

National Cultural Policy Submission

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Public and anonymous



Short submission (text box 500 words or less)

I am excited to see a consistent approach to the new cultural policy that will expand on existing pillars, rather than rethink them time and time again.

I notice a lack of focus on state and federal cultural institutions (other than the NGA) that create opportunities for artists and arts workers to work in their fields and thrive. Without sufficient funding or opportunities to source funding cultural institutions (museums, libraries, archives and galleries) struggle to support the volume of requests and artists and arts workers miss out on working with our Nation's incredible cultural collections and in some of the most well equipped spaces for exhibitions, programs, performances and so on. These institutions are also broad public educators and can lead key thinking embedded in the policy, including First Nations First, of course always in collaboration with community.

Furthermore to support capacity building for arts workers and the cultural sector more broadly I would expect to see our membership and peak bodies better supported - many of these organisations (Australian Museums and Galleries Association, Australian Libraries and Information Association, Australian Society of Archivists, etc.) have high operating costs and low staffing levels and in many local and regional contexts are run by volunteers. Without support from these bodies the sector becomes fractured and best practice benchmarking fades away. I strongly encourage investment in sector and industry bodies articulated in the next plan.

Finally, diversity is what should underpin this Nation's arts and culture, and I would strongly encourage targeted investment in artists whose lived experiences are diverse - LGBTIQ+ artists, artists who identify as living with disability, artists from non English speaking backgrounds and so on.