

**National Cultural Policy Submission**

1468157

Public

Individual

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Short submission (text box 500 words or less)

1. In Australia, university fees for Arts (humanities) degrees are significantly higher than those for Maths and Science degrees. This follows 2021 reforms when the government restructured student contributions to encourage enrolment in STEM fields. Arts and Humanities fees doubled! What right does the government have to direct the chosen careers of individual artists who wish to have a higher education opportunity. Please see that this injustice is remedied.

2. Many artists rely on the work of an arts organisation for employment, guidance in exploring funding options and sustaining their career in a community of practitioners. Operational funding is the most difficult to obtain yet it is integral to the sustainability of the sector. This is especially true outside the major city centres. More current and emerging organisations need to be skilled in making application for operational support and learn more about the key factors in their sustainability. As an experienced grant writer of 50 years experience in the cultural sector I am appalled at the weakness of arts funding currently which now offers less than an 8% success rate in grant rounds. Under Pillar Three of the new Cultural Policy both these issues need to be addressed. If you take your own significance of cultural activity seriously much more needs to be invested in it. Fund it like the army to defend the shores of our cultural identity.