



2023 Annual Report

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The Board of PGQ in 2023

Co-Presidents

Claire Sourgnès, Director, Ipswich Art Gallery

Anna Thurgood

Engagement Officer, State Library Queensland / Individual Member

Vice-President

Ashleigh Campbell, Artistic Director/CEO, NorthSite Contemporary Arts

Secretary/Treasurer

Brian Tucker

Chartered Public Accountant / Individual Member

Board Members

Tracey Cooper-Lavery, HOTA (1 January 2023 – 21 June 2023)

Rachel Arndt, Individual Member

Tracy Heathwood, Director, Artspace Mackay.

PGQ Staff in 2023

Membership Officer

Karika Ashworth (1 January 2023 – 12 June 2023)

Michele Pickering (17 August 2023 – 31 December 2023)

Three meetings of the PGQ Board of Directors were held in 2023.

Name of Director	No. of meetings eligible to attend	No. of meetings attended
Claire Sourgnès	3	3
Anna Thurgood	3	3
Ashleigh Campbell	3	2
Tracey Cooper-Lavery	2	2
Brian Tucker	3	2
Rachel Arndt	3	2
Tracey Heathwood	3	3

Co-Presidents' Report



**Claire Sourgues and Anna Thurgood
Co-Presidents**



Public Galleries Queensland finished 2023 on a high, hosting the eighth iteration of our successful Directors Forum. 2023 was an informal year for the Forum which was generously hosted by our colleagues and fellow PGQ organisational member Museum of Brisbane in early December. The fact that 17 senior gallery staff from all over Queensland attended to network, to hear from MoB's new director Zoe Graham and attend a guided tour of the latest exhibitions, is testament to the fact that PGQ's Directors Forums are relevant and highly valued.

PGQ's Directors' Forums, which alternate annually between an informal networking opportunity and a more structured presentation or panel discussion approach, have been well received since we started delivering this program in 2015. 2024 will be a 'structured' year, and as always PGQ is keen to discuss what is important to our members, so if you have any ideas, please don't hesitate to submit them to us.

In September we welcomed our new Membership Officer, Michele Pickering, who took over from our previous employee, Karike Ashworth. Karike spent many years with PGQ and we were very sad to see her go and wish her all success in her future endeavours. Michele, who works for PGQ one day per week (Thursdays), has excellent experience working with non-profit organisations such as ours having previously worked with the Brisbane Living Heritage Network.

Working backwards through the year, PGQ again partnered with our sister organisation Australian Museums & Galleries Association (Qld branch) as well as Museums & Galleries Queensland to deliver an important day-long seminar focused on Workforce Wellbeing. This particular workshop was strategically selected to assist our member galleries and museum colleagues who have undoubtedly been through so much in the past few years. We felt it was time to focus on our own wellbeing, as well as that of our community! The workshop was well-attended and feedback received was very positive.

July saw the five-yearly (quinquennial!) National Public Galleries Summit return, this time in Adelaide. To ensure representation from Queensland and to assist in providing access to this outstanding professional development opportunity, PGQ decided to open up the Directors Circle Bursary to assist staff from member organisations to attend the Summit. Recipients, Billie-Jo Ogilvie from Mackay and Ashleigh Whatling from Hervey Bay, both highly rated their experiences at the Summit.

Bursaries continue to be PGQ's major focus. As well as the Directors Circle Bursary, which is fully funded by donations from PGQ Board members, we continue to offer our twice-yearly bursary rounds of up to \$1,000 to assist member organisations provide professional development opportunities to their staff and communities. We encourage any of our members to apply – for more information, visit our [website](#).

We all value information and PGQ is committed to keeping our members informed of sector and PGQ-related news through our e-newsletters, PGQuarterly and PGQuickies. If you do not receive a copy of these e-newsletters, please contact our [Membership Officer](#) to ensure you stay up-to-date. And if you have any suggestions for content, we'd love to hear about them!

As ever, it's been a very busy year for PGQ. We would like to thank our fellow Board members who all donate their time to ensure PGQ remains sustainable and relevant to our members. Each are committed to advocating for our sector and championing the work done by public galleries all over Queensland. Our most sincere thanks however go to you, our members. Without you, there would be no Public Galleries Queensland. We are in awe every day at the incredible work you do, and the huge contributions you make to your communities. As you know, every dollar from your membership fees stays with Public Galleries Queensland. We are extremely careful with our budget to ensure most of it is spent on our bursary programs as well as heavily subsidised workshops and seminars.

Finally, after two years in the job together and four years spent as President separately, we'd like to let you know that we have both decided not to renominate for the position of co-Presidents following our upcoming Annual General Meeting. Should we be fortunate enough to remain on the Board of PGQ, we will be handing the reins over to someone else to lead PGQ into its next chapter. We wish our successor/s all the best and look forward to seeing where Public Galleries Queensland goes in the next few years.

