



Geelong Gallery wins Bronze at 2023 Qantas Australian Tourism Awards



Deputy Director—Andrew Deane and Visitor Services & Volunteer Manager—Ally Deam at 2023 Australian Tourism Awards

Geelong Gallery was recognised on the national stage on Friday night, bringing home Bronze in the Cultural Tourism category.

Over 200 finalists gathered at the Darwin Convention Centre to celebrate excellence in the tourism industry. Geelong Gallery was among the 12 medals awarded to Victorian entrants, including three local award winners from Greater Geelong and The Bellarine; Searoad Ferries, The Woods - Ocean Grove and Accessible Accommodation.

Geelong Gallery congratulates Cultural Tourism Gold winner, Royal Australian Mint, Silver winner, Fun over 50 Holidays, as well as all the nominees in our category, Local Sauce Tours, SEIT Tours, The Cedars Hahndorf, Cascades Female Factory Historic Site and WA Museum Boola Bardip.

Geelong Gallery Director and CEO Jason Smith reflects on the recognition, 'The entire Board and Gallery team were thrilled with this acknowledgement, at the national level, of the Gallery's contribution to cultural tourism and visitor experiences for our state and for our nation. As one of the leading and oldest public galleries in Australia, Geelong Gallery takes very seriously its commitment to its community and its purpose to provide enriching, inclusive and accessible experiences of art and culture. I pay tribute to the Gallery team – this award recognises a great collective effort.'

Geelong Gallery Deputy Director Andrew Deane accepted the award on the night, saying 'This award represents Geelong Gallery's commitment to enriching experiences, access and inclusion, innovation, and the economic benefit of around \$18million annually the Gallery provides to Greater Geelong through

tourism. The Gallery is honoured by the national recognition of our diverse exhibitions, programs, and our talented team. It is an honour to be amongst the best in the Australian tourism sector and were thrilled to celebrate the success of our other winners from Greater Geelong, the Bellarine and Victoria.'

Geelong Gallery thanks the Australian Tourism Awards and Victoria Tourism Industry Council for continuing to champion the needs of the visitor economy to all levels of government and for their advocacy and management of these important awards.

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