an exquisitely crafted trophy by Queensland artist, Lucy Quinn. Commissioned by M&G QLD, the trophies are generously sponsored by our long-standing Awards supporter, Brian Tucker Accounting.

The awards were hosted at Cairns Performing Arts Centre in front of representatives of Queensland's public museum and gallery sector, including delegates of M&G QLD's 2019 State Conference, *Opening Doors*, also presented in Cairns.

M&G QLD acknowledges the tremendous support of the 2019 GAMAA sponsors: Brandi Projects; Cairns Regional Council; Brian Tucker Accounting; Public Galleries Queensland; and Australian Museums and Galleries Association (Queensland).

For the full list of GAMAA Winners and Finalists see:

<http://www.magsq.com.au/cms/page.asp?ID=5036>

For media enquiries or images, please contact:

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Museum & Gallery Services Queensland Ltd trading as Museums & Galleries Queensland – ABN 32 109 874 811 is supported by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland, and is assisted by the Visual Arts and Craft Strategy, an initiative of the Australian, State and Territory Governments.