

Award Guidelines

Projects of the Year

The Victorian Museums and Galleries Awards recognise and celebrate excellence across the sector. They seek to reward presenting and collecting organisations and the individuals who support and strengthen Victoria's creative and cultural industries through outstanding work and a commitment to best practice.

INTRODUCTION

The Project of the Year Awards recognise outstanding achievements in the museum and gallery sector. These awards celebrate innovative projects that have made a significant impact on the sector, such as the development of new exhibitions, the introduction of innovative technologies, or the creation of new museum or gallery spaces. They also acknowledge the hard work and dedication of museum and gallery professionals, as well as their commitment to creating engaging, innovative and informative experiences for members of their communities and the sector more broadly.

ELIGIBILITY

All presenting and collecting institutions located within Victoria are eligible to be nominated in the 2023 Project of the Year Awards. This includes all public museums and galleries, archives, zoos, botanical gardens, historical societies, libraries, Keeping Places, science centres, and any other organisations that acquire, conserve and exhibit arts and cultural material. Nominated projects must address 3 assessment criteria from the list provided and have commenced or completed within the past 12 months.

CATEGORIES

- Volunteer-run project (museums and galleries): Any budget
- Small project (museums): up to \$150,000
- Small project (galleries): up to \$150,000
- Medium project (museums): \$150,000 - \$500,000
- Medium project (galleries): \$150,000 - \$500,000
- Large project (museums and galleries): \$500,000+

NB: Nominators must provide a financial breakdown of production vs staffing allocations.

AREAS OF OPERATION

- A. Engagement (i.e., exhibitions, education and public programs)
- B. Collection management, research, conservation, preservation
- C. Management (i.e., innovative policies relating to staff, governance and environmental or organisational sustainability)

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

The following provides a comprehensive list of criteria against which a nominated project will be assessed and scored. Submissions must respond to 3 of the assessment criteria listed:

- 1. Innovation:** The project demonstrates innovation in its approach to the museum sector, such as by incorporating new technologies, creative programming, or unique exhibition.
- 2. Impact:** The project has made a positive impact for the organisation and its community, such as increasing visitor numbers, generating positive media coverage, or contributing to the preservation of valuable artefacts or works of art.

3. Sustainability: The project demonstrates a sustainable approach, such as through efficient use of resources, the development of long-term partnerships, or the creation of ongoing programming.

4. Collaboration: The project demonstrates successful collaboration with community partners, volunteers, or other organisations, such as via shared resources or programming.

5. Community engagement: The project demonstrates effective community engagement and inclusion, such as by involving community members in the development or implementation of the project, or by creating programming that responds to community needs or interests.

6. Education & interpretation: The project demonstrates excellence in education and interpretation, such as by creating exhibits or programming that are engaging, informative, and accessible to a range of audiences.

7. Relevance: The project demonstrates relevance to the museum's or gallery's mission and vision, as well as to the needs and interests of its community.

8. Creativity: The project demonstrates creativity in its design and execution, such as using innovative exhibit design, creative programming, or unique marketing strategies.

9. Conservation: The project demonstrates a commitment to preservation, such as through the conservation of artifacts or the use of sustainable materials and practices.

SUBMISSION CRITERIA

Submissions must include:

- Nominee details:**
Including name, position, and associated organisation
- Nominator details:**
Including name, position and contact details
- Assessment criteria:**
Outline individual achievements, addressing each assessment criteria (max 200 words each)
- Supporting documentation:**
Three (3) high-resolution images (minimum)

SUPPORT MATERIAL

The following is a list of both required and optional supporting material:

Images (required):

Attach three (3) high-resolution (300dpi) digital images as separate files, which may be used for promotional use. Please ensure that permissions have been sought prior to uploading images, and be sure to provide:

- Credit details (photographer and, where relevant, artist details)
- Brief caption
- Requirements for cultural sensitivity warning, if applicable

Other (optional):

Provide up to three (3) pages of material that supports the nomination. This can include press clippings, publications, letters of support, other industry awards, etc.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Projects nominated must have commenced or completed within 12 months prior to the closing date (3 July 2023).
- Organisations are permitted to self-nominate.
- Only one nomination per organisation, per category will be accepted. For large institutions who have multiple projects to consider, we recommend checking with other departments to avoid potential disqualification.
- In all matters relating to eligibility, the decision of the organisers is final.
- In all matters relating to assessment, the decision of the judges is final.

HOW TO SUBMIT

All nomination forms and support material must be submitted online by 5pm on 3 July 2023. You will receive an email confirming that your nomination and support material has been received. If you DO NOT receive this after you have submitted your application, please contact either AMaGA Victoria or PGAV via the details provided below.

QUESTIONS

We are here to help! For any general nomination or submission advice please contact:

AMaGA Victoria:

Michelle Fracaro, mfracaro@amagavic.org.au

PGAV:

Anne Robertson, anne.robertson@pgav.ngv.vic.gov.au