PGQ Co-Presidents

Claire Sourgnès and Anna Thurgood



Public Galleries Qld

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VISION STATEMENT

To support excellence in the Queensland public gallery sector.

MISSION

Our Mission is:

1. to advocate for and champion Queensland's public galleries as vital cultural assets to the communities they serve;
2. to strengthen and unify Queensland's public galleries through building network capacity and industry support;
3. to promote excellence in Queensland's public gallery practice; encouraging growth in industry and professional development opportunities for gallery staff, volunteers, management bodies, and independent artists/curators;
4. to ensure professional administrative services are delivered to members and clients through best practice in human resource management, financial administration and accountability.

Professional Development Bursary Program

In 2023, Public Galleries Queensland (PGQ) awarded \$2,500 in Professional Development Bursaries, using funds held in reserve for this purpose. PGQ offers these bursaries across three categories to address the training and professional development needs of member galleries/museums, their staff and volunteers, as well as individual arts workers with current PGQ membership:

Individual bursaries for volunteers and paid staff to attend seminars, conferences or courses.

Individual bursaries for independent artists and/or curators to assist delivering lectures, workshops, or similar in partnership with a public gallery.

Organisational Grants to assist public galleries to undertake various organisational initiatives.

The following bursaries were awarded for initiatives that took place in 2023/24.

Recipient	Organisation	Initiative	Awarded
Elena Dias-Jayasinha	Museum of Brisbane	Assistance to attend Thailand Biennale, Taipei Biennial, Yokohama Triennale and Biennale of Sydney.	\$1,000
Tambo Arts Council	Grasslands Art Gallery	Assistance towards costs of exhibition, <i>New York Rambling</i> and a community workshop to create a legacy artwork.	\$1,000
Kate Douglas (Independent artist)	Logan Art Gallery	Delivery of artist talk and two workshops.	\$500

TOTAL

\$2,500

PGQ 2023 Professional Development Bursary Reports

Elena Dias-Jayasinha – Individual staff, Museum of Brisbane

My grant activities involved attending the Thailand Biennale, Taipei Biennial, Yokohama Triennale and Biennale of Sydney. My participation was enhanced through public programs and studio visits. I also travelled to other areas of the countries in which these exhibitions took place to further extend my understanding of artistic practice in the Asia Pacific region. The insights I gained are invaluable and sure to benefit Museum of Brisbane (MoB), the gallery sector and the wider community.

Attending the biennales enabled me to build international and national networks beneficial to the Museum. In anticipation of my trip, I leveraged my existing contacts and reached out to artists and curators throughout the region. In total, I made more than 30 new connections. These networks are poised to cultivate future collaborations – a crucial endeavour for MoB as it continues to explore Brisbane's place in local, national and international contexts. The relationships I have built also have the potential to feed into future projects I lead, both at MoB and in my external curatorial pursuits, that engage with the Asian diaspora in Brisbane. Projects like these can have a far-reaching impact that extends beyond the museum walls, resonating with the wider community.

