

## ANONYMOUS

Dear Sir/Madam,

My name is [REDACTED]. I am a local resident of Maribyrnong.

I am writing to contribute to the development of the new National Cultural Policy and to express my strong support for continued and expanded investment in arts, culture, and entertainment as essential components of inclusive community services.

The proven success of arts and cultural initiatives, supported by Federal Government funding, demonstrates their significant value in promoting inclusion, wellbeing, and community participation. It is important that this momentum is maintained and strengthened through the 2026–27 Budget and beyond.

I commend the inclusion of a broad range of arts and cultural activities within the policy framework, including but not limited to:

- Regional and remote festivals
- Metropolitan festivals, such as Melbourne's St Kilda Festival
- LGBTQIA+ festivals and events, including Midsumma Festival
- First Nations arts and music
- Art and music therapy programs
- Disability arts and culture initiatives
- Specialist in-school arts education programs
- Museums, libraries, and galleries
- Literature and storytelling
- Performing arts, including theatre and live performance
- Classical, jazz, and contemporary music
- Music tours and festivals
- Visual arts
- Film and cinema exhibition
- Digital cultural collections, such as the National Library of Australia's Trove
- Light entertainment and comedy
- Community radio and television broadcasting
- National broadcasters ABC and SBS, including digital radio expansion into regional and remote areas
- Disability-inclusive live music events and festivals

These areas play a vital role in ensuring equitable access to cultural participation for all Australians, particularly people with disability, those in regional and remote communities, and other underrepresented groups.

In light of this, I respectfully recommend that the National Cultural Policy:

1. Strengthen funding for inclusive arts programs, particularly those supporting people with disability.
2. Expand access to arts and cultural activities in regional, rural, and remote communities.
3. Support the continued growth of community broadcasting and digital access to cultural content.
4. Encourage partnerships between government, community organisations, and the arts sector.
5. Ensure the long-term sustainability of arts initiatives through stable and ongoing funding.

This submission reflects contributions from myself and my colleague, [REDACTED]. We strongly believe that a well-supported arts and cultural sector enhances social inclusion, community wellbeing, and national identity.

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to this important policy development. I appreciate your consideration of this submission and your ongoing commitment to supporting arts and culture in Australia.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]