

National Cultural Policy Submission

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Public and anonymous



Short submission (text box 500 words or less)

I've been volunteering at music festivals and community events in South East Queensland for ~15 years and in this time have also worked and played at a number of live music venues in Meanjin/Brisbane. The economic pressures on live music venues and festival or event ops organisations nowadays are simply too great to be sustainable. When venues and organisers have no choice but to pass costs onto artists and patrons, art becomes something for only the wealthy to have the opportunity to engage in and with - as both creator and 'consumer' - and the experiences get worse for absolutely everybody involved. In recent decades, the livelihood of venues has already transitioned from event-related sales to liquor sales - this is not in the best interest of venues, artists or patrons. We need funding for (especially the smallest!) venues and non-profit organisations who organise events, and this funding needs to be legible and accessible. Our local venues should not have to operate at a loss to provide the space for people to come together and share in life enriching experiences whenever the patrons and artists happen not to be heavy drinkers.