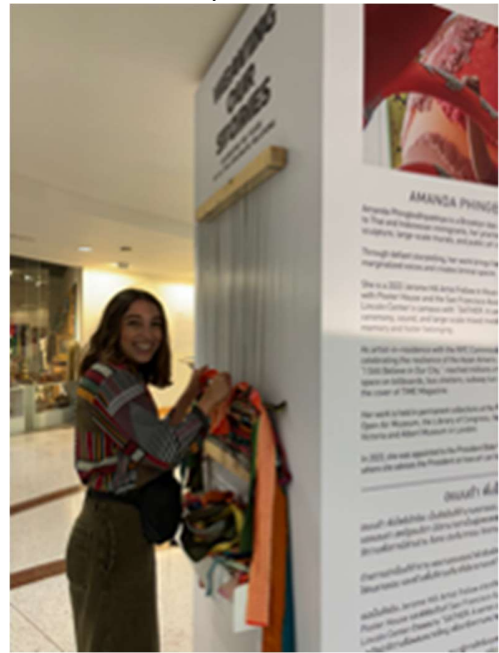


Figure 1 Bangkok

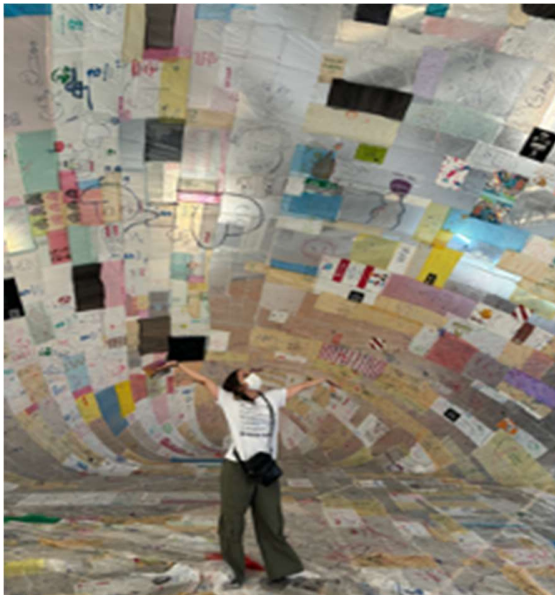


Figure 2 Chiang Rai

Travelling to the biennales bolstered my knowledge of contemporary Asian and Asian-Australian art. As a curator, I value being physically present in the communities I aim to engage to ensure the exhibition frameworks I develop are culturally sensitive and well-informed. This trip facilitated my immersion in various communities and exposed me to new artistic perspectives. I had the chance to investigate contemporary Asian art within the geographical context of its creation and situate the practices of Asian and Asian-Australian artists in regional and global dialogues. Additionally, I was able to study different models of cross-cultural curatorship. Through these experiences, I have been able to strengthen MoB's in-house expertise, and gained confidence in sensitively leading programs that amplify the voices of Asian diasporic communities in Australia, particularly Brisbane.

Now back in Brisbane, I have initiated the process of disseminating my learnings to the wider gallery sector through articles and reviews. By doing so, I aim to ensure that the insights from my project reach a broader audience, fostering a culture of informed discourse and innovation within Queensland's arts sector. An article for Lemonade: Letters to Arts is forthcoming, and I am actively reaching out to other contacts to explore additional publication opportunities.

My grant activities have been immensely valuable for my professional growth, enhancing my contribution as an active participant within MoB, the Queensland arts sector and the broader community. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Public Galleries Queensland for their support.

Kate Douglas – Independent Artist in collaboration with Logan Art Gallery

In November 2023 I received a \$500 bursary from Public Galleries Queensland to deliver an artist talk and two workshops at Logan Art Gallery. The public programming was to support my solo exhibition *Remnants of the Past* which showed from the 1st December 2023 – 20th January 2024.



Figure 4 Workshop at Mayes Cottage



Figure 3 Workshop at Logan Art Gallery

Logan Art Gallery benefitted from the funding through increased attendance - both at the actual exhibition and at the workshops. Each workshop was booked to capacity with a large waiting list and was fully attended. Having the artist (myself) run the workshops allowed gallery staff to work on other matters. Logan Art Gallery also enjoyed additional exposure and exhibition promotion as there was much cross- promotion occurring.

The PGQ bursary helped the community in a number of ways. It gave the public the chance to learn unique skills and engage with a professional artist in a relaxed, casual setting. It gave them an opportunity to ask questions and receive feedback on their works. Apart from the actual workshop content I also had many queries about running an art business in general.

Professional Development Opportunities & Other Initiatives

Directors Circle Bursary Initiative 2023

In 2023 PGQ Board of Directors were committed to providing professional development opportunities for galleries and their staff. It was decided this year to offer bursaries to assist in the attendance of PGQ members to travel to the National Public Galleries Summit, *Creative Spaces*, in Adelaide.

The conference is one of very few that focus specifically on public galleries and it provided a rare opportunity to engage in critical dialogue related to our sector. The conference ran from 18 to 20 July 2023.

Recipients of Directors Circle Bursaries 2023:

Billie Jo Ogilvie, Artspace Mackay (\$1,000)

Ashleigh Whatling, Hervey Bay Regional Gallery (\$1,000).

2023 PGQ Directors Forum: 1 December 2023

2023 called for an informal Directors Forum, as we rotate between 'structured' and 'informal' each year. The Board invited Directors to a round table discussion at the Museum of Brisbane (MoB), thanks to the kind hospitality of MoB CEO Zoe Graham and her colleagues. The forum was well attended and was followed by a guided tour of MoB's latest exhibition, *Rearranged: art of the flower*, then further networking opportunities followed over afternoon tea.



Figure 5, entrance to MoB exhibition, "Rearranged: art of the flower"



Figure 6 (l-r) Tracey Heathwood, Emma Bain, Kate Tuart



Figure 7 Gallery directors at the PGQ Directors Forum, MoB, Dec 2023



Figure 8 (l-r) Terry Deen, Niomi Sands, Georgia Walsh, Michael Wardell

e-Newsletters

PGQ's Board of Directors continued their e-newsletters. Published every three months and distributed to all PGQ members, PGQuarterly, contains a message from the President or Co-Presidents, updates on relevant news and happenings, links to useful resources and stories from our members. We encourage all members to contribute their stories to share with colleagues and peers across Queensland.

PGQuickies are 'newsflash' emails containing specific pieces of news or updates on events or happenings within the sector, relevant to our members.

