

# IMAGinE

## awards 2022

### MEDIA RELEASE

#### **Fairfield City Museum & Gallery wins for *Spinoff: a safe place for dangerous ideas* at the 2022 IMAGinE awards**

Fairfield City Museum & Gallery won the award for *Spinoff: a safe place for dangerous ideas* in the Engagement programs category.

*Spinoff: a safe place for dangerous ideas* was a youth development program and event for young people and creatives living in the Fairfield LGA and Western Sydney to reignite social connections and mental wellbeing after the COVID-19 lockdowns. The event featured artist talks with exhibiting artists, drop-in workshops, and performances from emerging local talent. Fairfield City Museum & Gallery, Fairfield City Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) and PYT Fairfield partnered in the program.

The Engagement Award is assessed across the museum and gallery sector. It celebrates best practice in ongoing programs such as public programs, education resources, websites and social media, community engagement and participation. The Exhibitions Award recognises excellence and innovation in museum and heritage exhibition practice, such as permanent or temporary exhibitions, exhibition design, exhibition publications and resources, and exhibition partnerships.

The IMAGinE awards recognise the people who work in museums and galleries across NSW and the contributions they make. IMAGinE celebrates all institutions and pays homage to those organisations run by volunteers, with limited budgets and minimal resources. These awards offer a unique opportunity for museums and galleries in NSW to advocate, promote their achievements and raise their profile within the sector and the broader community.

Brett Adlington, CEO, Museums & Galleries of NSW said, *the IMAGinE awards highlight the depth of commitment museums, artist run spaces, regional galleries, historical societies, Aboriginal Cultural Centres and large cultural institutions have in supporting the cultural needs of their respective communities.*

*In 2022 we witnessed a growing number of organisations that are working closely with their communities and audiences to ensure the relevancy of their programs at the local level.*

*The IMAGinE Awards are a timely reminder of the crucial role our sector plays in supporting the wellbeing and liveability of our communities. Our museums, galleries and Aboriginal cultural centres foster dialogue and connections, provide space for learning and engagement, seek to honour our First Nations culture and offer space for quiet contemplation.*

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*The ongoing environmental challenges being faced across the country also highlight the urgent need to consider the protection of our shared cultural heritage. Again, projects we have seen this year illustrate the seriousness with which many organisations take this responsibility.*

*While I would like to congratulate the winners of the 2022 IMAGinE Awards, I would also like to acknowledge the incredible work of the entire sector, and in particular, that of the volunteer-led sector.*

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The IMAGinE awards are an initiative of Museums & Galleries of NSW, developed with support from Australian Museums and Galleries Association NSW and Regional and Public Galleries of NSW.

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