



2023 Awards Luncheon

January 20, 2023

The GAM Awards program recognizes outstanding achievements of people and organizations that make up the museum community across Georgia. The opportunity for GAM member-institutions to highlight the good work of their employees, volunteers, and supporters also draws attention to the important role that museums, galleries, and other cultural institutions play in our communities. Additionally, the awards program allows GAM to achieve its goals to:

- Encourage growth and improve professional practices of museums and non-profit galleries throughout the state;
 - Stimulate public interest, support, and understanding of museums and non-profit galleries of all disciplines;
 - Increase general understanding of the roles of museums and non-profit galleries as community resources for improving the quality of life and continued learning for all citizens of the state;
 - Maintain and develop relations among institutions and staffs for the interchange of information and development of cooperative efforts to achieve these objectives;
 - Maintain relations with various governmental agencies; and
 - Promote research to foster understanding of cultural and natural resources of the community and state.
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Patron

Recognizes an individual or group who has worked closely with a museum (or museums) demonstrating leadership and providing assistance. This person/group is a major promoter of the museum(s) in his/her/their local area or statewide and in the past year has made a significant contribution and will continue to be a supporter in the future.

Winner: Alan F. Rothschild Jr.

Nominated by: Georgia Museum of Art

Student Project

Recognizes contributions of student work to the field of museums and galleries. An individual or student group is eligible for this award. Projects show professional guidance of student effort, but clearly demonstrate meaningful work by students in the design, implementation, and promotion of the nominated project. Projects might include, but are not limited to, an education or outreach program, a digital history project, an oral history project, or an exhibition.

Winner: Ryan Ashford

Nominated by: Museum of Technology, Middle Georgia State University

Education

Recognizes an on-site or outreach program that has as its primary purpose the education of student and/or adult audiences. This program extends the organization's mission and demonstrates scholarship and originality contributing to the cultural and education fabric of the organization's community and the state and is an example of excellence in theory, planning, and implementation. An educational component of a larger exhibition or special project can be nominated for this award if the intention is to focus solely on the educational aspects of the larger project.

Winner: Fernbank Science Center and the DCSD Early Learning Center

For the program: Powering Up Young Minds: ScienTOTs @ Fernbank Science Center

Multimedia

Recognizes projects that are intended to be primarily experienced using visual or audio media. Examples include podcasts, interactive kiosks, social media campaigns, videos, and virtual interactions (webinars, virtual field trips, etc.). Multimedia projects have extended the organization's audience and demonstrate creative solutions without sacrificing good scholarship and professional best practices.

Winner: Davenport House Museum

For the project: Virtual Youth Guide

Museum Exhibition

Recognizes an art, historical, or science exhibition of note that demonstrates scholarship and originality contributing to the cultural fabric of the state. The exhibition is an example of excellence in theory, planning, and implementation and has effectively reached and broadened the museum or gallery audience. Exhibitions that include multimedia elements but are primarily designed to be experienced as a traditional exhibit should be included in this category.

Winner (Category #2, \$1,000 - \$25,000): The Gallery of ABAC's Georgia Museum of Agriculture

For the exhibition: Carver & Polk: Crossover of Agriculture and Photography in the early 20th Century

Winner (Category #3, \$25,001 - \$99,999): Georgia Museum of Art

For the exhibition: Reckonings and Reconstructions: Southern Photography from the Do Good Fund

Winner (Category #4, >\$100,000): The Columbus Museum

For the exhibition: Alma W. Thomas: Everything is Beautiful

Special Project

Recognizes a project or program of note, often with multiple component parts, that does not more closely fit the criteria for other categories such as exhibition, education, or multimedia. This category can also be used for multi-part projects when all aspects of the project should be evaluated as a whole. These projects demonstrate scholarship and originality contributing to the cultural fabric of the state and provide examples of excellence in planning and implementation while expanding the museum or gallery audience.

Winner (Category #2, < \$1,000 - \$25,000): History Cherokee and Scrapbook Video Productions

For the project: The Way it Was: Stories of Cherokee County's Desegregation

Winner (Category #3, \$25,001-\$99,999): Georgia Tech College of Computing

For the project: Accessible Exhibits at the Intersection of Art, Science, and Technology

Winner (Category #, >\$100,000): Cherokee County History Center

For the project: History Cherokee

Museum Volunteer

Recognizes an individual who does not receive payment or specific educational credit from an organization but has contributed significant time and effort in developing that organization's programs and exhibitions in an outstanding way. This person has enlisted the aid of other volunteers in supporting Georgia museums and galleries and has served as an advocate of Georgia museums and galleries.

Winner: Beth Williams

Nominated by: Booth Western Art Museum

Museum Professional

Recognizes an active museum or gallery employee working in the state of Georgia. This individual is involved professionally on the local, state, and national level and has demonstrated leadership in the profession; has worked to promote the goals of GAM; and has been a member of GAM for at least one year.

Winner: Christa McCay

Nominated by: Marietta History Center

Emerging Museum Professional

Recognizes the contributions of an individual who has been working full or part time in the field for less than 10 years. Considerations include how the recipient has contributed to their organization and may include recommendations from multiple museums, recognizing that the career path for EMPs has many different routes and experiences.

Winner: Jordan Duncan

Nominated by: Bartow History Museum

Winner: Karisa Zdanky

Nominated by: Tellus Science Museum

Institution

Recognizes GAM institutional members (nonprofit museums, historic sites, and galleries) for leadership at the local and statewide level. This organization has been a leading institution in Georgia with a past record of accomplishment and acts as an important cultural resource in its community; has taken an active role in promoting communication and cooperation among Georgia museums and galleries; and has provided an on-site or outreach program that extended the museum's mission while educating student and adult audiences.

Winner: William Root House

Nominated by: Cobb Landmarks

Lifetime Achievement

An individual in any category who has consistently and selflessly worked over multiple decades to improve the state of museums and galleries in their community and/or across the state during their lifetime; this person's collective accomplishments exemplify commitment, dedication and excellence; and has had a far-reaching impact in their field.

Winner: Dr. Ann McCleary

Nominated by: Arden Williams
