

**National Cultural Policy Submission**

1469345

Public

Individual

Grant Fenno



Short submission (text box 500 words or less)

Australia's National Cultural Policy plays an important role in shaping how the nation understands itself and presents its identity to both Australians and the wider world. I believe the policy should place a strong focus on promoting Australian culture in a broad and inclusive way that reflects the everyday experiences, traditions, histories, and values shared across contemporary Australia. Australian stories, accents, landscapes, humour, and lifestyles are unique, and government investment in the arts and media should help preserve and strengthen this national identity.

However, I believe there has been an overrepresentation of Aboriginal perspectives within some modern Australian media content, particularly on publicly funded broadcasters such as Australian Broadcasting Corporation and Special Broadcasting Service. While Indigenous stories are valuable and important, there can sometimes appear to be a disproportionate emphasis on these perspectives compared to the broader range of Australian experiences and identities. Public broadcasters are funded to serve all Australians, and their programming should aim to reflect the diversity of the population as a whole, including rural communities, working-class Australians, migrants, veterans, regional traditions, and mainstream Australian culture.

A balanced cultural policy should therefore seek to celebrate Indigenous heritage without allowing it to dominate the national cultural conversation at the expense of other voices. There is value in ensuring that ordinary Australian stories and traditions remain visible and supported within government-funded media and arts initiatives. This could include increased investment in regional storytelling, Australian history, local film and television production, and programs that reflect the experiences of a wider cross-section of Australians.

Ultimately, the National Cultural Policy should aim to unite Australians through shared cultural identity while still respecting diversity. A successful policy should encourage inclusion and representation for all groups without creating the perception that some voices are prioritised over others. By promoting a balanced representation of Australian life and culture, the policy can strengthen social cohesion and foster a stronger sense of national identity.