Wesley Enoch  
Artistic Director, Queensland Theatre Company

- Renowned Australian playwright and artistic director
- He was instrumental in securing the involvement of internationally acclaimed director Michael Attenborough in the hugely successful production of *Macbeth*
- *Black Diggers* will be staged in September this year as part of the Brisbane Festival – this is a work developed by Enoch with writer Tom Wright telling the story of Indigenous Australian soldiers who fought in the First World War
- www.qldtheatreco.com.au

*I support the arts by telling stories about who we are and who we might want to be. Engaging local people to tell local stories about the Land we all call home.*

Jeremy Neale  
Musician

- 2013 Billy Thorpe Scholarship recipient
- Previous Grant McLennan Memorial Fellowship finalista
- This year has represented Queensland at The Great Escape, UK and Music Matters, Singapore
- http://www.jeremyneale.com/ | Instagram tag: @SegaDreamboat

*Being involved in the Queensland arts scene is a truly great way to meet, get to know and then collaborate with a variety of individuals to create something beautiful. Arts and culture are important and positive forms of expression of identity and emotion. Without it our present would probably look a lot more like a dystopian future – which is cool for the futuristic element but not cool because there’d be no art or music and the world would be grey and eerily quiet. For the community that I am a part of it is just as much about the people involved as the art itself.*

Visit www.qld.gov.au/dsitia for more information or follow #culturechampions on Instagram.
Tess Maunder
Artsworker: Curator, Writer, Editor

- Co-founder/director of The Maximilian
- Undertook a funded Mentorship at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Australia at Gertrude Contemporary and Curatorial mentorship Fionn Meade at The Sculpture Centre New York
- Received Arts Queensland funding to attend the prestigious Independent Curators International Summit, Tokyo
- Currently working as a Gallery Assistant at Jan Murphy Gallery
- www.themaximilian.com.au | Instagram tag: @tessmaunder

There are very few instances of connecting beyond our daily networks. Contemporary art (and broader culture) presents opportunities to connect, empathise and consider ideas beyond ourselves and our immediate surroundings. It’s important to foster and maintain the ability for such exchange to continue in order to think about the big questions, both collectively and individually. I personally think contemporary art deserves more airtime and recognition within Australian.

Louise O’Reilly and Paul Hannan – Laneway
Songwriters and Musicians from Natural Bridge

- 2012 Grant McLennan Memorial Fellowship recipient
- Co-founders and co-owners of independent music label Crawler Records
- In 2013, they relocated to Berlin for a year to write new songs and tour throughout Europe
- Presently they are writing new material for Laneway and several side projects including their respective solo ventures – Feeding Fauna (Louise) and General Malaise (Paul)
- Laneway’s next gig is at the Brisbane Powerhouse Turbine Platform on Sunday 22 June
- http://lanewaymusic.com | Instagram tag: @lanewaymusic

Being creative is being alive. From the cells in our bodies to the edges of the expanding universe we strive to be a part of it.
Innovation Champion
Shainiel Deo
CEO, Halfbrick Studios

Halfbrick’s Fruit Ninja game and its spinoffs have been downloaded 400 million times worldwide. The Brisbane-based studio is a success story for the nation’s growing game development industry. Shainiel is a true Innovation Champion as his achievements provide inspiration to Queensland’s aspiring entrepreneurs.

The amazing upcoming talent found in Queensland needs goals and motivation for continued growth in science and technology to not only to be the pinnacle of innovation in Australia, but across the entire world. Halfbrick is always proud to do its part to help foster that innovation and support the expansion of such an incredibly important and creative industry.

http://halfbrick.com/

Science Champion
Professor Mark Kendall
Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology, The University of Queensland

Professor Kendall is the inventor of the Nanopatch, a needle-free vaccine delivery device. The Nanopatch has the potential to overcome a need for refrigerated transport and allow for distribution in remote and undeveloped regions of the world. His incredible research is instrumental in contributing to the momentum of science in Queensland.


Innovation Champion
Jean Madden
Founder and designer, Street Swags Limited

Street Swags has given basic bed and shelter to over 30,000 homeless Australians, made by prisoners and put together by school children. Working to break this cycle of homelessness and incarceration particularly in Aboriginal communities, Street Swags Limited has begun a program to chip away at the hurt that causes and perpetuates more abuse – this developing work has lowered crime, violence and addiction.

Jean was the first Australian winner of the world’s largest design award, the INDEX: People’s Choice Award, The Queensland Young Australian of the Year 2010 and a finalist in two categories for the 2011 Telstra Business Woman of the Year Awards and the winner of Queensland Innovation. She took out silver for the not-for-profit section in the Stevie Awards, the most prestigious award for Woman in Business in the world.

Jean says her initiatives are about keeping people alive.

http://www.streetswags.org/

Science Champion
Professor Mandayam Srinivasan
Visual Neuroscience at the Queensland Brain Institute and the School of Information Technology, The University of Queensland

Professor Srinivasan’s unique research involves designing robotic aircrafts based on the flight behaviour of bees and birds. This unique approach takes biology and uses it for an engineering role. Among Professor Srinivasan’s many awards and honours, the value of his work is being recognised by aerospace leader, Boeing.

http://www.qbi.uq.edu.au/group-leader-srinivasan