

**National Cultural Policy Submission**

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Public and anonymous



Short submission (text box 500 words or less)

Perspective

I am an Australian of mixed heritage from an immigrant background with a disability. I do not support identity based preferential treatment in arts policy. I value discipline, skill, and merit.

Key Issues

There is increasing division being introduced into arts policy through identity based framing. This does not reflect the views of all Australians, including those from diverse backgrounds.

Public funding should not prioritise identity over quality. Many people want to engage with art that reflects:

- \* Technical skill

- \* Mastery

- \* Discipline

- \* Cultural longevity

There is also growing dissatisfaction with the funding of low skill or conceptual forms of art that have limited public relevance or engagement.

Additionally, emerging technologies such as AI are creating significant risks for artists. Existing policy does not adequately protect:

- \* Intellectual property

- \* Original work

- \* The value of human created art

Priority Areas

Centrality of the Artist

Policy should prioritise protecting artists' rights, ensuring fair compensation, and recognising skill based practice.

Strong Cultural Infrastructure

Funding should support work that demonstrates clear artistic merit, skill, and public value, rather than niche or insular outputs.

Reaching Audiences

There should be greater alignment between funded work and what the broader public actually engages with and values.

Recommendations

- \* Shift funding criteria toward demonstrable skill, training, and artistic merit

- \* Introduce stronger protections against AI use of artists' work without consent or compensation

- \* Ensure public funding reflects broad public interest, not narrow institutional preferences

- \* Focus on sustainability of skilled artistic careers, not short term or experimental projects with limited impact

- \* Maintain equal treatment under policy without preferential frameworks based on identity

Desired Outcomes

- \* A more respected and trusted arts sector
- \* Stronger public engagement with arts and culture
- \* Protection of artists' livelihoods in the face of technological change
- \* A renewed focus on quality, discipline, and long-term cultural value