

Dialogue 2 Creating Child Friendly Cultural Spaces

Presented in association with Museum and Gallery Services Queensland (M&GSQ)

Rationale

This dialogue provides an opportunity to participate in discussion with Museum, Gallery and Library professionals about the engagement of children in cultural spaces and to hear the voices and thoughts of young people and family visitors about their experiences in these spaces. In particular, the dialogue explores the notion of meaningful engagement and how young people respond to objects and artworks.

Focus questions

- Do children and carers think museums are responsive to their needs?
- How do children and carers value the diversity of arts and cultural experiences in museums?
- What experiences are valued as most memorable, enjoyable, worthwhile?
- Do children and carers recall museum moments of wonder, awe, curiosity, creativity, expression, connectivity, belonging, reminiscence, reflection, imagination, evaluation, storytelling?

Creative stimulus

Museum & Gallery Services Queensland (M&GSQ), the key development agency for museums and galleries in Queensland, works to ensure a future where museums, galleries and keeping places are relevant, accessible and valued by their communities. As part of their role to foster excellence in these cultural spaces, M&GSQ invites museum and gallery professionals to hear children and carers review how child friendly our museums are, to learn about the process of using a youth advisory group and to hear children talking about their engagement with objects and art works. The youngest children from the Edgy Advisers will visit our city's museums and galleries and report on their experiences. Early primary school aged children visiting the Queensland Art Gallery are captured on DVD talking about their experiences with art and a gallery professional will discuss how such meaningful engagement was facilitated. Children, parents and museum professionals will be invited to continue their discussion in a web blog designed to capture significant moments/ experiences with children in museums.

Presenters

Featuring:

- Hannah Billett and Raya Mawson-Sargeant (Edgy Advisers),
- Sandra Fields (Fieldworx),
- Collette Brennan (State Library of Queensland),
- Andrew Morritz (Workshops Rail Museum), and
- Melina Mallos (Queensland Art Gallery).