

National Cultural Policy Submission

1469075

Public

Individual

Giovanni Adams



Short submission (text box 500 words or less)

There is an opportunity within the policy to further consider the alignment between creative training pathways, employment opportunities, and the utilisation of cultural infrastructure.

In my experience working within the performing arts sector in Australia, there is no shortage of emerging talent, particularly in disciplines such as musical theatre and dance. However, employment opportunities remain limited, with a significant proportion of work concentrated in large-scale international touring productions. This creates a bottleneck between training and sustainable employment, where many early-career artists experience extended periods without professional opportunities.

This dynamic also has equity implications. Artists are often required to invest in ongoing training, workshops, and unpaid development opportunities while waiting for professional work. Those with financial support are better positioned to remain engaged, while others may be excluded from the sector over time.

At the same time, there appears to be an opportunity to better utilise existing cultural infrastructure, particularly in regional areas. Many regional theatres are well-equipped but underutilised, outside of major programming cycles in larger hubs.

Consideration could be given to models that support direct investment in artist-led projects that activate these spaces. For example, funding mechanisms that enable independent or early-career artists to develop and present work in regional venues could support employment pathways, increase access to cultural programming, and contribute to local economic and community outcomes.

Strengthening the connection between training, employment, and infrastructure in this way could support a more sustainable and inclusive creative ecosystem.