

National Cultural Policy Submission

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Public

Individual

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Short submission (text box 500 words or less)

What you would like to see reflected in the next National Cultural Policy:

Pillar 1: First Nations First

- Stronger Intellectual Property safeguards and financial or legal aid support for art centers and artists in IP disputes.
- Action taken in the tourism sector to address copyright violations e.g. unlicensed reproductions of artwork.
- On the ground support for aboriginal arts industry growth to help artists meet market demand sustainably e.g. if Creative Australia is going to push for growth in strategy, then real people and resources are needed onsite all over Australia, especially remote communities. Possibly, develop Field Officer positions within Office of the Arts who fill staffing gaps through short term placements in arts orgs.

Pillar 2: A place for Every Story

- Adopt 'process over product' Community Arts values into project funding assessment criteria - no need to be Gallery, Academic or Commercially outcome focused. Communities with greater diversity are often also English as Second Language (ESL) with socioeconomic challenges. Strategic advocacy for artists from all walks of life is essential because Fine Art education is a privilege that many creative people have not get a chance experience.
- Safeguard artists from being censored or denied project funding/opportunities if their work deals with sensitive material (eg Khaled Sabsabi and Michael Dagostino). Review and update internal policy that addresses top-down decision making and implement more democratic processes.

Pillar 3: Centrality of the Artist

- Audit the sector and get real data on lived experience of working in the arts, compare data with other sectors and report on the gaps e.g. pay gaps, contract security, workloads.
- Drive the implementation of the Safe Work Australia: Psychosocial Hazards Framework into the arts and culture sector – resources, guidelines and code of conduct already provided. Facilitate education and awareness workshops so people know about this Framework.

Pillar 4: Stronger Cultural Infrastructure

- Work strategically with local councils to reduce overheads for hiring community spaces and halls for community-led arts and culture initiatives. Using federal funding or a local gov 'in-kind' model to support grassroots arts solutions to mental health, community participation, volunteering, belonging etc.

Pillar 5: Engaging the Audience

- Advocate for in person, in community, embodied and multigenerational participation in the arts. Safeguard the experience of live music, live arts experience, films experienced in cinemas etc, as the whole sector suffers if all we all focus on is new media and digital media only.