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SCENIC RIM REGIONAL COUNCIL Finalist at State Awards

The winners of the **2018 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards** (GAMAA) were proudly announced on Friday 7 December at a special presentation event, held at the picturesque **Bankfoot House Heritage Precinct**, Sunshine Coast.

Scenic Rim Regional Council was **recognised as a Finalist** for outstanding achievement in the category of Engagement: Organisations with Paid Staff for its ***Fires on Top of Mountains*** project.

Fires on Top of Mountains was a multi-artform community arts activation that celebrated and showcased the culture, unique identity and stories of the Scenic Rim leading up to and during the Commonwealth Games, held on the Gold Coast this year.

The project had a strong emphasis on connecting artists, extending their individual arts practices and developing new audiences through their participation in *Fires on Top of Mountains*. One of the most meaningful aspects of the program was the inclusion of Indigenous culture. Grounding the project in Indigenous stories provided an authentic experience for the community and provided a better understanding of local Indigenous culture and the importance of storytelling.

Museums & Galleries Queensland Executive Director, Rebekah Butler said, "Scenic Rim Regional Council is to be congratulated for *Fires on Top of Mountains*. This remarkable program delivered over 500 events, and connected with an audience of more than 25,000 people. The program's success can be attributed to Council's whole-of-community approach which actively engaged Indigenous people, young people and children, and older people from the region, and the contribution of the 539 dedicated volunteers."

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.

Sunshine Coast Councillor Rick Baberowski presented awards to the Winners and Finalists of the 2018 GAMAA. The Winners received a beautifully crafted trophy by Queensland artist, Bruce Reynolds. Commissioned by M&G QLD, the trophies are generously sponsored by our long-standing Awards supporter, Brian Tucker Accounting.

The awards were hosted at **Bankfoot House Heritage Precinct**, in front of representatives of Queensland's public museum and gallery sector including local and state government stakeholders.

Ms Butler used the GAMAA presentation to acknowledge the wonderful support of the 2018 GAMAA sponsors: the Sunshine Coast Council's Cultural Heritage Levy; Brian Tucker Accounting; Public Galleries Queensland; and Museums Galleries Australia (Queensland). She congratulated not just the winners and finalists, but all those who contribute to and support Queensland's public galleries and museums. She acknowledged the far-reaching impacts of our sector, including its important contribution to the culture and wellbeing of Queensland communities.

For media enquiries or images, please contact:

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