

Award Guidelines

Martin Hallett Award for Community Engagement



INTRODUCTION

Martin Hallett (1945-2019) was a former senior manager for the Victorian Cultural Network at Creative Victoria, deputy chief executive of Museums Victoria, curator emeritus, and lifelong champion of public collections, community engagement and empowerment.

The Martin Hallett Award for Community Engagement recognises individuals who, like Martin, have demonstrated a commitment to and championing of increased access to collections and exhibitions for all Victorians. This award shines a light on those who have worked to increase public accessibility to collections, finding innovative ways to employ collections as tools for education, inspiration, and social change.

ELIGIBILITY

All paid staff and volunteers who are serving within the Victorian museum and gallery sector are eligible to be nominated for the Martin Hallett Award for Community Engagement. These organisations include 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. Nominations must address all assessment criteria, and individuals must currently be a paid staff or volunteer member of a presenting or collecting organisation or have ended their work agreement between July 2024 and December 2025.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

The following are the criteria against which a nominated individual will be assessed and scored:

- 1. INNOVATION:** The individual has made significant contributions to increasing engagement with museums and galleries through their innovative ideas and approaches. This could include new ways of exhibiting, managing and developing collections, or incorporating new technologies or practices.
- 2. IMPACT:** The individual's work in the museum and gallery sector has made a lasting impact. The candidate will have demonstrated a commitment to the sector over the course of their career, and their contributions will have significantly advanced the sector.
- 3. LEADERSHIP:** The individual demonstrates exceptional leadership skills through their work, championing access to public collections, community engagement, and empowerment.

Be advised that nominations will also be assessed on **application quality**. Judges will consider accuracy and clarity of writing, relevance of support materials, as well as effectively demonstrated outcomes.

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

- Individuals must currently be a paid staff member of a presenting or collecting organisation, or have ended their employment between July 2024 and December 2025.
- Individuals are permitted to self-nominate.
- 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 via the online form by **5:00 PM on Friday 27 February 2026**. You will receive an email confirming that your nomination and support material have 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