

2/11/2017

[EMBARGOED UNTIL 9PM THURSDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2017]

TONY MARTIN
CEO, Qantas Founders Museum
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.

Tony Martin, CEO of Qantas Founders Museum, was **recognised as a Finalist** for his **outstanding achievement** in the category of 'Individuals Paid.'

As CEO of Qantas Founders Museum, Longreach, Tony Martin has previously been recognised for his outstanding contribution to the Museum however, over the past three years, his increased commitment to and connection with the community and his greater leadership role in regional tourism deserves renewed acknowledgement. Tony has upgraded his own qualifications; has been a prime mover in bringing about significant positive cultural shifts at the Museum's Board level; and has stepped up team training and development with the Museum, providing scholarships to enable staff to improve their professional skills and qualifications. The team culture of mutual respect, fun at work, a pride in their story, and a desire to give visitors the best possible experience can be directly attributed to Tony.

Museums & Galleries Queensland (M&G QLD) Executive Director, Rebekah Butler said, "Being recognised as a Finalist in this category is great testament to Tony Martin's leadership and his remarkable commitment to the Qantas Founders Museum and the community it serves."

Qantas Founders Museum, under Tony's leadership, has always valued community connections and this has been taken to greater levels in the past couple of years. Tony was elected to Longreach Regional Council in March 2016 and is Chair of the Tourism Advisory Council and

Deputy-Chair of the Economic Development Committee. Tony participates in the annual Queensland Tourism Industry Council Mentorship program, maintaining contact with the people to whom he's provided guidance. He discusses career paths with students at Longreach Pastoral College and Longreach School of Distance Education, and the Museum has recently worked with Longreach High School students studying aeronautics through the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) program.

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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