

**The 2018 Victorian Museum Awards were presented on Wednesday 29 August at Melbourne Museum by Museums Australia (Victoria) – [www.mavic.asn.au](http://www.mavic.asn.au) – the peak body for 1,000+ museums and collecting organisations. The night was hosted by Jacinta Parsons, ABC Radio and featured a special address by Frank McGuire MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Medical Research and Member for Broadmeadows**

**Multicultural Museums Victoria** has received **The Museums Australia (Victoria) Award for Medium Museums (8-50 Paid Staff)** for their excellent 'Grandmothers' Project. The *Grandmothers* exhibition project was developed as the inaugural project for the newly formed Multicultural Museums Victoria (MMV). Over a period of eight months curators and staff from the five museums collaborated on programs and approaches to each of the *Grandmother* exhibitions that included shared events across music, storytelling and a cook-off, that celebrated cultural differences and shared values.

Multicultural Museums Victoria is a unique cross-cultural alliance between the Chinese Museum, Co.As.It Italian Historical Society & Museo Italiano, Hellenic Museum, Islamic Museum of Australia and the Jewish Museum of Australia. The alliance has increased the five museum's visibility and audiences and has demonstrated the capacity of the different ethno-specific museums to work together creatively to achieve shared goals. The MMV partnership demonstrates the role that contemporary museums play in progressing important dialogue around recognition and respect for cultural diversity.

#### JUDGES' COMMENTS

The Judges admired the complex collaboration between the five museums that comprise Multicultural Museums Victoria and the range of artforms that were incorporated in the *Grandmothers* exhibition across all five sites. *"This project is greater than the sum of its parts, in sharing their resources and their stories, Multicultural Museums Victoria have created something unique."*

#### QUOTE FROM MINISTER FOR CREATIVE INDUSTRIES, MARTIN FOLEY

Martin Foley, Minister for Creative Industries, congratulated the Award winners: *"From internationally renowned institutions to volunteer-run community organisations, Victoria is the proud home of one third of Australia's museums and galleries. But it's not just about numbers, it's about impact. Our museums play a key role in strengthening our communities - by showcasing different perspectives, they foster understanding and connection and open us up to new ideas."*

*"This year's winners and nominated projects showcase the diversity of our museum sector and the extraordinary work that is undertaken each year. Congratulations to all nominees and thank you for the vital contribution you make to our creative state."*

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Laura Miles, Executive Director of Museums Australia (Victoria), said: *"Congratulations to all the Award nominees this year for their amazing achievements to create vibrant, inventive and highly engaging museum and gallery experiences for all Victorians and visitors. Museums Australia is delighted to celebrate the work of the thousands of volunteers and staff who collectively maintain Victoria's position as the cultural capital of Australia."*

#### MUSEUMS RECEIVING ACCREDITATION IN 2018

Frank McGuire MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Medical Research and Member for Broadmeadows, also presented certificates to four museums that had completed the gold-standard Museum Accreditation Program this year: the Friends of Westgarthtown: Ziebell's Farmhouse, the National Wool Museum, the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria, and the Warrnambool Art Gallery.

FULL LIST OF 2018 VICTORIAN MUSEUM AWARDS WINNERS:

### **The Museums Australia (Victoria) Awards for Excellence**

Christine Grayden, Phillip Island Nature Parks for Lifetime Achievement (Paid)  
Linda Peacock, Robert O'Hara Burke Museum, for involving people and communities (Paid)  
Tanja Johnston, Australian National Veterans Arts Museum, for involving people and communities (Volunteer)

### **The Archival Survival Award for Volunteer-Run Museums (up to 1 EFT paid staff)**

Stanley Athenaeum, for their exhibition *Hearts of Gold – Minds of Mettle* exhibition

### **The Archival Survival Award for Small Museums (2-7 Paid Staff)**

Duldig Studio, for their Reaching Out to Our Communities – expanding public programs at Duldig Studio

### **The Museums Australia (Victoria) Award for Medium Museums (8-50 Paid Staff)**

Multicultural Museums Victoria for their collaborative 'Grandmothers' project

### **The Museums Australia (Victoria) Award for Large Museums (51+ Paid Staff)**

ACMI (Australian Centre for the Moving Image) for their *Wonderland* exhibition

### **Victorian Collections Awards (x 3) for Excellence in Museum Cataloguing**

Tatura Irrigation and Wartime Camps Museum  
Uniting Church Archives – Synod of Victoria  
Melbourne Legacy

Further information:

<http://www.mavic.asn.au/awards>

**Photographs of the Awards Ceremony, Award-winning projects, Accredited museums, and selected objects from Victorian Collections are available upon request.**

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Notes for editors:

Museums Australia (Victoria) was established as the peak body for museums in Victoria in 1994. Our 1,000+ museums include galleries, science centres, Indigenous keeping places, historical societies, historic houses, botanic gardens, zoos, aquaria, cultural centres, and archaeological monuments.

Two-thirds of these are volunteer-run. Community museums care for an estimated 8 million objects in Victoria. We support and advocate for the development of quality museums, collections care, knowledge and specialised skills, and support the creative industries with key initiatives including the Museum Accreditation Program and Victorian Collections, the online portal to our State's cultural treasures: [www.mavic.asn.au](http://www.mavic.asn.au) and [www.victoriancollections.net.au](http://www.victoriancollections.net.au)

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