



2026 QUEENSLAND MEMORY AWARDS



Guidelines and selection criteria: Awards

Working dog ready for moving to the next camp at Ilfracombe. Darren Clark Droving Photographs 2013, State Library of Queensland, Image no: 29221-0001-0018. | Rahma Osman, an Eritrean refugee, at the Mu'ooz Eritrean Restaurant & Catering in West End, Brisbane, 2016. 30568 Tradition Now Eritrean community photographs, State Library of Queensland, Image no: 30568-0002-0013. | Isis Masonic Lodge, Childers, 2014. 32529 Queensland Nocturne photographs, State Library of Queensland, Image number: 32529-0005-0002.

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QUEENSLAND MEMORY AWARDS

The [Queensland Memory Awards](#) support the documentation, preservation and sharing of Queensland's memory—past and present—through fellowships and awards.

Fellowships support researchers and creatives of all kinds to interpret the significant collections of the [John Oxley Library](#). Through deep engagement and interaction with the collections, these interpretations provide new insights into the collection and contribute new knowledge about Queensland's history.

The **John Oxley Library Awards** recognise individuals and organisations for outstanding contributions to documenting, preserving, and enhancing our understanding of Queensland's cultural heritage. Nominations are accepted year-round.

The Queensland Memory Awards are supported by sponsors and philanthropic donations through the Queensland Library Foundation.

KEY DATES

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 11.59pm, 1 August 2025 | Nominations CLOSE |
| August 2025 | Shortlisting and selection by judging panel |
| Mid-September 2025 | Award winners notified |
| 6 November 2025 | Award winners announced at awards ceremony |
| All year round | Nominations can be made for both awards via SmartyGrants |

JOHN OXLEY LIBRARY AWARD

One (1) award, recognition only.

Awarded annually to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the appreciation of Queensland history. This annual award promotes the value of historical knowledge and its role in shaping Queenslanders' understanding of themselves and each other.

Additional information for this category:

- May recognise a specific activity, or contributions over time
- Awarded to an individual only

Selection criteria

| | |
|---|------------|
| Significance high quality, original and creative output(s) in the field of Queensland history | 35% |
| Impact advanced public understanding and appreciation of Queensland history, including fostering new perspectives | 35% |
| Professionalism and leadership role model for others and encouraged best practice | 30% |

JOHN OXLEY LIBRARY COMMUNITY HISTORY AWARD

One (1) award of \$5,000.

Awarded annually for outstanding contributions by community organisations or groups to the preservation, recording and sharing of Queensland history. This award celebrates the people behind projects that help Queenslanders connect with their stories, past and present.

Additional information for this category:

- The nominated activity may have occurred at any time
- Awarded to an organisation or group, not individuals within them

Selection criteria

| | |
|--|------------|
| Significance significant and relevant output(s) in the field of Queensland history | 35% |
| Impact increased community access to and awareness of Queensland history Increased capacity and/or capability of the sector and community | 35% |
| Collaboration collaborative approach to project and demonstrated sharing of knowledge | 30% |

ELIGIBILITY

JOHN OXLEY LIBRARY AWARD

- Open to **individuals** only
- Interstate residents eligible
- Self-nominations are not accepted
- Nominees may be retired or not currently employed.
- Posthumous nominations are accepted
- The achievement may be a specific activity or reflect a body of work
- University and ARC research teams are ineligible
- Current State Library staff and Board members are ineligible

JOHN OXLEY LIBRARY COMMUNITY HISTORY AWARD

- Awarded to **organisations or groups** (not individuals within them)
- Open to Australian-based community organisations or groups
- No individual nominations
- ARC/university research teams ineligible
- Current State Library staff/Board ineligible

WHO CAN SUBMIT A NOMINATION?

- Nominations are welcome **year-round** via the SmartyGrants form.
- For the 2026 awards, nominations close at **11.59pm, 1 August 2025**.
- Use the correct category:
 - The [John Oxley Library Award](#) is for nominating **individuals**
 - The [John Oxley Community History Award](#) is for nominating **community groups and organisations**.

HOW ARE WINNERS AWARDED?

- An independent judging panel made up of professionals with expertise in the GLAM (Galleries, Libraries, Archives, Museums) sector assess all nominations.
- Judges assess each nomination against the selection criteria outlined above.
- Judges decide on a shortlist and a successful nominee for each category.
- Judges select the nominee who best meets the selection criteria as the successful applicant. Only one recipient is awarded per category each year.
- The judges may, at their discretion, consult with other experts to assist in evaluating the merits of each nomination.
- The outcomes of the judging process are final, and no discussion or correspondence will be entered into regarding decisions or the judging process.
- Judges may choose not to award a category if no nominations meet the required standard. They may also select a highly commended nominee from a previous year, retained on a longlist.
- The names of the judges will be [published](#) at the conclusion of the judging process.

INFORMATION AND ENQUIRIES

If you have any questions, please contact State Library of Queensland.

Email: fellowships@slq.qld.gov.au

Phone: (07) 3840 7887 or (07) 3840 7879

Web: www.slq.qld.gov.au/qma

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- State Library of Queensland reserves the right to change the conditions, cancel, or vary the awards processes at any time, whether before, on, or after the closing date.
- In all matters relating to the conditions of nominations and judging process, the decisions of the judges and State Library of Queensland are final, and no correspondence will be entered into.
- No person will be entitled to claim compensation for loss from State Library of Queensland for any matter in connection with the Queensland Memory Awards, including, but not limited to, a failure by State Library of Queensland to comply with the conditions of application.

PRIVACY NOTICE

State Library of Queensland is subject to privacy legislation which applies to the Queensland public sector — the Information Privacy Act 2009. The Information Privacy Act contains a number of privacy principles that set out how agencies must handle personal information.

Further information on the Queensland Government's information privacy scheme can be accessed through the Office of the Information Commissioner.