

MEDIA RELEASE

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[2023 History Award winners announced and a wonderful History Festival comes to an end!]

Over the month of May, tens of thousands of South Australians have attended hundreds of history focused events that have been taking place across the entire state. Now **South Australia's History Festival** has concluded for another year.

There have been history and heritage experiences as varied as the story of South Australia. From the cosmic, through explorations of the night sky and the history of stargazing, to the deep time history and cultural stories of the land told through First Nations perspectives. There has been colonial history in all its complexity and settler stories unique to South Australia. There have been political and economic history stories and explorations of some of the historic figures and events that define us today. There have been ghosts and ghouls and crime and explorations of time, space and place through our heritage buildings.

Celebrating the **wonder** of it all and the success of the 2023 History Festival, the History Trust of South Australia marked the end of the Festival with the announcement of the recipients of the **History Council of South Australia's Awards** for 2023.

The History Council of South Australia Award recipients are: Susan Arthure's; *'Rage and Resistance: Remembering the Women of Baker's Flat'*, which won the 2023 Wakefield Press Essay Prize. The prestigious Historian of the Year was awarded to Steven Oppes and the Lifelong Historian award went to two outstanding nominees, Peter Monteath and Philip Jones. Other award winners were Emerging Historian - Lainie Anderson; Excellence in Oral History, Ricky Koopman and Danni Reade (joint winners); Digital Technologies, Wayne Groom and Carolyn Bilsborow from Australian International Pictures; and the award for Regional or Community History went to Alan Jones.

Minister for Education, Skills & Training, the Hon Blair Boyer MP, said "South Australia's History Festival has an important role to play in educating, informing and sharing our rich and diverse history."

Elizabeth Ho OAM, Chair of Trustees at the History Trust of SA said, South Australians should be proud of our History Festival. It is unique in a national context, it is state - wide, and it provides an opportunity for all South Australians to share and learn from our diverse stories."

"History has much to teach us, and South Australia's History Festival inspires us all to stop and think about our past, and in turn, what our future could be," said Elizabeth.

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