

ART AWARD JUDGING POLICY AND PROCEDURES

INTRODUCTION

The Cairns Indigenous Art Fair is an inclusive festival and defines its community as all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with cultural connections to Queensland. CIAF's inclusive approach extends to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists residing outside of the state of Queensland, with cultural connections to Queensland. CIAF is a welcoming space for the general public and any Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people visiting the festival space.

CIAF is committed to promoting, supporting and celebrating the continuing journey of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people of Queensland through the presentation of artistic and cultural events and activities. Since 2009 CIAF has been a platform for the sharing of Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art and culture with community audiences and the wider public through the annual art fair exhibition of artistic works. The CIAF Art Awards profile the careers of many emerging, mid-career and established Queensland artists.

PURPOSE

To support CIAF's commitment to profiling the careers of emerging, mid-career and established Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists that involve the presentation of the CIAF Art Awards that include art prize awards that have a dollar value.

POLICY

To avoid any conflict of interest claim in the judging process, this policy and procedures have been developed to provide guidance to the Cairns Indigenous Art Awards in selecting judges and for the judging process.

This policy is to be read in conjunction with other policies of the Cairns Indigenous Art fair, with particular reference to the Judging Criteria and Art Fair Exhibition Protocols.

PROCEDURES

- In judging an art award exhibition, 3 independent judges will be chosen by the Cairns Indigenous Art Fair Artistic Director and approved by the CIAF General Manager.
- Subject to the next dot point, the general position of the Cairns Indigenous Art Fair is that all judges will be excluded from submitting an artwork into the exhibition to be considered for an art prize.
- There may be instances where a judge, whose representation within the exhibition itself will lend a degree of prestige to the show, may be considered eligible to enter a work as a "Guest Artist". In this instance however, the work(s) will not be eligible for any award. However, such works may be made available for sale. Where this does occur, the participation of that judge as a "Guest Artist" and his or her ineligibility for any prizes, will be made clear in any exhibition collateral including call for entry forms, room guides/catalogues, wall labels next to the work, and in all associated and relevant media and communications.
- All effort will be made to ensure that all judges have extensive experience or a reputable status in the Queensland or national visual arts sector. The judging panel may include Curators of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art, Artists with cultural connections to Queensland and Directors of state and national cultural institutions. However, this does not exclude the possibility of an Indigenous guest judge from another state or a non-Indigenous judge whose status will raise the profile of the exhibition. In all cases however, the majority of judges must be Indigenous.
- Acknowledging the close community and family relationships within the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community, the Cairns Indigenous Art Fair acknowledges that it will be difficult to appoint an Indigenous judge with no connection to an exhibiting artist (whether through immediate or extended family connection, community or language group). The Cairns Indigenous Art Fair will however brief all judges on perceived or actual conflict of interests and the judges themselves will be reminded that they have a responsibility to advise CIAF of any such conflict.
- In selecting a judge, the Cairns Indigenous Art Fair will satisfy itself and be confident of the integrity of the judges to make an impartial judging decision free of bias.
- The CIAF Board, and all CIAF employees, including the Artistic Director and General Manager, are ineligible to be a judge.
- The judging process will be an 'in camera' deliberation, and CIAF will provide judges access to all the art work that is part of the art fair exhibition, including artist names, titles of work, artists statements, and bios.
- Works will be judged for an award based on compliance with the award criteria and the quality of the work, acknowledging this is subjective according to the judging panel. The judges' decision will be final and no correspondence will be entered into.

Extract from Judging Criteria

Selecting Finalists

- Judges will select their finalists only once.
- Artists can only receive one CIAF Art Award per year.
- An art centre may be selected and an artist within that art centre is eligible for an individual art award.

Eligible

- Only Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists with a cultural connection to Queensland are eligible for an art award. This includes artists that reside outside of Queensland.
- Artwork must be created within the past 18-month period ((From January of the year before to July of the relevant year of CIAF) to be eligible for an art award.

Non-Eligible

- Commissioned works within the art fair space will not be eligible for an art award.
- A posthumous presentation of an artist's work will not be eligible for an art award.
- Artwork that does not fit into the 18- month timeframe will not be eligible for an art award.
- Artists that do have cultural connections to Queensland.

AUTHORISATION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom Mosby', with a horizontal line underneath.

Tom Mosby
Chair, Board of Directors