

IMAGinE awards 2020

2020 IMAGinE Awards Guidelines

Nominations close: 5pm, 31 August 2020

Purpose

Established in 2008, the IMAGinE awards celebrate and recognise the projects and programs created and presented by NSW museums and galleries and the people that make it happen and bring it all to life. Across all categories we are on the lookout for leadership, innovation, diversity and creativity.

2020 has been a challenging year for the sector. In response, Museums & Galleries of NSW has redesigned this year's IMAGinE awards to celebrate the resilience, innovation and creativity of galleries and museums in the face of hardship.

In recognition of the financial demands currently facing organisations and to encourage maximum engagement with the sector all nomination fees have been waived for the year.

In place of the regular categories there will be a Resilience and Innovation Programs award with three sub categories based on organisational size for each museum/heritage and gallery/visual arts.

In addition, there will be an Imagination award with a \$3,000 cash award to realise a new project, exhibition or a way to make your cultural environment more vibrant. We are seeking proposals for projects that demonstrate creative and innovate approaches to exhibitions and engagement projects.

Winners will be promoted online and via social media.

Categories

The 2020 IMAGinE award categories are the Resilience & Innovation award and the Imagination award.

The Resilience & Innovation award

This category makes a distinction between museum and gallery practice by granting awards separately to Museums/Heritage and Galleries/Visual Arts. It recognises the outstanding efforts of museums and galleries during hardship and celebrate excellence and innovation in exhibition practice, resilience building projects and engagement programs.

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. Museums & Galleries of NSW is supported by the NSW Government through Create NSW.

The category is assessed across the museum and gallery sector and divided into the following groups:

- (A) Volunteer organisations with 2 or less paid staff*
- (B) Small / Medium organisations with 3 – 10 paid staff*
- (C) Large organisations with 11 or more staff*

* Full time paid professional staff or equivalent in the entire organisation.

Nominations can be made to:

Innovation & Resilience Projects – Museums / Heritage (A, B, C) or
Innovation & Resilience Projects – Galleries/ Visual Arts (A, B, C)

The Imagination award

This year we are also seeking proposals for projects demonstrating creative and innovative approaches to exhibitions and engagement projects to receive a \$3,000 cash grant prize.

We are searching for innovative concepts which use your museum or gallery in a new way, appear in unexpected spaces, or in landmark sites reimagined, ideas which will involve and inspire the local community, utilise technology to counteract physical isolation or connect with new audiences.

Nominations can be made to:

Imagination award - Museums / Heritage
Imagination award - Galleries/ Visual Arts

Who can enter?

You can enter the IMAGinE awards if you are a NSW public museum or gallery, Aboriginal keeping place or cultural centre, not-for-profit organisation such as an artist-run gallery or a volunteer run museum or gallery.

Organisations that present exhibitions or have collections that are additional to their primary function are not eligible to enter the awards, such as tourist centres. Commercial organisations are also ineligible (such as consultancy or design groups).

In the case where a private or commercial organisation or an individual artist or consultant is working with a partner organisation or business, the nominee should be the museum, gallery, Aboriginal keeping place or cultural centre.

Who can nominate?

If you are an organisation, an association, a not-for-profit or an individual you can nominate. You can self-nominate or nominate another organisation

How to submit your nomination

All nomination forms and support material must be submitted online by the closing date via the M&G NSW IMAGinE awards webpage: <https://mgsw.org.au/sector/support/imagine/>

To save your files for submission:

- Save the file with your organisation's name and category you are entering.
Please use an underscore (_) to separate words e.g. OurMuseumGallery_Bright Idea Award.doc

If you have any questions about eligibility, categories or nomination requirements, or if you experience difficulties uploading your nomination or do not have reliable access to the internet, please contact 02 9339 9914 or imagine@mgsw.org.au

Nominee benefits

All nominated organisations or individuals will receive the following benefits:

- Nomination listed on the M&G NSW website
- Promotional inclusion on website and social media
- Opportunities for inclusion in online events, talks and media

Nomination fees

In recognition of the extraordinary circumstances and the challenges that have faced museums and galleries during the past 12 months there will be no fee to nominate for the IMAGinE awards in 2020.

Support material

1. For the Innovation & Resilience award category please submit the following support material with your nomination:

THREE pages (maximum) of supporting documentation (e.g. web page, image, promotional material), where each image (or PowerPoint page) constitutes one page.

- The preferred formats for images are PowerPoint or jpeg
- If more than three pages/images of support material is submitted, only the first three pages/images will be forwarded to the assessors

PLUS

TWO additional high resolution promotional images representative of the nominated project/program. Images will be used in online and printed promotional material and at the awards presentation (300 dpi jpeg max 2MB)

- Images should be high quality and capture your project/program.

NB: When submitting visual support material, please make sure you include an image list with photo credits etc. Please refer to the relevant nomination form.

2. For the Imagination award category please submit the following creative proposal with your nomination:

NB: When submitting visual support material, please make sure you include an image list with photo credits etc.

Terms and conditions of entry

- In the Innovation & Resilience category, the project you are nominating must have occurred within the award period [1 July 2019 – 30 June 2020]
- In the Imagination category, the proposed project must plan to take place between 1 Dec 2020 – 30 June 2021
- Permanent and semi-permanent projects can be nominated, but cannot be awarded an IMAGinE award more than once
- A separate nomination form is required for each nomination.
- All nomination and support material must be submitted electronically unless you have approval from M&G NSW to do otherwise
- M&G NSW staff and the judging panel may move a nomination from one category to another in consultation with the nominee
- It is within the judges' discretion to determine not to give an award in any given category
- The decisions of the judging panel are final and no correspondence will be entered into
- All material submitted becomes the property of Museums & Galleries of NSW. M&G NSW reserves the right to use all entries for publicity, educational purposes and reporting
- Submitted material will be published on Museums & Galleries of NSW website and social media and may be shared with 3rd parties and media for promotional purposes.
- Please keep a copy of your nomination and support material for your own files as your submission will not be returned
- In the Imagination category there will be 2 prizes of \$3,000 ex gst each. The prize money will be payable to the winner on submission of a completed budget and invoice.

Judging of nominations

Winners in each category will be chosen by the judging panel, which will consist of peers from the NSW museum and gallery sector, including a representative from M&G NSW and award sponsors Australian Museums and Galleries Association NSW and Regional and Public Galleries of NSW. Once the judging panel is confirmed, the names of individual judges will be published on the M&G NSW website.

Each judge will assess and score all eligible nominations individually. The panel then confers to compare scores and make final decisions about award winners and if applicable, highly commended nominations. There is no shortlisting process. It is within the judges' discretion to determine not to give an award in any given category.

The awarding of the Imagination prize money will be subject to a completed budget and invoice.

IMAGinE awards enquiries

Phone: 0412425047

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& Galleries
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