2023 Membership

Amalgamated Memberships

Bundaberg Regional Council

- Bundaberg Regional Art Gallery
- Childers Art Space

Central Highlands Regional Council

- Bauhinia Bicentennial Art Gallery at Springsure
- Emerald Art Gallery

Cloncurry Shire Council

- Cloncurry Unearthed Tourist Information Centre & Museum
- David Harvey Sutton Art Gallery
- John Flynn Place Museum & Art Gallery

Fraser Coast Regional Council

- Gatakers Artspace
- Hervey Bay Regional Gallery

Maranoa Regional Council

- Injune Creek Gallery
- Mitchell on Maranoa Gallery
- Roma on Bungil Gallery
- Surat on Balonne Gallery

Moreton Bay Regional Council

- Caboolture Regional Art Gallery
- Pine Rivers Art Gallery
- Redcliffe Art Gallery

Scenic Rim Regional Council

- Boonah Regional Art gallery
- The Centre Beaudesert

Tablelands Regional Council

- Foyer Gallery
- Old Atherton Post Office Gallery
- Tableland Regional Gallery

Toowoomba Regional Council

- Crows Nest Regional Art Gallery
- Toowoomba Regional Art Gallery

Townsville City Council

- Perc Tucker Regional Gallery
- Pinnacles Gallery

Western Downs Regional Council

- Dogwood Crossing, Miles
- Gallery107@Dalby
- Lapunyah Art Gallery

Single Organisational Memberships

Art from the Margins
Artisan
Artspace Mackay
Australian Catholic University Gallery
Banana Shire Regional Art Gallery
Benevolent Living
Bribie Island Community Arts Centre
Cairns Art Gallery
Caloundra Regional Gallery
Coalface Art Gallery
Flying Arts Alliance
Gladstone Regional Art Gallery & Museum
Gympie Regional Gallery
Home of the Arts (HOTA)
Ipswich Art Gallery
Kingaroy Regional Art Gallery
Lockyer Valley Art Gallery
Logan Art Gallery
Munduberra Regional Art Gallery
Museum of Brisbane
National Trust of Australia

Noosa Regional Gallery
Northside Contemporary Arts
Outback Regional Gallery
Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art
Queensland Museum
Quilpie Visitor Information Centre, Museum & Gallery
Redland Art Gallery
Rockhampton Museum of Art
Somerset Regional Art Gallery (The Condensery)
Stanthorpe Regional Art Gallery
State Library of Queensland
Tambo Arts Council Inc (Grassland Art Gallery)
Tanks Arts Centre
Texas Regional Art Gallery
Tweed River Art Gallery
TYTO Regional Art Gallery
Umbrella Studio Contemporary Arts
UMI Arts
Warwick Art Gallery
Wondai Regional Art Gallery
World Theatre Gallery

Individual Memberships

PGQ thanks all Individual Members who are not listed for privacy reasons.

Museum & Gallery Services Queensland Ltd.

MAGSQ (trading as “Museums & Galleries Queensland” or “M&G QLD”) is a company formed by Foundation Members Regional Galleries Association of Queensland (trading as Public Galleries Queensland or PGQ) and Australian Museums and Galleries Association Queensland (AMaGAQ). 2023 was M&G QLD nineteenth year of operations.

M&G QLD is managed under the direction of a Board of Directors, which includes two Gallery Sector Directors (appointed by the board of PGQ) and two Museum Sector Directors (appointed by the committee of AMaGAQ), as well as up to three Independent Directors.

To view M&G QLD’s extensive activities across the museums and galleries sectors over the past year, visit their website: <https://magsq.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/MG-QLD-2023-Annual-Report.pdf>

M&G QLD Board of Directors

In 2023, the M&G QLD Board comprised:

- **Emma Bain**, Sector Director (AMaGAQ), Public Officer
- **Karina Devine**, Sector Director, Chairperson
- **Celestine Doyle**, Independent Director
- **Andrew Moritz**, Sector Director, Deputy Chairperson
- **Anna Thurgood**, Sector Director (PGQ)

Acknowledgements

PGQ’s 2023 operations have been made possible through the generosity and support of many individuals and organisations, including:

MUSEUMS & GALLERIES QUEENSLAND

AUSTRALIAN MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES ASSOCIATION (Queensland branch)

AUDITING SERVICES

Peter Ryan CA

FINANCIAL ADVICE

Brian Tucker CPA

ALL PGQ MEMBERS

PGQ thanks everyone who supported and contributed to the delivery of our operations in 2023, especially our valued members.

PGQ is an independent organisation. We pay no fees to a parent body and all board directors volunteer their time. Keeping our operating costs to an absolute minimum ensures we are able to return fees to members through our programs and advocacy work.

Our sincere apologies if anyone has been inadvertently omitted.